

# Mid-Maryland EMS Advisory Council

***December 16th, 2024***

The Mid-Maryland Advisory Council meeting was held on December 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. Attending were: Michael Cole, David Chisholm, Melanie Higgins, Caitlin Weems (on-line), Chuck Bowler, Dr. Jeff Fillmore, Dr. Rupal Udeshi, Dr. Ryan McFague, Dr. Janelle Martin, Suzanne Butler, Jeanna Panarella, Deb Frye, Susie Nicol, Todd Johnson; Organizations represented: MIEMSS - Wayne Tiemersma (on-line), Alex Kelly, Cyndy Wright-Johnson, and Dr. Tim Chizmar.

The meeting was called to order by Dave Chisholm at 6:03 p.m.

## ***Approval of Sept 16th, 2024 Minutes***

Minutes were approved.

## ***President's Report*** – Dave Chisholm

- ☐ No report

## ***Regional Affairs Committee Report*** – Wayne Tiemersma

- ☐ CDG Grant monies have been identified for the jurisdictional projects. Letters should be distributed shortly.

## ***SEMSAC Report*** – Dr. Fillmore

- ☐ Dr. Fillmore reported on the following protocol updates.
  - ☐ Alternate types of Anticoagulant types are permitted, but not in current protocol and medical evidence is currently not clear.
  - ☐ The highest device joule setting should be used for defibrillation of patients.
- ☐ Transfer times and ED visit times were discussed. Region 2 is doing well.
- ☐ BLS continuing education process including National Registry is rolling out with different options being considered. There is more guidance forthcoming.
- ☐ A report of charging students for clinical sites was discussed. Support of a resolution from SEMSAC stating non-approval of this practice was supported by the council.
- ☐ The Interstate EMS compact proposal was discussed. After discussion, the Region 2 council voted against support of adopting the compact agreement.
- ☐ Jeana Panarella and Dr. Chizmar clarified the process for BLS recent hours remains 24 hrs. (15 specific category didactic and up to 9 for skills evaluation, 3 yrs. of protocol updates and remaining hours to be filled with local, etc.).
- ☐ Jurisdictional Verifications continue. Region 2 has been completed.

## ***MD Trauma Network Report*** – Cyndy Wright-Johnson

- ☐ Trauma net meets quarterly. The injury prevention coordinators meet monthly and are putting together a program targeting senior falls. This is a new committee of the trauma quick.
- ☐ The registrars group (division of the National Trauma Society) also meets monthly. We have not heard information on grants (STB, etc.)
- ☐ The trauma coordinators have been meeting with Elizabeth Wooster including rewriting the adult trauma standards. Site visits are completed every 5 years and this review is done with the trauma centers every five years.
- ☐ Trauma net is soliciting nominations for Trauma EMS Clinician and Nurse of the year. Pediatric Champions will be able to provide ongoing education within their jurisdictions.

## ***Medical Advisory Committee Report*** – No additional report

## ***Pediatric Medical Advisory Committee Report*** – Cyndy Wright-Johnson

- ☐ Cyndy introduced the Region 2 Pediatric Medical Director Dr. Rupal Udeshi from Fredrick Health Hospital.
- ☐ Washington County held a PEPP course in October. There is one PEPP coordinator in Washington County with the plan to expand to two or three through the process from the Academy of Pediatrics. The request is that Garrett and Allegany and Frederick be included in open PEPP Courses each fall lead by Washington County and supported by Maryland EMSC as needed. The new PEPP course (5<sup>th</sup> Edition) is anticipated to be released sometime in late December or early January 2026 after the PALS algorithms are released by the AHA. We anticipate that the online didactic portion will be very different in the new edition with shorter sections. Maryland EMSC will continue to support hybrid PEPP course (didactic before the course and one day in person skills and simulation).

- EMSC is providing training at Winterfest and Miltenberger conferences through a preconference focused on the pediatric critically ill / injured child.
- There will be a simulation training for the nurse and physician champions on Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The pediatric champions meet virtually in January and in-person for April. Pediatric Champions will be able to provide ongoing education within their jurisdictions. Prepared modules include Pediatric HPCR, Pediatric tracheostomy care, pediatric medical and trauma simulations.
- If you need pediatric reference cards or posters please let Cyndy & Danielle know: [pepp@miemss.org](mailto:pepp@miemss.org).

