



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE



## REGULAR MEETING

Friday, July 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

## MINUTES

<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 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	Tammi McConnell, MSN, RN – EMS Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Luis Estevez	– Board of Supervisors, Fourth District	Mike Noone, NRP – Assistant EMS Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ted Heyming, MD	– Board of Supervisors, Fifth District	Kristen Karpow, RN – EMS Systems & Standards Chief
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Firey	– American Red Cross	Genise Silva, RN – EMS Facilities Coordinator
<input type="checkbox"/> Dan Kalmick (excused)	– City Selection Committee	Ruth Clark, RN – EMS Trauma Coordinator
<input type="checkbox"/> Jill Ingram (excused)	– Orange County City Managers Association	Drew Bernard – EMS Specialist
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Adam Loeser	– Orange County Fire Chief Association	Erica Moojen – EMS Office Supervisor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Gibbs, MD	– Orange County Medical Association	Eileen Endo – Office Specialist
<input type="checkbox"/> Chief Stu Greenberg	– Orange County Police Chiefs' & Sheriffs Assn.	
<u>Guests Present</u>		
Julia Afrasiabi, RN	– UCI Medical Center	Erick Quintanilla – Falck Medical Health Corp
Matt Armstrong	– Premier Ambulance Service	Heidi Ragas, RN – St. Jude Medical Center
Abigail Baur, RN	– Orange County Global Medical Center	Rhonda Rosati, RN – Fullerton Fire Department
Laura Cross, RN	– Mission Hospital	Jenael Rosenberg, RN – Hoag Memorial Hospital
Ryan Creager	– Mercy Air Services	Fire Chief Mark Terrill – Brea Fire Department
Bryan Johnson, RN	– Orange City Fire Dept.	Raj Vishal – Falck Medical Health
Patrick Powers, EMT-P	– City of Placentia	Jacob Wagoner – Lynch Ambulance Service

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

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

### 2. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Ritter announced that Jim Karras, the representative for the Southern California Ambulance Association, has retired after many years of service to the Orange County Emergency Medical Services system, representing ambulance services in Orange County.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

### 4. OCEMS REPORT

- **Medical Director’s Report** by Dr. Carl Schultz
  - Revisions are being made to policies addressing child and elderly abuse reporting.
  - After much discussion with the State EMS Authority, paramedics are authorized to provide patient care from the scene until transfer of patient care has taken place using their scope of practice only.

This may be done in the hospital until transfer of care to hospital personnel has taken place.

- Dr. Schultz reported on discussions with the State regarding on physician eligibility for trauma centers. In Orange County, physicians may be either Board eligible or Board certified to maintain integrity of the trauma system.

- **Health Disaster Preparedness Report**

Dr. Grewal reported that a new grant cycle is just beginning. Plans for new trainings are just beginning.

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

Dr. Grewal presented APOT and hospital diversion data for the period of March 1 through June 30, 2024. While the number of transports are steadily increasing, APOT times and hospital diversion hours remain steady. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for APOT remains lower than Orange County's standard of 30 minutes with hospital diversion hours also remaining at its usual mark.

- **Bi-Directional Exchange Project**

Dr. Grewal reported that the last two remaining hospitals are making steady progress of getting onboard. The last two provider agencies are also making steady progress. OCEMS is starting to receive data.

- **EMCC Correspondence**

The EMCC correspondence include the announcement of the revised EMS fee schedule and the letter announcing the new ambulance rates both became effective on July 1, 2024. Ms. McConnell also reported on the new assembly bill (AB 716). regarding balanced billing which may affect those cities who .

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

- **Facilities Advisory Committee** met on July 9, 2024: Genise Silva reported on two new committees, presently the Stroke CQI Committee are conducting meetings on a quarterly basis and are going well. A STEMI (CVRC) CQI Committee will begin meeting on a quarterly basis starting in 2025. She also reported on image sharing capabilities between trauma and non-trauma centers. The American College of Surgeons has conducted trauma center verifications for Mission Hospital and Orange County Global Medical Center with Long Beach Memorial Medical Center and CHOC to be verified in the upcoming months.
- **County Prehospital Advisory Committee (CPAC)** met on July 10, 2024. Kristen Karpow reported that Orange County has completed the State pediatric readiness assessment survey with 100% compliance. Committee members discussed obtaining temperature readings in the field for patients transported by paramedics to alternate destinations Many of these patients are expected to be behavioral health patients.

