



COUNTY PREHOSPITAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 8, 2025 – 1:00 p.m.
 Location: HCA Conference Room 433

MINUTES

MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS

- Theodore Heyming, MD (exc) - BHPD – Children’s Hospital of Orange County
- Jon Cline, MD (exc) - BHPD – Mission Hospital
- Robert Granata, MD (exc) - BHPD – Orange County Global Med. Ctr.
- Joshua Bobko, MD - Medical Director– Orange County Fire Authority
- Kelly Dodge, MD - BHPD – Hoag Memorial Hospital
- Iksoo Kang, MD (exc) - BHPD – St. Jude Medical Center
- Eric McCoy, MD - BHPD – UCI Medical Center
- David Ngo, MD - BHPD – Huntington Beach Hospital
- Kelly Unger, MD - BHPD – Huntington Beach Hospital
- Robert Katzer, MD - Medical Director - Anaheim Fire & Rescue
- Shira Schlesinger, MD - Medical Director - Newport Beach Fire Dept

- Julia Afrasiabi, RN - BHC – UCI Medical Center
- Laura Cross, RN - BHC – Mission Hospital
- Whitney Patnode, RN - BHC – Children’s Hospital of Orange County
- Jill Patt, RN (exc) - BHC – Huntington Beach Hospital
- Heidi Ragas, RN - BHC – St. Jude Medical Center
- Jenael Rosenberg, RN - BHC – Hoag Memorial Hospital
- Abigail Baur, RN - BHC – OC Global Medical Center
- Cyndie Strader, RN (exc) - BHC – Hoag Memorial Hospital

REPRESENTING

MEMBERS

- Jeff Lopez, EMT-P - Representing Huntington Beach Fire Dept.
- Patrick Dibb (exc) - EMT Training Programs
- Patty Gleed, RN - Paramedic Training
- Justin Horner, EMT-P - Fire Chiefs’ EMS Committee
- Andrew Tran - Orange County Fire Authority
- Bryan Johnson, RN - Orange City Fire Dept.

REPRESENTING

HCA/OCEMS STAFF PRESENT

- Mindy Winterswyk - HCA Assistant Agency Director
- Regina Chinsio-Kwong, MD - HCA Health Officer
- Carl Schultz, MD - EMS Medical Director
- Gagandeep Grewal, MD - Associate EMS Medical Director
- Kristen Karpow, RN - EMS Systems/Standards Chief
- Laurent Repass - OC-MEDS Coordinator
- Genise Silva, RN - EMS Facilities Coordinator
- Ruth Clark, RN - EMS Trauma Coordinator
- Jason Azuma, NRP - OC MEDS Coordinator
- Anjan Purohit - EMS Analytics Coordinator
- Eileen Endo - Office Specialist
- Erica Moojen - Office Supervisor B
- Lisa Wilson - Information Processing Technician
- Kelly Starr - HDP Staff Assistant

GUESTS PRESENT

NAME

- Ryan Creager, EMT-P - Mercy Air Service
- Erick Quintanilla - Falck Medical Health
- Glenda Parrish - West Anaheim Medical Center
- Shane Ryan - Falck Medical Health

REPRESENTING

NAME

- Danielle Boal - City of Brea
- Patrick Powers - City of Placentia
- Amanda Collins - Children’s Hospital of Orange County
- Alister Stewart - West Anaheim Medical Center
- Stephanie Scott - St Joseph Medical Center

REPRESENTING

I. CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order by *Dr. Shira Schlesinger*.

II. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- New people made their introductions.
- Anjan Purohit was announced as the new EMS Analytics Coordinator.
- Amanda Collins was announced as the new CCERC Coordinator at CHOC.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes from the November 13, 2024, meeting was approved as submitted.

IV. OCEMS REPORT

- Medical Director’s Report – *Dr. Carl Schultz*
 - You do not have to be a Kaiser member to be taken via 911 to a Kaiser emergency receiving center. The ERCs at Kaiser are like the ERCs for every other hospital in Orange County. Membership is not the criteria to go there. If Kaiser Anaheim is your nearest open most appropriate ERC that is where you go.

