

STATE OF MARYLAND

STATEWIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

September 4, 2008

SEMSAC MEMBERS PRESENT: Roger Simonds; David Balthis; Joe Brown; David Crane; George Delaplaine; Steve Edwards; Jeffrey Fillmore; Scott Haas; A.J. McAndrew; Murray Kalish; Melissa Meyers; Jim Scheulen; Roland Berg; Kathryn Yamamoto; Allen Walker; Kathleen Grote; Ronald Lipps; Thomas Scalea; John Spearman

SEMSAC MEMBERS ABSENT: Sharon Henry; Denise Graham; Kenneth May; Carol Mays; Charles Wills; Jay Fowler; Tom Reilly; Wade Gaasch; Zeina Khouri; Wendell Baxter.

MIEMSS STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Robert Bass; Lisa Myers; Phil Hurlock; Chris Handley; Chris Hyzer; Pat Gainer; Robert Dubansky; William Seifarth; Lisa Chervon; Douglas Floccare; Jim Brown; John New; Carlita Lindsey.

OAG: E. Fremont Magee.

SHOCK TRAUMA STAFF: Jim Radcliffe.

MSFA: Frank Underwood; Roger Powell.

Carroll County EMS: G. Jeffrey Powell

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM by SEMSAC Chair Roger Simonds.

Executive Director's Report-Dr. Robert Bass

Dr. Bass reported that he testified at a Joint Health and Finance Committee hearing today. Topics included the effectiveness of helicopters for transport of trauma patients, trauma triage protocol, MOU with commercial helicopter services and MSP, and the cost of the existing system to Maryland. A second hearing on the MSP Audit is scheduled for September 9, 2008.

Major McAndrew responded that the Audit is available on the MSP website. Major McAndrew believes the audit provides a good opportunity as a tool for improvement. The Audit reveals a need for new and/or improved data systems. MSP concurred with all but one of the recommendations and is currently working to implement the recommendations and improve operations as necessary.

Action: Moved (Mr. Berg), seconded (Mr. Haas), passed unanimously to support the minutes of the May 1, 2008 SEMSAC meeting.

SEMSAC Chairman's Report-Chief Roger Simonds

Chief Simonds reported that SEMSAC did not meet over the summer.

National Study Center-

- Chris Handley reported that NSC staff has doubled and consequently space is currently very limited.
- The national search for a new director continues.

ALS Committee-Scott Haas

- The ALS committee has met two times over the summer.
- The committee considered a recommendation by MSFA on MICRB certification. After lengthy discussion, the recommendation was opposed by the committee.
- A request to increase EMT-B to EMT-I and EMT-I to paramedic funding to \$15,000 passed and will be implemented.
- CE hours were also increased from \$30 to \$40.
- An update was provided to the committee by the simulation technical committee. A survey has been completed and is available.

Mr. Edwards commented that every fire and EMT-B instructor must meet state requirements and believes that ALS instructors should be required to do so as well. Discussion ensued about uses of existing funding.

BLS Committee-William Seifarth

- The lower extremity instructor toolkit is expected to be completed and available for use this fall. The toolkit will provide resources to instructors for promoting consistency in teaching about orthopedic injuries. MFRI and orthopedic surgeons have been helping with the development of the toolkit.

EMD Committee-Chief David Balthis

- The newly formed committee has had 2 meetings.
- The committee is working on by-laws to be presented to SEMSAC for consideration and approval.
- Initial goals of the Committee include encouraging accreditation of all 911 centers and sharing best practices.
- The next meeting is scheduled for September 29, 2008 @ 10 a.m.

Old Business

- William Seifarth provided an updated EMS status report. The majority of CRTs have upgraded to CRT-99. Most counties transitioned smoothly except for Garrett County which lost 2 CRTs and Somerset County which lost 5 CRTs
- William Seifarth gave a CRT Program PowerPoint Presentation.
- Major AJ McAndrew provided an update on the MSP helicopter replacement process. Major indicated that a request for information was advertised this summer from which four proposals have been received for fleet replacement and one proposal for service. A presentation was given to the Executive Committee for review. MSP is waiting for a direction on how to proceed.

- Lisa Myers provided an update on the status of the changes to the layperson AED program that go into effect October 1, 2008. The changes included removal of the requirement for a sponsoring physician, removal of the application fee, and no longer requiring physician and dentist offices to register in the program.

New Business

- Chief Simonds referred to the SEMSAC committee chart and requested everyone pick a committee on which to participate. Chief Simonds would like to have all the committee chair positions filled by the next SEMSAC meeting.
- Dr. Bass gave a STEMI PowerPoint presentation. Maryland is following the national AHA and ACC guidelines in setting up its program as well as working closely with the Maryland Health Care Commission who issues CON and waivers to primary PCI centers in Maryland.
- Sarah Sette presented the draft STEMI Standards which are being circulated for informal comment. The existing draft is a revision based on feedback from hospitals. Centers will be required to meet the existing State Health Plan requirements for Primary PCI centers located in COMAR 10.24.17. Roland Berg indicated that rural areas will have difficulty achieving 90 minute door to balloon times because of delays in patient transfers to primary PCI centers. He also stated that some hospitals currently will not activate the cardiac cath lab until the physician sees the 12 lead ECG which often adds wait time for STEMI patients needing primary PCI. Region V has formed a consortium to discuss these and other STEMI issues including the recommendation that hospitals be required to receive transmission of 12-lead ECGs from the field. The consortium will meet on Sept 18 before the Council meeting. SEMSAC indicated they support the concept of STEMI centers as presented in the reg.
- Dr. Bass reminded everyone that the EMS protocols requiring all ALS units be equipped with 12-lead ECGs and all ALS providers be trained in 12-lead ECG application and interpretation went into effect July 1, 2008. MIEMSS will send a memo to all training centers with the reminder as well.
- William Seifarth presented information on returning veteran status for military EMS personnel returning to civilian EMS status. A proposal to decrease regulatory requirements for reciprocity to avoid redundancy is being recommended. Those listed in the National Registry or other states will also be considered. Sarah Sette presented the proposed reciprocity regulation that would streamline the reciprocity process for all EMS providers. The proposed reciprocity regulation was approved.

Action: Moved (Ms. Grote), seconded (Mr. Haas), passed unanimously to adjourn to closed session to carry out administrative functions and to maintain certain records and information in confidence under State Government Article § 10-508(a) (13).

SEMSAC Members Present at the closed session: Roger Simonds; David Balthis; David Crane; George Delaplaine; Steve Edwards; Jeffrey Fillmore; Scott Haas; A.J. McAndrew; Murray Kalish; Melissa Meyers; Jim Scheulen; Roland Berg; Kathryn

Yamamoto; Allen Walker; Kathleen Grote; Ronald Lipps; Thomas Scalea; John Spearman

Others Present: Dr. Bass, Mr. Magee, Mr. Dubansky, Ms. Myers.

The administrative functions and confidential matters were future budget considerations.

There being no further business before SEMSAC, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation without returning to open session.