

## New Jersey EMS Council (EMS-Co) Meeting Minutes September 10, 2014 – 10:00 AM

### **Call to order: EMS-Co Chair**

- Moment of silence in memory of:
  - September 11, 2001
  - Wilma Pruden, wife of Dr Jim Pruden
  - Howard Meyers' mother

### **Announcements: EMS-Co Chair**

- Next meeting 12/10/14 10:00 AM @ Health & Agriculture building.

### **Minutes of previous meeting: EMS-Co Chair**

- Not available.

### **Council membership: New member: EMS-Co Chair**

- Dr Richard Hong, MD will serve as alternate for ACEP

### **Concerns of the Chair**

- Nominations Committee – meet today after this meeting to accept nominations for Chair
- Congratulations on the efforts to perpetuate ePCR program: Resolution to the demise of EMS Charts. Special thanks to NJ Hwy Traffic Safety.
  - Currently in purchasing phase thru resellers agreement
  - EMS Charts ends 10/31/14 extending through 1/1/15 with no charge
  - Role out will be same as EMS Charts was on its genesis
  - NEMSIS 2.0 until Spring 15 moving to NEMSIS 3.0
  - Vice Chair requests copy of written agreement from EMS Charts for support thru 1/1/15, referred to Asst. Commissioner Rinn
- Presentations:
  - Lt Mike Havaline , NJSP – Traffic Incident Management (TIM): As presented at last meeting DOT and NJSP are promoting the proliferation of TIM and are looking specifically to EMS for participation at upcoming TTT program September 24 & 25 2014 @ Hudson County OEM, Kearny, NJ.. Would like to see TIM mandatory for all EMS personnel.
    - Contact: [lpp4503@gw.njsp.org](mailto:lpp4503@gw.njsp.org) - (609) 530-2523
    - Concerns over Haz Mat issues arising from EMS interactions at crash scenes; leaving regulated materials behind. Please have EMS providers take responsibility for byproducts of treatment.
    - Will OEMS make it mandatory: no
    - Will OEMS give CEUs: Lt. Havaline to provide additional information for approval
    - Motion: Dr Steven Vetrano: full endorsement of TIM for all EMS providers, seconded, no further discussion, vote: Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.

### **Air medical: Chair**

- Operational issues: unanimously agreed to change things waiting for OEMS approval
- Increase in TXA use, expected.

- Motion to accept: Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.

#### **Basic Life Support: Chair**

- Finalization of BLS protocols:
  - Selective spinal immobilization: fully endorsed complimentary of MAC
  - Treatment protocols: All under Medical Direction
    - Chest Pain: Nitro, ASA
    - Dyspnea: MDI, Nebulizers, CPAP
    - Anaphylaxis: Epi pen combined with device training protocol
    - Overdose: Naloxone
  - BLS for Pre-hospital providers: Scenario involving the termination of resuscitation by BLS providers:
    - Rare occurrence
    - No undue publicity
    - In line with current guidelines and existing protocols
    - BLS cannot accept pronouncement orders
    - No new protocols needed
  - Motion: Dr Steve Vetrano: EMS Council support BLS Committees recommended treatment protocols, seconded. Discussion: Has everyone received copies of these protocols? No, members should see before voting. All members should receive copies and absent objection, endorse. Vote: Yea: majority Nay: 0 Abstain: 1
- Motion to accept: Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.

#### **EMT Training Fund (EMTTF): Chair**

- Several letters of interest received for position on EMTTF for physician public member, forwarded to OEMS for consideration.
- Current balance: \$2,005,730
- Request OEMS provide 2014 expenditures for Initial Education and Continuing Education
- Request from NJFAC requesting increase to \$12 per credit for conference, decision was made to endorse up to \$10 per credit subject to justification
- Motion to accept: Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.

#### **Communications: Chair**

- Report attached
- Guide cards: No specific card for ebola, same as for all potentially infectious issues
- Medical ambulance bus notification system tested successfully for NJ, NY & CT
- First Net Project: mobile voice data system for OHS, information forthcoming for use and access, initial stages of equipment acquisition.
- Motion to accept: Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.

#### **EMSC: Chair**

- Federal grant received for simulation mobile trailer, using hi-fi simulator, operated by OEMS
- Motion to accept: Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.

#### **Trauma Center: Chair read letter from Rep**

- Letter from Trauma Council regarding the flight of patients from New Jersey to out-of-state trauma centers that are not ASC certified. Current recommendation is that patients go to closest

ACS certified trauma center. Patients currently being taken to PA trauma centers do not meet criteria since PA trauma centers are not ACS certified.

- Regulations say: NJ trauma centers have to be ACS certified, but do not say patients must go to ACS certified trauma center
- PA certifies their Trauma centers, how can we say no
- Certain areas of NJ look to PA trauma centers as their tertiary centers of excellence and request to go there, and certain specialty centers (burn) don't exist in south NJ, making PA centers the closest destination
- Chair: JEMSTAR committee needs to investigate this and return next meeting with recommendation to EMS Council: Copy of letter to go to Dr Greenfield

