



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE



## REGULAR MEETING

Friday, April 12, 2024 – 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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Health Care Agency Staff</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael S. Ritter, MD	– Orange County Medical Assn. (SOCEP)	Regina Chinsio-Kwong, MD – County Health Officer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patrick Cichon, MD	– Board of Supervisors, First District	Mindy Winterswyk, DPT, PCS – Director, Specialized Med. Serv.
<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	Almaas Shaikh, MD, MPH – Deputy County Health Officer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Luis Estevez	– Board of Supervisors, Fourth District	Tammi McConnell, MSN, RN – EMS Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ted Heyming, MD	– Board of Supervisors, Fifth District	Mike Noone, NRP – Assistant EMS Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Karras	– Ambulance Association of Orange County	Adrian Rodriguez – Ambulance Performance Chief
<input type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Firey (excused)	– American Red Cross	Kristen Karpow, RN – EMS Systems & Standards Chief
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dan Kalmick	– City Selection Committee	Genise Silva, RN – EMS Facilities Coordinator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jill Ingram	– Orange County City Managers Association	Sarkis Sarkisian – EMS Coordinator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Adam Loeser	– Orange County Fire Chief Association	Juan Alvarez – EMS Specialist
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Gibbs, MD	– Orange County Medical Association	Erica Moojen – EMS Office Supervisor
<input type="checkbox"/> Chief Stu Greenberg	– Orange County Police Chiefs’ & Sheriffs Assn.	Eileen Endo – Office Specialist
<u>Guests Present</u>		
Julia Afrasiabi, RN	– UCI Medical Center	Erick Quintanilla – Falck Medical Health Corp
Matt Armstrong	– Premier Ambulance Service	Rhonda Rosati, RN – Fullerton Fire Department
Danielle Boal, RN	– Brea Fire Department	Jenael Rosenberg, RN – Hoag Memorial Hospital
Joshua Bobko, MD	– Orange County Fire Authority	Heidi Ragas, RN – St. Jude Medical Center
Chad Druten	– Emergency Ambulance Service	Daniel Santillan – Premier Ambulance Service
Monica Layhee, RN	– Orange County Global Medical Center	Fire Chief Mark Terrill – Brea Fire Department
Gerald Otteson	– Mercy Air Service	Raj Vishal – Falck Medical Health
Jillian Patt, RN	– Huntington Beach Hospital	Bill Weston – Emergency Ambulance Services

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Minutes from the January 12, 2024 meeting were approved as submitted.**

**4. OCEMS REPORT**

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

This is a reminder that OCEMS has released updated policies, procedures, and standing orders that became effective April 1, 2024.

Orange County EMS is monitoring those patients who are transported to an out-of-county facility and accompanied by a 9-1-1 provider. Revisions are being made to OCEMS Policy #650.00 which will require an in-person neurology consultation and not use tele-neurology. This policy will be released for 50-day public comment.

Dr. Schultz announced the sale of the three Tenet hospitals in Orange County (Fountain Valley Regional Hospital; Los Alamitos Medical Center; and Placentia-Linda Hospital) to UCI Health. Effective today, they will be listed on ReddiNet as UCI Health-Fountain Valley; UCI Health-Los Alamitos, and UCI Health-Placentia Linda.

- **Health Disaster Preparedness Report**

Dr. Grewal reported on the updating of emergency plans for the various stakeholders including city emergency plans.

Exercises and Meetings: Dr. Grewal reported that an all-day CHEMPACK training will be held on May 21, 2024 at Orange County Environmental Health and is being hosted by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). As this is a CDPH event, there is no virtual option. The National Disaster Medical System agreements are in the process of being updated.

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

Jason Azuma presented first quarter data (January 1 through March 31, 2024) for APOT. Hospital diversion hours reflected the increase in the number of transports and APOT times reported.. The number of transports reported is the highest since APOT data has been reported.

- **Bi-Directional Exchange Project**

Mr. Azuma reported that this is an on-going project which allows hospitals and field providers to exchange data. Fourteen hospitals are already participating in the project.

