



EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE



REGULAR MEETING

Friday, October 13, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

Location: County Administration North (CAN) Multipurpose Room
400 West Civic Center Drive, First Floor, Room 101, Santa Ana, CA 92701

M I N U T E S

Name	Representing	Health Care Agency Staff	
<input type="checkbox"/> Michael S. Ritter, MD	– Orange County Medical Assn. (SOCEP)	Mindy Winterswyk	– Assistant Agency Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patrick Cichon, MD	– Board of Supervisors, First District	Almaas Shaikh, MD, MPH	– Deputy County Health Officer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Grihalva, MICP	– Board of Supervisors, Second District	Carl Schultz, MD	– EMS Medical Director,
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Timothy Munzing, MD	– Board of Supervisors, Third District	Gagandeep Grewal, MD	– Associate EMS Medical Director
<input type="checkbox"/> Luis Estevez (excused)	– Board of Supervisors, Fourth District	Kristen Karpow, RN	– EMS Systems & Standards Chief
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ted Heyming, MD	– Board of Supervisors, Fifth District	Genise Silva, RN	– Facilities Coordinator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Karras	– Ambulance Association of Orange County	Ruth Clark, RN	– Trauma Coordinator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Firey	– American Red Cross	Kirstin Wong	– EMS Specialist
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dan Kalmick	– City Selection Committee	Erica Moojen	– EMS Office Supervisor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Killebrew	– Orange County City Managers Association	Eileen Endo	– Office Specialist
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Adam Loeser	– Orange County Fire Chief Association		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Gibbs, MD	– Orange County Medical Association		
<input type="checkbox"/> Chief Stu Greenberg	– Orange County Police Chiefs' & Sheriffs Assn.		
Guests Present			
Todd Costa, RN	– Orange County Fire Authority	Angelina Rivera	– Orange County Global Med. Ctr.
Laura Cross, RN	– Mission Hospital	Rhonda Rosati, RN	– Fullerton Fire Department
Vanessa Hayflich	– Mercy Air Service	Raj Vishal	– Falck Medical
Bryan Johnson, RN	– Orange City Fire Dept.	Jacob Wagoner	– Lynch EMS
Monica Layhee, RN	– Orange County Global Medical Center	Jimmy Webb	– Falck Medical
Whitney Patnode, RN	– CHOC		

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dr. Michael Ritter.

2. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ruth Clark, RN has joined Orange County EMS staff as the new EMS Trauma Coordinator. Ruth previously served as the Base Hospital Coordinator at Orange County Global Medical Center.
- Sarkis Sarkisian has joined Orange County EMS staff as the new EMS Coordinator in the Ambulance Performance section of EMS.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the July 14, 2023 meeting were approved as submitted.

4. OCEMS REPORT

- **Medical Director's Report** by Dr. Carl Schultz

Chapman Global Medical Center has submitted its intent to submit an application for designation as an emergency receiving center. Further updates will be provided on an ongoing basis. Dr. Schultz reported on the shortage of Versed and the effects this may have on pediatric patients and he reported on the implementation of revisions to the Treatment Guidelines/Standing Orders.

- **Health Emergency Management Report**

Dr. Grewal reported that the “Great Shake Out” is due to take place on Thursday; the Statewide Medical Health Exercise will take place on November 16, 2023. The individual hospitals are planning what each facility is planning for this exercise. At this time, it is unknown whether law enforcement will be involved. He reported on the status of COVID and RSV vaccinations.

- **Ambulance Patient Off-Load Time (APOT) Report and Diversion Report**

Attached to the packet, APOT and Hospital Diversion hours are presented. Dr. Grewal reported that transport volumes are significantly higher. Hospitals are reporting more walk-in patients and more 9-1-1 traffic. The State has not set a limit on diversion hours to date. There is no specific guidance from the State on any consequences if a hospital exceeds a maximum limit on diversion hours.

Committee members discussed potential problems that could occur; the effects that diversion hours have on specialty centers.

- **Bi-Directional Exchange Project**

The Bi-Directional Data Exchange purpose is the ability for facilities and field providers to exchange patient data. It is anticipated that 50% to 80% of facilities will be going live before February 2024. Providence (Mission, St. Joseph, and St. Jude) is the next system expected to go live.

- **NEMSIS v3.5 Transition Plan Update**

Dr. Grewal reported on the status of the transition plan for NEMSIS v3.5. The agenda packet includes a status update on agencies’ as they transition to NEMSIS v3.5. He reported that approximately 20% of the prehospital care providers are expected to go “live” with 100% of before personnel will need to be trained on approximately 50 data elements.

5. EMCC ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE AND ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS

- Genise Silva reported there are a number of facilities that are underdoing the designation process. She also reported that the Stroke CQI committee will be meeting the following week.
- Kristin Karpow reported on the County Prehospital Advisory Committee (CPAC) met on September 13, 2023. Discussions included situations where both law enforcement and paramedics report to an incident. It is important to note that paramedics are in charge of the medical aspect to ensure that all parties (such as a rally) are kept safe. The “No Fear” conference which is hosted by the Orange County Base Hospital Coordinators which will be held at Mission Hospital.
- Transportation Advisory Committee met on October 4, 2023. They discussed the 9-1-1 ambulance RFP, ambulance strike team leader training.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

7. NEW BUSINESS – Reported by Dr. Schultz

- **Orange County EMS Policies & Procedures**

OCEMS Policy #510.00 Emergency Medical Technician Training Program Criteria

Dr. Schultz reported that this policy has been revised to require that EMT students will be required to acquire the mechanical skill. This policy has been released for 50-day public comment which are due on October 20, 2023.

OCEMS Policy #645.00 Emergency Medical Technician Training Program Criteria

Dr. Schultz reported that this policy has been revised and released for 50-day public comment and has undergone review by legal counsel. This policy has been released for 50-day public comment which are due on October 20, 2023.

- **9-1-1 Emergency Ambulance Transportation Services Request for Proposal – Public Comments**

Dr. Schultz reported that Orange County EMS this Request for Proposal has been released for Public Comment with Dr. Ritter asking the public for any comments. *Jimmy Webb, Falck Medical Health submitted oral and written comments to Orange County EMS with suggestions on concerns and comments regarding patient and employee safety in regard to the RFP. Raj Vishal reminded Committee members that these comments were submitted by the work force and not from Falck Medical Health. Jim Karras reported that the Ambulance Association of Orange County will be submitted via the website.*

Dr. Schultz asked that the comments be submitted in writing on the website.

8. PUBLIC FORUM *None heard.*

9. NEXT MEETING – The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 12, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT – With no further business, meeting was adjourned.