

Region V EMS Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

ONLINE ONLY
10 December 2020
1100-1300

Attendees:

Jim Richardson, Mark Bilger, David Stamey, Erin Parks, Michael Lambert, Patricia Gabriel, Craig Smith, Matt Jones, Shawn Davidson, Dr. Karen Keller-Baker, Al Jeffrey, Shelee Stine, Ben Kaufmann, Christina Woodward, Cyndy Wright-Johnston, Courtney Griffin, Danielle Joy, Dr. Paul Baker, Brittany Keys, Dr. Timothy Chizmar, Connor Ryan, Tessa Smith, Rebecca Foster, Dr. Luis Pinet Peralta, Dr. Joel Buzy, Heather Howes, Emily Dorosz, Debbie Shuck Reynolds, John Filer, Capt. Lori Cherry, Dr. Kevin Seaman, Mimi Martin, Rebecca Vasse, Dr. Paul Roszko, Dr. Karen O'Connell, Dr. Dan Geary, Courtney Griffin, David Feist, Jeffrey Foy, Dr. Jason Finklestein, Andrew Naumann, Dr. Roger Stone

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Review of Minutes
 - a. Moved to approve: Michael Lambert
 - b. Seconded:
 - c. Approved
- III. Report of Chairman
 - a. No Report
- IV. Medical Director's Report
 - a. Dr. Timothy Chizmar, State Medical Director
 - i. We are working on being able to let EMS students return to clinical training at base station hospitals. We are attempting to find specific information for Hospitals needs to get EMS students back into clinical sites. This will be shared with jurisdictions and educational institutions, when complete, via smartsheet. Many of these hospitals we are missing data on are in in Region V (please ask your hospital to respond to Dr. Chizmar's email sent earlier this week to base station coordinators). Most hospitals are allowing students in with waivers or if they bring fit-tested N95/certain PPE (details will be on the smartsheet once complete).
 - ii. Vaccine: Proposed Prioritization scheme has been distributed. The vaccine will come from local health departments not MIEMSS.

1. If you plan to use Paramedics for distribution, Please share your plan with us and with whom you will partner (hospital, local health department, etc.).
 2. NOTE: Randy Linthicum will be sharing a template for distribution planning. If you already have a plan, please wait for the template and use that to avoid duplication of efforts.
 3. Strategy: Nothing is off the table at this point as far as who may administer the vaccine *in the future*. For the present time, licensed paramedics can administer in accordance with Public Notice #6. If we need to expand to EMTs or paramedic students based on vaccine demand, we will closely re-evaluate.
 4. Please communicate with your health department asap if you have not yet had a discussion on COVID vaccines.
- iii. CDC Quarantine Guidelines: You may maintain the 14 day quarantine but it can be reduced to 10 for asymptomatic employees who have not been tested. If you can test them on day 5, and it's negative, they can be released at 7 days if they are asymptomatic. MDH memo on this topic was sent to HJOs yesterday.
 - iv. Rapid antigen and PCR testing are still available from MIEMSS. Courier will only handle batches of 8 or more tests. If you have less than 8, you will have to arrange to transport them to the lab in Greenbelt.
 - v. Ambulances and patients waiting outside Emergency Departments. Memo was sent to request that hospitals to employ alternative strategies to having patients and EMS wait in their ambulances for beds. If you are having continued problems, let us know.
 - vi. All 10 hours of State and Local NREMT content is now available online. Open to feedback. Due date is 3/31/2022.
 - vii. ALS protocol orientation for new paramedic licensees and reciprocity paramedics is available online at www.emsonlinetraining.org. Contact is Melissa Meyers in Office of Licensure and Certification. Applicants no longer need one-on-one protocol review or written paramedic exam. The goal is to make people familiar with our protocol vs. testing them via a high stakes exam. It will replace protocol review and ALS state testing requirements as of 1/1/21.
 - viii. Expiration deadlines are posted on the MIEMSS L&C website (FAQ document). No one will officially expire until 30 days after end of the state of emergency. However, please encourage your clinicians to meet

continuing education requirements now, and stay current to avoid a rush after the emergency is over (still an unknown at this point).

- ix. MIEMSS C4 project has been very successful in matching need to ICU beds throughout the state. The goal is to make the process much more efficient. A single phone call by an EMS or ICU physician saves them hours of work finding a bed. This translates into better EMS offloads and patient care.

b. Dr. Roger Stone, Region V Medical Director

- i. Ongoing admiration for all colleagues at all levels of care.

ii. Old Business:

1. ET3 program in Montgomery County: Implementation date is 1/1. Any word from Charles?
 - a. Chief Filer: Trying to get our application signed and approved and into the ET3 Module.
2. Update of CHATS system replacement: No update
3. EMS Plan 2030: Published.
4. COVID-19: Still raging. Hospital are up.
5. PSAP group is still meeting regarding COVID screening questions pre-arrival.
6. Upcoming conferences: MATC Cancelled and the medical directors symposium has been postponed.
7. NAEMP: is having its regular 2021 meeting in January as an all virtual affair. All are welcome, even if not a physicians. Discounted tuition available for EMS Clinicians for courses. Some presentations are offered from Maryland Doctors and EMS clinicians

iii. New Business

1. New base Station instructor at For Washington: Dr. Vu.
2. Communications upgrade: ongoing
3. PSAP Screening: proposal for statewide post-dispatch instruction to have everyone on scene put on a mask before EMS crew arrives. Hoping for a standard verbiage. Expect to be widely accepted.
4. PSAP: Presence of a PUI over the radio is controversial. Balancing enhancing safety versus protecting HIPAA.
5. Alternative transport destination: Pandemic is an opportunity to explore this. Also look at direct to triage by working with the charge nurses.