- The triage to alternate destination project continues to move forward. The state has endorsed one of our strategic training processes where we will do a train-the-trainer with Anaheim Fire Department. Their trained nurse educators will provide the rest of the training. We have met with the CSU and the educator, and everyone is on board. We are finalizing the draft of the policy which should be ready in approximately six to eight weeks, assuming we can get the county to sign off on the funding for the training program.
 - The IV fluids that were in short supply has pretty much been resolved. It isn't perfect but it is good enough for government work. We will be going back to our basic Policies and Procedures.
 - The last issue has to do with Policy 310.96, which I incorrectly concluded applied to both paramedics and EMTs. If a paramedic has an ALS patient on the wall for 60 minutes and the hospital is not going to assume responsibility, that paramedic will have the right to put the patient on the cot and leave. The hospital has been extended a fairly generous process by host EMS and the paramedics that they will remain there and provide free nursing services for an hour. I have arbitrarily set the limit at 60 minutes, and I don't think that is unreasonable. The state will start enforcing the limit at 30 minutes sometime down the line. The policy will now support paramedics who are on the wall for 60 minutes with no support from the hospital to be able to put the patient on the cot, notifying the charge nurse they are leaving, and then they can leave. That will become the hospital's liability at that point.
- Health Disaster Preparedness Report – *Dr. Gagandeep Grewal*
 - There will be a Statewide Health and Medical Exercise in April. The scenario is water contamination/disruption. We are looking for a contractor to help us implement this exercise for the county.
 - The National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) is looking to do a full-scale exercise this summer regarding patient movement from disaster. They are going to base the exercise at Los Alamitos base. The Health Care Coalition meeting will be on January 30th at the Agency Operations Center.
 - The three virus that we generally worry about: COVID, Flu and RSV, according to our projections are peaking at this time.

- Ambulance Patient Off-Load Time – *Jason Azuma*

We are seeing a greater volume for December, as well as elongated APOT and increased diversion hours. We are tracking that on a daily basis and we have seen some very challenging days over the past several weeks. December 30th was our busiest day on recorded record with 615 transports.

V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

VII. **ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Base Hospital Coordinators
Whitney Patnode from CHOC: I will be the new chair for 2025; nothing else to report.
- Orange County ED Nursing Leadership
- No report given.
- Orange County Fire Chiefs EMS Committee
Justin Horner from Costa Mesa Fire: The next meeting is February 6th; have not met since last November.
- Facilities Advisory Subcommittee
Genise Silva from OCEMS: Has not met since November, next meeting is next Tuesday.
- Pediatric Collaborative
Ruth Clark from OCEMS: Has not met since November.

VIII, **ROUND TABLE**

- Dr. Kelly Dodge from Hoag NB: Hoag suffered a devastating loss last month from the death of Dr. Mathew Hunt who was the Chief of Staff and previous Base Hospital Medical Director.
- Julia Afrasiabi from UCI Orange: almost done with updating a digital portal for all UCI Health hospitals to be able to share images; soon portal will be available for all ERCs.
- Justin Horner from Costa Mesa Fire: new paramedic students starting their hospital rotations soon; new training center in development.
- Bryan Johnson from Orange City Fire: new paramedic students in their hospital rotation soon; Joint training with Anaheim Fire, Placentia Fire, & Fullerton Fire for “updates” next month at North Net.
- Danielle Boal from Brea Fire: one guy starting paramedic school next week
- Erick Quintanilla from Falck: hired 60 new employees starting in January; one strike team sent to Eaton Fire.
- Dr. Shira Schlesinger from Newport Beach Fire: issues with SNFs following a set POLST form after a patient has recently been hospitalized, stating each time a patient has been hospitalized then they need a new POLST form, will not follow the form, Ombudsmen has been contacted; launching this month is an OB/neonatal resuscitation education using a toolkit from San Diego County.
- Andrew Tran from OCFA: still getting nursing education group together; a lot of resources sent to the many recent fires and APOT is very important; recent update with elder abuse legislation.
- Stephanie Scott from St Joseph: recently on-boarded 11 new RNs who just finished their residency.

IX. **NEXT MEETING**

- Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

X. **ADJOURNMENT**

- The meeting was adjourned.