

MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the January 8, 2019 meeting held at St. Joseph Hospital

Present:

Doug Boileau, EMT-P	Arcata-Mad River Ambulance
Bill Arrasmith, EMP-P	CAL FIRE
Anthony Makakoa, EMT	CAL FIRE
Bryan Schwartz, EMP-P	CAL FIRE
Joe Gregorio, EMT	CAL-ORE/REACH
Jaison Chand, EMT-P	City Ambulance
Tim Howard	DHHS—Public Health
Sofia Pereira	DHHS—Public Health
Sean Anderson, RN	Mad River Hospital
Tina Wood, RN	Mad River Hospital
Louis Bruhnke, EMT-P	North Coast EMS
Larry Karsteadt	North Coast EMS
Patrick Lynch	North Coast EMS
Tracie Conner, RN	St. Joseph Hospital
Ted Hard, MD	St. Joseph Hospital
Thomas Dewey	Sheriff's Office
Carmella Fullenwider, RN	Sutter Coast Hospital

Via phone:

Ron Sandler, EMT-P	Del Norte Ambulance
Judy Gallagher, RN	Jerold Phelps Hospital
Mike Newdow, MD	Jerold Phelps Hospital
Kayce Hurd, EMT-P	North Coast EMS
Matthew Karp, MD	North Coast EMS
Dennis Louy	North Coast EMS
Pamela Collver, RN	Redwood Memorial Hospital
Lisa Neuger, MD	St. Joseph Hospital

1. INTRODUCTIONS/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The 12/11/19 minutes were approved.

2. OLD BUSINESS

Paramedic Program Update

Per Doug: Twenty students from the 2018/19 program entered field internships. Fourteen have finished the program. Four are still in the program. The 2019/20 class started with twenty-eight, and twenty-four are continuing into the second semester. All should now be in clinical rotations. A distance learning aspect to the program is being considered, but nothing has been decided. Implementing distance learning would be a lengthy process.

Infectious Disease Report

Per Sofia: Nothing to report on infectious diseases. Dr. Baird has retired. Dr. Josh Ennis is Public Health's interim Health Officer. The County will soon appoint a new permanent Health Officer.

HPP Medical Disaster Project Updates

Per Louis: NCEMS is working on their mid-year report for HPP. Del Norte is nearing completion of their portion of the mid-year report.

Trauma, STEMI, EMS for Children, and Stroke Program Updates

Per Larry: The state EMSA approved NCEMS's annual trauma update. NCEMS is planning trauma center site surveys for Mad River, St. Joseph, and Sutter Lakeside Hospitals for the week of 07/06-10/20. The Governing Board will review the trauma update and discuss trauma center fees at the next meeting. Rita Henderson is working on the trauma re-triage policy. NCEMS has revised Policy 7000, the trauma triage and destination policy, and it is now on the NCEMS website.

The state approved NCEMS's STEMI plan yesterday. NCEMS is planning a site survey to St. Joseph's STEMI center this year.

The state approved NCEMS's EMS for Children plan. The HRSA grant from UC Davis ends at the end of May, so NCEMS will begin looking for funding alternatives.

Per Larry: NCEMS and St. Joseph Hospital representatives discussed ideas for a stroke plan yesterday. Dr. Tong from CPMC was on the call with them and summarized their program. Larry discussed highlights from the meeting, including pre-alerts to the hospital ER, fixed wing transportation on incoming stroke patients, educating the public on hospital stroke treatment, TPA, and transportation times/delays. In light of the meeting, NCEMS will create a stroke best practices document for hospitals. A discussion ensued on the tele-stroke center services hospitals use. Louis distributed the NCEMS policy on treatment guidelines for stroke. They decided to approve the "Cincinnati Model" for stroke triage criteria. Larry envisions a two-phase approach to addressing the high stroke mortality rates for this region: 1. Informal—encouraging, through a memo, key partners to follow best practices, and 2. Eventually developing a formal plan implementing new stroke regulations, which will need to be approved by the state. The plan would codify a decentralized system, where every hospital would receive stroke patients. NCEMS will encourage hospitals to be certified to at least be "stroke ready". Per Louis: NCEMS attempted to enter data into the CARES registry starting last month, but discovered they must enter it manually because they do not have enough data to meet CARES requirements for automation. This is too time-consuming, and NCEMS may ask providers to enter the data. Louis is working with Jay Myhre to streamline the manual entry. Sean would like more training on using CARES.