### ***Frederick County – Mike Cole***

#### EMS Operational Program

- The QA/QI meets monthly to handle things in-house. A few cases have been reported to MIEMSS.
- The Whole Blood Program is delayed awaiting an agreement to be finalized with final signatures. We will then start the trial program.
- An extensive vent training as been completed and they are in full use. We started with CPAP the Bi-Level and now we are working through full implementation.
- We are looking at cardiac monitors (both Stryker and Zoll). We are going to Boston on January 23<sup>rd</sup> to look at the new Zoll product.

#### Education – Mike Cole

- The new paramedic program started. We are down to 17 students who have passed A&P. The prior class graduated with 9 to be released soon

#### Medical Review/QA – No report

#### EMS Committee – Jeana Panarella

- No additional report

#### Emergency Communications – No report

### ***Washington County – Dave Chisholm***

#### EMS Operational Program

- ALS Skills reviews started today and going well.
- Working on airway first pass success rates.
- WCDES just took over staffing of a third company and in discussions with a fourth. That will take us to 50% in the county. We currently staff Smithsburg, Williamsport, and Hancock.
- Looking at the Whole Blood Program in partnership with Meritus with a goal of a July 1<sup>st</sup> start.
- We are awaiting feedback in January from our resignation visit.
- Starting the process of replacing the Revel ventilators.

#### Medical Review/QA – Melanie Higgins

MRC interviews were completed.

#### Education – Dave Chisholm

- The current Paramedic class is about halfway through. Just about ready to start clinical rotation.

#### Emergency Communications/Emergency Management – No report

### ***Region I & II Healthcare Committee – Caitlin Weems***

- Jessica Griffith from Meritus Health has just come aboard as the Region1 &2 clinical advisor.
- We just returned from the preparedness conference in Florida ("It was really great").
- The Budget is looking good.
- The HCC is working on a spring MRSE exercise.
- The HCC has MCI mannequins available for exercises.

### ***Agency Reports***

#### Frederick Health Hospital – Suzanne Butler

- Current ER Director has left and new ER Director has been interviewed.

#### Meritus Medical Center - No report

#### Frederick County Health Department –Todd Johnson

- Continuing to monitor the IV fluid shortage. Conservation measures are still in effect.
- There is an exercise scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup> (Radiation/Nuclear emergencies). An invite will be sent out to team partners. This includes operations of a Community Reception Center
- A vendor has been secured for a MRSE exercise.
- We are working with Frederick County Division of Emergency Management who's reviewing their EOP and all the annexes associated with that. We are looking at the public health and medical annex that the health department owns and a contractor has identified that we need to insert wording in that regarding triage and patient movement. We are in favor of not reinventing the wheel and saying that that's referenced in the fire rescue annex the FCDFRS SOP's and protocols. So we actually meet on Friday.

#### Washington County Health Department – Caitlin Weems

- No additional report

#### MFRI – No report

#### MSP Aviation – No report

#### Frederick County Emergency Management – No report

#### Washington County Emergency Management – No report

### ***Old Business –***

- A vote regarding Bylaw changes outlined in previous meeting and distributed via email were carried unanimously. The updated version will be distributed.

### ***New Business –***

The Interstate EMS compact proposal was discussed under SEMSAC agenda.

### ***Q & A with Dr. Chizmar***

- Chief Cole advised Dr. Chizmar of potential video scope availability.
- Jeana Panarella requested clarification regarding number of registry and practical attempts for EMT.
  - *“Current regulation says that national registry says you can attempt the cognitive exam up to six times with a remedial session in between”. I think after attempt number three. The psycho motor exam will be similar. You get three right now it says three times and you have to take the entire EMT class over if you fail the psycho motor exam three times in a row. But we'll be moving towards focused remediation after the third attempt and then you'll get up to six attempts once that regulation goes into effect. So it will more closely align with the National Registry cognitive reattempt pathway”.*
- Who pays for the re-attempts?
  - “This is all just the MIEMSS psycho motor where there's no charge. We're not changing anything with the registry”.
- Is registry moving towards doing away with the EMT practical testing?
  - “They have said in their meetings that they are thinking about the role of EMT's psycho motor testing, but they have not at least that I've seen from Bill Seifarth or anybody. They have not gone away from it quite yet. They did make some changes, some refinements to their cognitive exam, but they have not said they're abandoning the psycho motor level yet. It's possible in the next several years that they could do that”.

***MIEMSS Regional Coordinator Report – Alex/Wayne***

- ☐ Alex discussed closure of run sheets by the clinician. More to follow.
- ☐ Wayne announced the Miltenberger Seminar March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The brochure is scheduled to be launched after the first of the year.
- ☐ A reminder of Backboards retrieval at STC and Johns Hopkins was given.

***Adjournment***

The next meeting will be in Washington County at the Training Center on March 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.