## 6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- **Approval of Updated Policy/Procedure #650.00 (Stroke-Neurology Receiving Center Designation Criteria)**

This policy was released for public comment with the comments shared at the July 9, 2024 Facilities Advisory Committee meeting. Facilities Advisory Committee members reviewed the public comments shared and then recommended that the proposed changes be approved and forwarded to the Emergency Medical Care Committee for final approval.

**The Emergency Medical Care Committee recommended that the Orange County EMS Medical Director approve OCEMS Policy/Procedure #650.00, Stroke Neurology Receiving Center Designation Criteria as recommended by the Facilities Advisory Committee on July 9, 2024.**

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

- **Redesignation of Hoag Hospital (Newport Beach):** Ms. Silva reported that a site visit was held on April 9, 2024. On May 14, 2024 the Facilities Advisory Committee heard the recommendation of unconditional redesignation for a three year period as an emergency receiving center (ERC), Stroke Neurology Receiving Center (SNRC), Cardiovascular Receiving Center (CVRC), and Base Hospital for Hoag Hospital (Newport Beach). The Facilities Advisory Committee approved the recommendation and asked that the Emergency Medical Care Committee approve this recommendation.

*The Emergency Medical Care Committee recommended to the EMS Medical Director that Hoag Hospital (Newport Beach) be redesignated as an Emergency Receiving Center, Stroke Neurology Receiving Center, Cardiovascular Receiving Center, and as a Base Hospital for three years unconditionally as outlined in the report.*

- **Redesignation of St. Joseph Hospital:** Ms. Silva reported that a site visit was held on March 21, 2024. On May 14, 2024, the Facilities Advisory Committee heard the recommendation of unconditional redesignation as Stroke Neurology Receiving Center and as a Cardiovascular Receiving Center. They also heard the conditional redesignation as an emergency receiving center for St. Joseph Hospital. Since May 14, 2024, St. Joseph Hospital has met all conditions for redesignation without conditions as an emergency receiving center. Orange County EMS asks that St. Joseph Hospital be redesignated as an ERC, SNRC, and CVRC for three years unconditionally.

*The Emergency Medical Care Committee recommended to the EMS Medical Director that St. Joseph Hospital be redesignated as an Emergency Receiving Center, Stroke Neurology Receiving Center, and Cardiovascular Receiving Center for three years unconditionally as outlined in the report.*

- **Redesignation of the University of California, Irvine Medical Center:** Ms. Silva reported that a site visit was conducted at the University of California, Irvine (UCI) Medical Center on April 29, 2024: On May 14, 2024 the Facilities Advisory Committee heard the recommendation of redesignation for UCI Medical Center for a three year period as an emergency receiving center (ERC), Stroke Neurology Receiving Center (SNRC), and Base Hospital without conditions and as a Cardiovascular Receiving Center (CVRC) with conditions. Since May 14, 2024, UCI Medical Center has met all conditions for redesignation without conditions as a Cardiovascular Receiving Center. Orange County EMS asks that UCI Medical Center be redesignated as an ERC, SNRC, CVRC, and as a Base Hospital unconditionally for a period of three years.

*The Emergency Medical Care Committee recommended to the EMS Medical Director that UCI Medical Center be redesignated as an Emergency Receiving Center; Cardiovascular Receiving Center, Stroke-Neurology Receiving Center and as a Base Hospital, for three years unconditionally as outlined in the report.*

- **Redesignation of Huntington Beach Hospital:** Ms. Silva reported that a site visit was held on June 20, 2024. On July 9, 2024, the Facilities Advisory Committee heard the recommendation of unconditional redesignation as a Base Hospital and a conditional redesignation as an emergency receiving center for Huntington Beach Hospital. The criteria deficiencies need to be met by September 12, 2024.

*The Emergency Medical Care Committee recommended to the EMS Medical Director that Huntington Beach Hospital be redesignated conditionally as an Emergency Receiving Center and unconditionally as a base hospital for three years as outlined in the report.*

8. **MEMBER COMMENT**

None.

**9. PUBLIC FORUM**     *None heard.*

**10. NEXT MEETING** – The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 11, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

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