



EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting

Friday, February 28, 2014 – 9:00 a.m.

Location: *Hall of Administration: Commission Hearing Room*
333 W. Santa Ana Blvd, Santa Ana, CA 92701

MINUTES

MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS

- Ron Blaul
- Patrick Powers
- Nick Anas, MD
- Jon Gilwee
- Vacant
- Monica Ruzich
- Sharon Hoier, RN
- Kenneth McFarland
- Michelle Tom, MD
- Philip Davis
- Brad Reese
- Margie Harrier, RN
- Vacant
- Chief Wolfgang Knabe
- Bryan Hoynak, MD (excused)
- Chief Paul Henisey
- vacant

CATEGORY REPRESENTED

- Board of Supervisors, First District
- Board of Supervisors, Second District
- Board of Supervisors, Third District
- Board of Supervisors, Fourth District
- Board of Supervisors, Fifth District
- American Red Cross, OC Chapter
- Orange Coast Emergency Nurses Assn.
- Hospital Association of Southern California
- Society of OC Emergency Physicians
- Ambulance Association of OC
- League of California Cities
- OC Business Council
- OC City Managers Association
- OC Fire Chiefs Association
- OC Medical Association
- OC Police Chiefs/Sheriffs Assn.
- OC Senior Citizens Advisory Council

HCA STAFF

- Sam Stratton, MD
- Tammi McConnell, RN
- Holly Veale
- Lydia Mikhail
- Mike Delaby, RN
- Laurent Repass, NREMT-P
- Vicki Sweet, RN
- Fran Cohen, RN
- Erica Moojen
- Maria Cervantes
- Melissa Murphy
- Eileen Endo
- EMS Medical Director
- EMS Program Manager
- Medical Services
- Health Disaster Management
- EMS Facilities Coordinator
- OC-MEDS Program Manager
- EMS CQI Liaison
- EMS Nurse Liaison
- EMS Office Supervisor
- EMS Specialist
- EMS Specialist
- Office Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT

- Chad Druten
- Sheryl Gradney, RN
- Jim Ignacio
- Jim Karras
- Aaron Oshima
- Rob Viera
- Jacob Wagoner
- Bill Weston
- Stephen Wontrobski

REPRESENTING

- Emergency Ambulance Service
- St. Jude Medical Center
- JVI Consulting, LLC
- Americare Ambulance Service
- Mercy Air Service
- Care Ambulance Service
- Lynch Ambulance Service
- Care Ambulance Service
- Public

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Michelle Tom, MD, Chair.

2. INTRODUCTIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

In January, 2014, Committee members elected Michelle Tom, MD to serve as Chair and Chief Wolfgang Knabe as Vice Chair of the Emergency Medical Care Committee for calendar year 2014.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSC: Minutes from the October 25, 2013 meeting were approved as submitted.

4. OCEMS REPORT / CORRESPONDENCE

• Medical Director Update

Dr. Stratton presented a report on the FAST-MAG Trial Study, 2014 Standing Order and medical policy revisions, and a pilot study involving the administration of drugs currently not in the paramedic scope of practice.

Dr. Miller presented a report on a community paramedicine pilot program that will be conducted under a program and in cooperation with the State EMS Authority and the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development.

- **Program/OC-MEDS Update**

Laurent Repass provided a status report on the OC-MEDS System. This report included the number of electronic PCRs; the electronic base hospital report trial program; and the enhancement of the certification/licensure program.

- **EMCC Correspondence**

Attached to today's packet is correspondence received from Stephen Wontrobski who spoke on the correspondence that he submitted which expressed his concerns on Orange County Fire Authority procurement processes. He requested that Orange County EMS disallow the ALS fee that has been included in previous RFPs prepared by the Fire Authority.

Dr. Stratton clarified the reasons for the ALS assessment services (ALS pass through) and why this amount is billed by the ambulance service provider. He stated this item will be going before the Orange County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, March 4, 2014.

5. **EMCC ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE AND ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS**

No reports given.

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. 50-Day Public Comment Period on OCEMS Policies and Procedures

Comments received from the EMS System are included in today's agenda packet. Two of the twenty policies released for public comment will be revised and released for an additional 15-day public comment period. The remainder will be implemented on April 1, 2014.

B. IFT- ALS Program Update

– *Dr. Stratton reported:*

The presentation on the IFT-ALS Program is a six-month follow up report as directed by this Committee. The purpose of the IFT-ALS program is to transport patients requiring advanced life support care (not acute emergency care) in a timely and safe manner.

Dr. Stratton presented data on 1,922 total ALS level transports made from the inception of the program in March 2013 through December 31, 2013. He shared data on standing order fall outs, stable arrival at destination, dispatch to arrival times, call volume by month; the percentage of calls received that are referred to either the 9-1-1 system or are upgraded to a critical care nurse transport; the most common impressions for patients that are transported; the most common ALS interventions identified; and where the calls are originating from (i.e., licensed facility, hospitals, etc.).

Four other applications as well as a proposal for rapid critical care nurse transport have been received. Orange County EMS will be reviewing the applications and inviting applicants to meet with OCEMS staff.

Ron Blaul: Questions regarding where OCEMS has identified the source of the calls that are referred to 9-1-1 from the IFT-ALS program (i.e., hospitals, licensed facilities); and the difference in response times between IFT-ALS and specialty care transports.

Chief Knabe: Questions regarding educating hospitals and specialty care facilities to reduce the % of calls referred to 9-1-1 and the exploration of additional funding sources to expand quality improvement?

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Specialty Receiving Center Designations

– *Michael Delaby reported:*

The Facilities Advisory Committee forwarded their recommendation to the Emergency Medical Care Committee that the designations of those facilities listed in the Summary Report be approved as submitted.

MSC: **Recommended the designation for Placentia-Linda Hospital (March 2014 to February 2017), St. Joseph Hospital (March 2014 to September 2014), St. Jude Medical Center (March 2014 to February 2017) the University of California, Irvine Medical Center (March 2014 to February 2016), Western**

Medical Center/Santa Ana (March 2014 to February 2017), and Children's Hospital of Orange County (April 2014 to March 2017) as indicated in the Summary Report.

B. EMS Plan

– Tammi McConnell reported:

An excerpt of the 2014 EMS Plan consisting of selected standards regarding ambulance emergency operating areas was presented to Committee members. The State EMS Authority has ordered that the RFP process for 19 cities that contract fire and paramedic services with the Orange County Fire Authority, be conducted by Orange County EMS. The 2014 EMS Plan has been posted to the OCEMS website.

Dr. Stratton provided background history on the development of EMS, cited legal cases pertaining to the overall responsibility and management of the EMS system by local government regarding the provision of ambulance services; and the current status and plans for development of the RFP Process for the 19 cities that contract paramedic services with the Fire Authority.

Chief Knabe: Comments regarding the rights of a city, fire district or fire department under Section 1797.201 of the California Health and Safety Code and stressed the importance that Orange County EMS and EMCC examine Sections 1797.201 and 1797.224 of the Health and Safety Code carefully for any legal ramifications.

Ron Blaul: Comments regarding the effect of the Butte County decision and rights of the cities. He believes that it would be helpful if this Committee would discuss the EMS Plan at future meetings.

Patrick Powers: Comments regarding Health and Safety Code sections 1797.201 and those cities who have signed agreements with the County of Orange regarding provision of ambulance service.

8. **MEMBER COMMENTS**

None made.

9. **PUBLIC FORUM** (non-agendized)

10. **NEXT MEETING** - Friday, April 25, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.
Commission Hearing Room - 333 W. Santa Ana Blvd, Santa Ana 92701

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.