6. Look out for protocol updates to include spinal immobilization, bipap & high flow
7. Kaiser & Procure have a MIH program to help manage high users of Kaiser system. Want to train Kaiser Physicians in the base station program so they can learn how to interact with EMS clinicians
8. Baltimore Academy is hosting a seminar about autistic patients.

V. MIEMSS Report

- a. Andrew Naumann,
 - i. Strong work by all involved in the process from EMDs to paramedics to doctors. Amazing work, thank you and kudos.
- b. Dr. Pinet Peralta:
 - i. Kyle Remick works at Walter reed was going to present. Recovering from covid. Capitol Region Advisory Council: as a way to integrate capabilities and resources in the NCR. Early stages. Worth mentioning: intention is to regionally integrate medical care in the region & coordinate existing infrastructure and make a scalable response that is inclusive of the military medical capabilities. Hopefully Col. Remick will be able to join us and give a better representation
 - ii. Actively engaged in emergency planning in Region V with COG EMS subcommittee. Southern Maryland can participate in activities and funding if it has an impact on the NCR.
 - iii. C4 is an excellent work and many people have worked on it
 - iv. Working with Region V Healthcare Coalition in preparing for surge plans, pediatric surge plans and trying to be proactive with pediatric needs in our plans.
 - v. Research: We have a research interest group that has grown and become more diverse with participants from DC, VA and even Mexico. We have active project and in trying to build a pipeline for projects to move forward.
 1. Working with FISDAP for EMS education research as well.
 2. Trying to engage research groups in other areas.

VI. Old Business

- a. None

VII. New Business

- a. None
- VIII. Announcements
- a. Clinician Kudos / Save of the Quarter

IX. Regional Round Table

- Prince George's Health Department – Tessa Smith: Nothing To report.
- Montgomery County Health Department – Not present.
- Charles County Health Department – Not present.
- Calvert County Health Department – Not Present.
- St Mary's Health Department – Not Present.
- UM Bowie Medical Center – Dr. Keller-Baker is reporting for all 3 UM Capitol Regional Health Hospitals
- UM Laurel Regional Medical Center- Kelly Skelly is the new Base Station Coordinator
- UM Prince George's Hospital – Capacity and boarding have been is an issue. New Communications system question: has any hospitals have issues with the new System?
None
- Doctors Community Hospital – Not Present
- Adventist Fort Washington – Nothing to report.
- MedSTAR Southern MD – Rebecca Foster: Leaving as Base Station Medical Director. Dr. Jason Finklestein will take her place. Nothing new to report. COVID Numbers are up. New Base station Coordinator. Thanks to Candice bourgeois.
- UM Charles Regional – Shellee Stine: Nothing to report.
- Calvert Health – Erin Parks. Nothing to Report.
- MedSTAR St. Mary's Hospital – Danielle Joy. Nothing to add.
- WOMC Adventist – Jeffrey Foy, Nothing to add.
- Holy Cross Hospital – Dr. Paul Baker: Nothing to report.
- HCH Germantown – Dr. Paul Baker: Nothing to report.
- Shady Grove Adventist – Dr. Joel Buzy, Students in train. Hopefully hear soon. Nothing to report.
- Suburban – Not Present.
- MedSTAR Montgomery – Becky Vasse: Nothing to report.
- Children's National Medical Center – Emily Dorosz Nothing to report.
- EMSC – Cyndy Wright Johnson: Sent out report. 2 quick updates. Special opportunity for Pediatric equipment funding. 2 surveys going out for EMS assessment and National Pediatric EMS readiness survey. Online webinars to follow. 59 EMSC directors have appealed to delay but it doesn't look likely. We will be available to assisted agencies with compliance. CPEN have been postponed until the new year. Will reach out for a virtual online subscription or would you rather us move the funds later into the period.
- Shock Trauma – Not present.
- Malcolm Grow/JBA – Not present.
- Walter Reed – Nothing to ad.

- MSP – Not present.
- US Park Police – Connor Ryan, Not Present
- MSFA – Not Present. January Meeting will be virtual. Call out for presentations is out.
- MFRI – Not Present
- Prince George’s County Fire/EMS – Chief. Michael Lambert Great meeting on Monday with the local hospitals. Good relationship with EMS Duty officers.
- Montgomery County Fire/Rescue – Chief Ben Kaufman A few days on Blue alert. A matter of time before we go on full blue alert. Waiting for the @ha resource. Any news Andrew. Alternative destination and telehealth starting on Jan 1. .
- Calvert County EMS – Heather Howes: Barry Contee departing 12/31: the position is posted and available. Paramedics and EMT positions are open for hiring until filled.
- Charles County EMS – Dr. Kevin Seaman: Happy Holidays. We’ve learned a lot in this pandemic. People are afraid to seek care. We’ve learned that early treatment can help people get back to health faster. Important to counteract the fear. If symptomatic, seek early help. Chief Filer: Happy Holidays: Graduated an academy class & starting another in the spring. Testing new lieutenants and a captain. Adding more duty officers and an operational Captain. Adding a 2nd 24 hour crew to station 60, beginning to build a station in the Pinefield area because a new development is being built with a massive shopping complex.
- St Mary’s County EMS- Chief Davidson: Integrating contract support staff. Big shout out to chief Stamey for working in partnership with volunteers to make this happens. Got all BLS and ALS daytime shift covered by contract support staff. Working to transition them to county employees. Chief Stamey: It’s working very well. With thanks to career and volunteer.

X. Adjournment

Moved: Heather Howes

Seconded: Lambert

Adjourned: 1203