Exclusive Operating Area Update

Larry summarized the EOA transportation plan. NCEMS is discussing with Del Norte Ambulance the possibility of them being "grandfathered" into an EOA, similar to the plan for City Ambulance and Arcata-Mad River Ambulance. A fire district in Lake County is also interested in an EOA. Larry and Louis will meet with Pam Mather, to discuss the contract for City and Arcata-Mad River Ambulance. Jason would like to review Zone 4, the Fortuna-Garberville area, as part of the process. Joe inquired about how an EOA for Del Norte Ambulance would affect CAL-ORE's ground ambulance transfers out of Sutter Coast. Per Larry: NCEMS will need to evaluate this situation to determine what specific ambulance services to be grandfathered under an EOA. The EOA process distinguishes between regular BLS transfers and 911 ALS transfers, and any mutual aid agreements a transfer provider may have with a hospital.

Policy Updates

Per Louis: Adopting Ketamine will be the most significant policy update. Louis will review the policy Kayce sent to him, and then submit it to the state. Per Kayce: The next policies to review are NCEMS's psychiatric policies. She will send Rita trauma treatment policies to review. Ron still wants to review their inter-facility transfer policies. Per Kayce: Those policies are hard to update. The next policy review committee is on 02/25/20. Ron, Louis, and Dr. Karp will meet to discuss the use of Tylenol. Per Sean: Is there a list of all approved medications? Per Larry: The state maintains the list in the regulation; there is a mechanism for LEMSAs to get approval to adjust this list.

3. NEW BUSINESS

2020 Calendar Approval

Larry distributed the revised draft 2020 calendar. The Cardiac Coordinating Committee meeting that was originally scheduled for today following the MAC meeting has been moved to April's MAC meeting. Since February's MAC meeting falls on Lincoln's birthday, Larry proposed canceling the meeting. Members agreed. Larry also proposed moving the February Trauma Advisory Committee meetings to after July's MAC meeting. Members agreed.

4. NCEMS REPORT

Per Larry: The next Governing Board meeting is on 01/23/20 at the NCEMS office at 10:30am. The EMS plan is due to the state by the end of March. NCEMS will send out a survey to all providers for updates by the end of January or beginning of February. This year's plan will be more streamlined because Larry can remove much of the STEMI and EMS for Children sections from the plan, now that the state has approved their own separate plans.

5. EMS LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Per Jaison: While there are no new bills in print, legislators are planning to introduce a new bill allowing EMTs and paramedics to detain 5150 patients. Jaison believes it will be in print by March.

6. FACILITY AND PROVIDER REPORTS

St. Joseph Hospital--Per Tracie: Two nurses are going to the UC Davis Sim Center next month. St. Joseph is having a field care audit on 02/13/20. Dr. Gerdes will discuss spinal immobilization. Tracie and a hospital social worker will travel to San Francisco in two weeks to learn about a substance abuse navigator program. She hopes to implement the program at St. Joseph. Per Dr. Neuger: Their trauma program's CT scanner is now on generator power, so St. Joseph will not need to close their program during a power outage. They are also getting another backup generator.

Redwood Memorial Hospital--Per Pam Collver via text to Tracie: Nothing to report.

City Ambulance--Per Jaison: They are moving to a paperless PCR program. Both patients and hospital nurses will put signatures on an electronic tablet. City Ambulance is still using Image Trend, but is accessing it a different way. There was discussion on how hospital staff get access to the new system, and which City Ambulance PCRs they can access. Jaison believes staff only need direct access to the ICEMA database in order to access the program and all the PCRs, but he will get verification. He asked St. Joseph to contact him if they have problems accessing the PCRs through the program. Per Larry: NCEMS needs to pay for access to Image Trend data regardless of whether providers use Image Trend. This cost is approximately \$25,000. NCEMS is trying to get ICEMA to lower the cost, but they will discuss other funding alternatives to cover the cost at the next Governing Board meeting. Per Jaison: On 01/01/20, they switched to a BLS day unit instead of an on-call crew. They are still in the process of hiring staff to fill the unit. They have four new EMTs and one new paramedic and should be able to staff their fourth crew every day.