#### **EMS to ED: Chair**

- No report

#### **MICU: Chair**

- Excited delirium protocol: Need input from Law enforcement and other first responders. . Medical protocol for Rx by MICU without medical command already submitted but is being reviewed by OEMS pending coordination. MAC would like EMS-Co support for MICU protocol to proceed anyway: Would allow MICU to chemically sedate patients on Standing Order Protocol without need for medical command.
  - Medical protocol for intervention with this patient population is not only vital to the safety of the provider, but is in the best interest of the patients, many of whom aren't seeing ALS intervention (BLS or LEO only)
  - AG and County Prosecutor's offices should be contacted for input.
  - Medical Protocol held for other than medical best interest of patient may be inappropriate.
  - Coordination with law enforcement and first responder is more for information than input to determine medical treatment
  - How will proposed protocol affect persons Tasered by LEO?
  - Guidelines for protective custody of intoxicated persons may be relevant.
  - 2 part issue: are they mutually inclusive, or should they be addressed separately
    - Medical protocol from MAC
    - Getting all law enforcement and first responders onboard with interventions for this patient population
  - MAC wishes to push forward with their medical protocol and work on other aspects.
  - OEMS researched programs across USA: Success of a ExD program is tied to the proliferation of information to and coordination with all levels of law enforcement and first responders.
  - OEMS actions against individual paramedics: many related to Altered Mental Status with current medical command requirement, so there is reluctance to pass a Standing Order for these situations. OEMS asks for EMS-Co members from all related backgrounds to develop and distribute a program for intervention with these patients.
  - OEMS would like to see a work group from varied backgrounds (EMS, LEO, FD, etc.) to develop a unified statement on this issue.
  - Education must include the unique nature of these situations and recognize the need to involve EMS (especially ALS) early in the process. EMS has done their part through MAC.
  - First responders aren't arguing at the scene of these incidents, so holding this protocol is unnecessary.

- Suggested protocol establishes appropriate patient treatment to avoid problems.
  - Motion: EMS Council support implementation of the standing order protocol presented by MAC for the treatment of suspected Excited Delirium patients as written, while working on the integration of education for all first responders Seconded. Vote - Yea: majority Nay: 0 Abstain: 2
- Resuscitation committee convened to look into implementation of High Performance CPR which is a cross disciplinary issue: ED, ALS, BLS, first responder, law enforcement. Process is moving forward to bring this approach to the treatment of cardiac arrest to NJ.
- Motion to accept: Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.

#### **SCTU: Chair**

- Best practices for staff orientation of SCTU personnel ongoing
  - Best practices for staff competencies of SCTU personnel ongoing
  - Best practices for CQI of SCTU programs is ongoing.
  - Discussion on the credentials to be awarded SCTU RNs: OEMS is suggesting MICN, but SCTU Committee feels there should be a SCTU specific credential, communicated to OEMS.
- Motion to accept: Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.

#### **OEMS: Interim Director**

- FDA is requesting reports of any radio frequency interference from medical devices for mitigation report
- September is National Preparedness Month: Be Disaster Aware and Take Action. Toolkit available at FEMA.gov. September 30, 2014 is PrepareAthon Day, looking for participants.
- Sterile water shortage identified, primary provider is acting to address. Expected to be short term
  - Who is the DOH contact for shortages (in general)? Healthcare Licensing will be queried.
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officers looking for EMS providers at all levels to form focus group in D.C.: Treatment and transport of radiation contaminated patients utilizing existing educational materials.
- Conference: (Roberts) Approval process has been completed, conference will take place. Registration will start in 7-10 days. 1 day pre-conference (11/12/14), 3 day conference (11/13-15/14). SIM games need teams to participate.
- Need committee for awards.
- Motion to accept: Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.

#### **Education: Section Chief**

- Veterans Recognition and Continuing Education Providership Model will be delayed due to pending changes in the regulations N.J.A.C. 8:40A-1.1 et seq.
- DHS is implementing public education programs on the use of naloxone. 4 pilot programs began this week around the state (AC, Neptune, Newark, Camden).
- EMT Education coordinators meeting on 10/31/14, 8 hour program
- NAEMSE instructor course 9/26-28/14 in Waretown
- Basic drug recognition course in partnership with NJSP, AG, DOH monthly at Somerset County Training Center: 9/12/14
- Motion to accept: Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.

#### **Legislative Update & Safety Committee: Representative**

- Summer session slow

- A1503 – Protecting volunteer s that bill for service to be allowed to use blue lights - Progress
- A1504 – Change the definition of volunteer agencies to allow for billing so long as personnel are volunteer as pertains to NHTSA - Progress
- A2072 – Mandatory CPR education (not certification) for all NJ high school students – unfunded – Passed
- DMV is now issuing DLs with pink stripe indicating a person with Type I DM (voluntary). Notification was sent to all LEO agencies in August 2014.
- Safety: EMS Safety Education guidelines distributed 2 weeks ago to all members, outlining the integration of “safety” in all EMS education programs: Motion to accept and support document for general distribution, seconded, no discussion: Vote - Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.
- Motion to accept: Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.

#### **EMS Task Force (TF): Representative**

- September is National Preparedness Month: Sat 20<sup>th</sup> 8-3 NJEMSTF exhibition and demonstration at exhibition center in Edison. All welcome, registration required.
- OHSP: Active shooter response protocols – looking for info on how many EMS providers are trained and delivering tactical EMS services – contact your County EMS Coordinator.
- Regional exercise for MABs October 6, 2014 in NYC for NJ, NY & CT.
- County Coordinators and TF Planners reviewing operations plans to be completed by year’s end.
- Motion to accept: Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.

#### **New Business: EMS-Co Chair**

- NJFAC annual conference offering 56 programs offering CEUs. Roaring 20’s night on Friday night. On-line registration is available at NJFAC website.
- By-laws committee:
  - Chair: Mike Bascom
  - NJFAC: Barb Platt
- EMS Week in 2015 sponsoring health life bike ride from Highpoint Monument to Cape May lighthouse – 204 miles – come out for part or all. Looking for sponsors.
- Hurricane preparedness decision tool: DOH working with EMSTF to ensure plans match

#### **Public Comment: EMS-Co Chair**

- None

#### **Adjournment: EMS-Co Chair**

- Motion to accept: Yea: all Nay: 0 Abstain: 0.