- **EMCC Correspondence**

The EMCC correspondence are notifications that have been distributed since the last meeting including the official closure of Chapman Global Medical Center. Tammi McConnell reported future plans are to convert the hospital to an urgent care. A meeting was held to hear any comments from the public. Hospital representatives were present at the meeting with no other members of the public present.

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

- **Facilities Advisory Committee** met on March 19, 2024: In addition to those re-designations requiring approval by the Genise Silva reported with the passage of Assembly Bill 40 which establishes a statewide standard APOT time of 30 minutes. Hospitals will need to develop policies to ensure that they maintain APOT at 30 minutes as this policy is required at both the local and state levels.
- **County Prehospital Advisory Committee (CPAC)** met on March 20, 2024 and held a discussion on the pilot project with Orange County Fire Authority and Orange County Sheriff's Department. This pilot project allows paramedics from these two agencies to use ketamine IM/IO. The primary concern at this time is the ability to obtain the correct concentration of ketamine. Committee members discussed the appropriateness of paramedics practicing their scope of practice in a fixed facility (such as a hospital). The State has determined that paramedics are responsible for patient care from the scene until the transfer of care to hospital personnel has taken place. Chief Loeser reported this has been an ongoing concern for the fire chiefs as well.
- **Transportation Advisory Committee** met on April 3, 2024 and discussed policies regarding training updates that were implemented on April 1, 2024.

## 6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None

7. **NEW BUSINESS** – Reported by Dr. Schultz

- **Redesignation of Orange Coast Memorial Medical Center:** Ms. Silva reported that a site visit was held in January, 2024. On March 19, 2024 the Facilities Advisory Committee heard the recommendation of conditional redesignation as an emergency receiving center for Orange Coast Memorial for a period of three years.

*The Emergency Medical Care Committee recommended to the EMS Medical Director that Orange Coast Medical Center be redesignated as an Emergency Receiving Center and Cardiovascular Receiving Center for three years with conditions as outlined in the report.*

- **Redesignation of Fountain Valley Regional Hospital & Medical Center:** Ms. Silva reported that a site visit was conducted at Fountain Valley Regional Hospital (now UCI Health-Fountain Valley) in February, 2024 for its redesignation as an Emergency Receiving Center; Cardiovascular Receiving Center, and Stroke-Neurology Receiving Center. Orange County EMS requested that the Facilities Advisory Committee approve the hospital's redesignations with conditions on March 19, 2024 for three years. The Facilities Advisory Committee approved and forwarded this recommendation to the Emergency Medical Care Committee.

*The Emergency Medical Care Committee recommended to the EMS Medical Director that UCI Health – Fountain Valley (formerly Fountain Valley Regional Hospital & Medical Center) be redesignated as an Emergency Receiving Center; Cardiovascular Receiving Center, and Stroke-Neurology Receiving Center, for three years with conditions as outlined in the report.*

- **Request of Permanent Status by Newport Beach Fire Department for Permanent Paramedic Assessment Unit NT63 from a BLS Unit:** Dr. Schultz reported that Orange County EMS has received correspondence from Newport Beach Fire Department to convert a BLS unit to a Paramedic Assessment Unit (NT63). He Dr. Schultz recommended that this request by approved.

*The Emergency Medical Care Committee recommended to the EMS Medical Director that a paramedic assessment unit (NT 63)*

- **Request of Permanent Status by Newport Beach Fire Department for Permanent ALS Unit NM 67:** Dr. Schultz reported that Orange County EMS has received correspondence from Newport Beach Fire Department to request permanent status for an ALS unit (NM 67). Dr. Schultz recommended that this request by approved.

*The Emergency Medical Care Committee recommended to the EMS Medical Director for permanent status of an ALS Unit (NM 67) as requested by Newport Beach Fire Department.*

8. **MEMBER COMMENT**

*None.*

9. **PUBLIC FORUM** *None heard.*

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

11. **ADJOURNMENT** – With no further business, meeting was adjourned.