



COUNTY PARAMEDIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 8, 2021, 2021 – 1:00 p.m.

M I N U T E S

MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE			
MEMBER	REPRESENTING	MEMBER	REPRESENTING
Theodore Heyming, MD, Chair	– Children’s Hospital of Orange County	Brandon Grinstead, EMT-P	– Orange County Fire Authority
Jon Cline, MD	– Mission Hospital	Jeff Lopez, EMT-P	– Huntington Beach Fire Department
Robert Granata, MD	– Orange County Global Medical Center	Kimberly Nichols, RN (excused)	– Orange County ED Nursing Leadership
Matt Hunt, MD	– Hoag Memorial Hospital	Kristin Thompson, RN	– Orange County Fire Chiefs EMS Comm.
Iksoo Kang, MD	– St. Jude Medical Center		
Eric McCoy, MD	– UCI Medical Center	OCEMS Staff	Title
David Ngo, MD	– Huntington Beach Hospital	Carl Schultz, MD	– EMS Medical Director
Claus Hecht, MD (excused)	– Orange County Fire Authority	Gagandeep Grewal, MD	– Associate EMS Medical Director
Robert Katzer, MD	– Anaheim Fire Department	Laurent Repass, NRP	– EMS Information Systems Chief
Shira Schlesinger, MD, MPH	– Newport Beach Fire Department	Danielle Ogaz	– EMS Systems and Standards Chief
		Adrian Rodriguez	– EMS Performance Chief
Julia Afrasiabi, RN	– UCI Medical Center	Laura Wallin, RN	– ALS/CQI Coordinator
Ruth Clark, RN (excused)	– Orange County Global Medical Center	David Johnson, RN	– Facilities Coordinator
Laura Cross, RN	– Mission Hospital	Jason Azuma, NRP	– OC-MEDS Coordinator
Gloria Guerra, RN	– St. Jude Medical Center	Vicki Sweet, RN	– EMS Nurse Consultant
Cyndie Strader, RN	– Hoag Memorial Hospital	Eileen Endo	– Office Specialist
Chris Waddell, RN	– Huntington Beach Hospital		
Kim Zaky, RN	– Children’s Hospital of Orange County		
GUESTS PRESENT			
NAME	REPRESENTING	NAME	REPRESENTING
Dave Barry	– Anaheim Fire Department	Brice Girdley, RN	– Lynch Ambulance Service
Drew Bernard	– Emergency Ambulance Service	Daniel Graham	–
Aja Dickey	– Premier Ambulance	Bryan Johnson, RN	– Orange City Fire Department
Jesus Gaona	– Board of Supervisors, Fourth District	Julie Mackie, RN	– Mission Hospital

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dr. Ted Heyming.

II. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for the July 14, 2021 meeting were approved as submitted.

IV. OCEMS REPORT

- **OCEMS Report:** David Johnson reported the Health Care Agency Operation Center continues its Level 2 activation. A poll situation status report continues to be to be done to determine hospital status and to determine how each facility handles heavy patient loads. Hospitals continue to see a lot of psychiatric patients which take considerable resources and time. Hospitals are handling surges and diversion in a better manner. Regional hospital staff issues continue to occur throughout the US.

Danielle Ogaz reported that the State EMS Authority has approved the extension for the local optional scope of practice for paramedics and emergency medical technicians to perform vaccinations and COVID testing and the skills verification requirements. Both extensions have been granted through December 31, 2021.

Health Emergency Management Report: Dr. Grewal reported that COVID numbers continue to improve. He reported that while there may be a surge of COVID patients, it appears that this surge consists of pediatric patients who are not vaccinated.

Orange County Hospital Diversion Report: David Johnson reported on hospital diversion trends seen in the months of July and August 2021. Mr. Johnson reported since July, hospital diversion hours have plateaued with the upcoming flu season coming out. Further diversion information may be viewed on the MHOAC dashboard posted to the OCEMS website.

- **Ambulance Patient Off-Load Times (APOT):** Attached to the agenda are the APOT reports released since the last meeting. Laurent Repass reported that the month of August indicates that it was the busiest month of transports on record since 2016. APOT times have been increasing while diversion is trending downward. Due to a calculation data error noted for the period of January 1 to July 31, 2021, the monthly reports have been revised and they are posted to the OCEMS website.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- COVID LOSPs Sunset September 30, 2021

Prior to the July, 2021 meeting, it was the intent of the State EMS Authority to sunset all local Optional Scope of Practices granted by the EMS Authority. Through September 30, 2021 (see above information under the EMS report). This has been changed to December 31, 2021.

Dr. Schultz held over discussion of some of the following standing orders scheduled to be discussed at the July 14, 2021 meeting due to the incident that had transpired at that meeting. A brief outline of changes were discussed at this meeting.

- Prehospital ALS Standing Orders #I-15 Adult/Adolescent Standing Order Drug Guide (Attachment #3)
- Prehospital ALS Standing Orders #I-20 Pediatric Medication Volume Dose by Weight (Attachment #4)
This policy was discussed by the Medical Advisory Committee on July 14, 2021. MAC Committee members commended Kim Zaky for the work she performed on the creation of this Standing Order.
- ALS Procedure #PR-05: Airway Management: Tracheostomy Special Situations (Attachment #5)
Dr. Schultz reported that a request from the EMS Advisory Group to not write a separate BLS tracheostomy policy was approved.
- Prehospital ALS Standing Orders #SO-M-40 Seizure/Convulsion (Attachment #6)
- Prehospital ALS Standing Orders #SO-P-75 Seizure/Convulsion Pediatric (Attachment #7)
- Orange County EMS Policy/Procedure #300.10: OC-MEDS Documentation Standards (Attachment #8)
- Orange County EMS Policy/Procedure #300.30: OC-MEDS – System Management & Support. (Attachment #9)

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

None conducted.

VIII. ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Base Hospital Coordinators – *Reported by Chris Waddell, RN*

The Base Hospital Coordinators will conduct their fall MICN class in the month of October. The NO FEAR conferencing is a virtual trauma conference on November 19, 2021. REACs will have additional information as well as the Orange County Base Hospital Coordinators' website.

- Orange County Fire Chiefs EMS – *Reported by Jeff Lopez*

This Committee continues to meet online. There is a Community Risk Reduction (CRR) Subcommittee that meets to share ideas between hospitals.

Dave Barry reported that Anaheim Fire Department has dedicated ambulance in the system to replace three units working elsewhere. They will not have the CARE Ambulance logo.

- Orange County ED Nursing Leadership Council – *Kimberly Nichols reporting:*

This group will hold their next meeting in October.

- Facilities Advisory Committee – No report given. Next meeting is September 14, 2021.

IX. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

X. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.