DHHS-Public Health--Per Sofia: Ryan Derby, former Emergency Preparedness Program Coordinator, is now the Manager for Humboldt County's Office of Emergency Services (OES). Public Health is recruiting a replacement Coordinator. Sofia is planning this year's coalition surge test, which is required through the Hospital Preparedness Program grant. The test will take place late in the third quarter or early in quarter four. She distributed a flier on the upcoming Psychological First Aid training the Emergency Preparedness program is sponsoring.

Sutter Coast Hospital—Per Carmella: They passed their trauma certification last month. Certification lasts for three years. They now have 24-hour tele-nephrology and can initiate in-patient dialysis. They discovered in October that after Del Norte Ambulance switched to a new PCR system Sutter Coast was missing 25-50% of PCRs that are supposed to go into patient charts. The issue has been resolved and almost all PCRs have been recovered. Carmella is conducting a field care audit on 01/15/20 at 5:00pm covering seizure information.

Mad River Hospital—Per Sean: Last month's field care audit demonstrating the Lucas device was successful. Per Tina: Mad River has orthopedic coverage all month. Dr. Meyers replaced Dr. Cobb as Trauma Medical Director.

Sheriff's Office--Per Tom: On 01/04/20, they trained around forty-five first responders on the County's Criminal Mass Casualty Incident (CMCI) protocol. He is planning more trainings in the spring. At this training, participants tested a system to deploy triage ribbon. He presented a clip-on belt pack containing different color triage ribbons and a whistle. Tom asked for feedback on the pack. A discussion ensued on securing funding to purchase triage supplies for fire departments. NCEMS is researching options, but the HPP grant has strict regulations on purchases. EDAP funding, which is released to the hospitals in the region, could be an option if the purchase is officially for pediatric purposes. Tom will attend CAL-FIRE's in-service for Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) to discuss how their TCCC training integrates with the county's CMCI response protocol. Tom is willing to advocate for EDAP funding being released for triage supplies.

CAL-ORE/REACH--Per Joe: They are changing from IVAC pumps to Alaris Bodyguard pumps. In December, nine EMTs from their ground crew completed an advanced EMT course in Brookings. In February, those EMTs will start an EMT intermediate program.

CAL FIRE—Per Bryan: CAL FIRE is in the process of becoming their own statewide EMS agency. Brooke Holton is the EMS Coordinator for the Humboldt County unit, and Bryan and Bill are the assistant coordinators. One of their requirements for developing the system is to create a CQI process for their PCRs. Starting this month, CAL FIRE will put an EPCR program on every engine. CAL FIRE does not have all the details of this new system worked out yet. Per Larry: NCEMS will want to have access to their EPCR data once the process is implemented, and pre-hospital transporting providers should also have access. Patient care charts must not have contradictory information. Per Bryan: In the future, CAL Fire may be able to certify their own EMTs (as opposed to NCEMS certifying them). The state has approved this plan. Larry proposed putting CAL FIRE's new EMS role on the agenda for the March MAC meeting, and meeting with CAL FIRE representatives at the NCEMS office. CAL FIRE is considering carrying pre-load EPI pens on their engines. Brooke has already contacted Wendy Chapman about this proposal. All of their personnel have been trained on using EPI and NARCAN. Per Bill: Their Weott station may not have staffing through the winter every day, starting on 01/13/20. They are moving the Weott staff to Garberville.

Del Norte Ambulance—Per Ron: They are using their wheelchair van more often than they thought it would. They are participating in Human Trafficking Awareness Day on 01/11/20.

Arcata-Mad River Ambulance--Per Doug: They have one new paramedic who has begun training, and another part-time paramedic taking the skills exam tomorrow. Yesterday, they used their bariatric unit in a field response for the first time, but did not transport the patient.

Jerold Phelps—Per Judy: On 01/06/20, they began their Senior Life Solutions program, a psychiatric program to help patients age sixty-five and older. They are moving forward with in-patient CT. They will buy a generator for their CT building by this summer. They are preparing for their EDAP survey in March. One nurse recently took an ENPC and Judy hopes this nurse will become Jerold Phelps

EDAP nurse liaison. They are still recruiting for an ED Nurse Manager. They have a new PDLN.

Other Discussions

Doug asked members to review the cc: list on the MAC agenda for any errors or needed updates. Per Tina: Remove Drs. Cobb and Luu from the list.

7. Next Meeting: March 11, 2020, 9am at Redwood Memorial Hospital, Renner Room (followed by a meeting with the Trauma Advisory Committee)