



**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
MEDICAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
ODPS, Conference Room 134
Tuesday, August 17, 2010
10:00 a.m.**

In Attendance:

Thomas Collins
Dianna Dahl-Grove, Chair
David Fiffick
Vickie Graymire
Antonio Lazcano
Wendy Pomerantz

EMS Staff

John Sands
Ellen Owens
Millie Pontious
Carol Cunningham

Meeting called to order by Dr. Dahl-Grove at 10:05 a.m.

Strategic Planning, EMS Board, Committee Goals through 2015

Dr. Dahl-Grove began by setting up the screen before starting on her presentation regarding the MOC's strategic planning responsibilities. Dr. Dahl-Grove broke-out the medical oversight committee goals on the screen and stated that the committee needs to review these and decide where they want to be in 2015 and whether anything else needs to be added to this list (presentation). Dr. Cunningham complimented Dr. Dahl-Grove on the way she outlined the goals' presentation. (Please follow the 2001 NHTSA Recommendations to MOC Committee).

- Under **Regulation, Recommendation 1.3**, Dr. Cunningham suggested expanding it to include RPAB or a solid qualified medical director be consulted as well as a facility that specializes in critical diagnosis. Dr. Cunningham emphasized that there needs to be a multi-layered support that involves medical direction, time-critical patient care facility as well as their local facility. Dr. Dahl-Grove wondered if it would be possible to create a system that if you look at a region that is under-served and this region is not fully-staffed by an RPAB, etc., whether you can encompass that region into a stronger surrounding region for support in order to provide better healthcare. Discussion regarding networking EMS instructors to provide continuing education (CE) presentations throughout all regions followed. Dr. Cunningham commented that we know who our EMS instructors are but she is not sure it has ever been plotted on a map to see where they are. Dr. Dahl-Grove added that this is a part of technology that we should be able to create. Dr. Dahl-Grove will revise Recommendation 1.3 to summarize the points discussed.
- Under **Transportation, Recommendation 4.2** was the next topic for discussion. Dr. Cunningham commented that in the "ideal world" the Ohio Medical Transportation Board (OMTB), which is currently within the Department of Commerce, should be merged with the Division of EMS since we do not have any authority over emergency medical services' ground and air transportation. Ms. Owens asked if the goal was to have official oversight over all services to which committee members responded affirmatively. Dr.

Dahl-Grove summarized the goal by stating that by placing OMTB within the Division of EMS would improve the function of our state's EMS system as the guidelines and regulations generated will pertain to both, air and ground transportation. The outcome of this merger will provide the authority to inspect and certify all medical transportation to the Division of EMS. Ms. Owens commented that OMTB does have a representative (Ms. White) serving on the Strategic Planning Committee.

- Under **Facilities, Recommendation 5.2**, Dr. Dahl-Grove, Dr. Cunningham, and Dr. Collins added that we need to be more broad-based on our focus to address critical triage templates for critical patients, traumatic and non-traumatic. Dr. Cunningham stated that legislation needs to be implemented to address critical patients rather than to focus on legislation that addresses a solitary critical disease/injury process one topic at a time.
- Under **Medical Direction, Recommendation 9.1**, Dr. Cunningham stated that legislation should be instituted to give more authority to determine and oversee standards for EMS medical directors including credentialing, confirmation of qualifications and training, continuing education, quality assessment, and continued activity in EMS.
- Under **Medical Direction, Recommendation 9.2**, Dr. Dahl-Grove commented that by setting standards that include the standards for credentialing, the educational process as well as quality improvement, this will encompass the broad spectrum of 9.2. Dr. Cunningham stated that just by the updating of the EMS rules, EMS has taken a big lead on this item. Dr. Cunningham also commented that Ohio EMS medical directors must now be board certified in emergency medicine unless they petition the EMS Board and are granted a waiver.
- Under **Medical Direction, Recommendation 9.3**, Upon reviewing the topic of improving communications with EMS medical directors, a lengthy discussion ensued on a variety of avenues to achieve this goal, including EMS certification of medical directors, state-directed educational tools, medical direction resources distributed via the list-serve, etc.

Mr. Fiffick came in at 10:50 a.m.

- Under **Medical Direction, Recommendation 9.4**, Dr. Dahl-Grove commented that this item falls under the medical directors' quality improvement. The committee discussed the option of having medical directors implement quality improvement programs as one of the requirements for their certification renewal. These projects can eventually be rolled-out at the state level.
- Under **Medical Direction, Recommendation 9.5**, Dr. Cunningham commented that with the assistance of ODPS's legal counsel, guidelines can be instituted for medical directors to follow.
- Under **Medical Direction, Recommendation 9.6**, Committee members discussed how to improve the quality and consistency of on-line medical direction. Dr. Dahl-Grove summarized this item by stating "creation of an educational and quality assurance for on-line medical direction that can be rolled-out by the state and modified for medical directors more specifically." Mr. Sands asked if this item could be part of the agency's QA process for the agency's medical director to develop this evaluation of the on-line Medical Direction process?
- Under **Medical Direction, Recommendation 9.7**, Dr. Cunningham commented that the committee needs to upgrade what is currently in place. Although we already have some

parameters in place, other additional measures, including, limited immunity and protocols, also need to be included as administrative activities of the EMS medical director for EMS agencies.

Discussion on SB 58 – OVI blood draws, language – Draft Rules

Dr. Cunningham discussed how Senate Bill 58 will affect EMS. The bill reads “. . . In addition to, and in the course of, providing emergency medical treatment, an [EMT-Intermediate or EMT-Paramedic] may withdraw blood as provided under sections . . .”

ODPS legal counsel and the EMS division staff are drafting rules which will be presented to the EMS Board at their meeting tomorrow for potential approval. Dr. Cunningham stressed that medical directors have the ability to limit EMT-Intermediates and EMT-Paramedics to provide these services. Several items will be included in these rules such as: 1) Procedures to be used for blood draws and chain of custody issues; 2) circumstances in which the withdrawal of blood may not be inappropriate, 3) the potential for addressing this activity within a protocol during mass casualty events, 4) forcible blood draws; and 5) training procedures for blood draws. It is the EMS Board's intention to grant the medical director the authority to write a protocol that is in full compliance with the law or partially restricts or fully restricts EMT-Intermediates and EMT-Paramedics to provide these services.

12-Lead EKG On-Line Training Program (Draft)

Dr. Lazcano made a slide presentation regarding the 12-Lead EKG training module project. Dr. Lazcano started by defining the goal of the training: To recognize the findings and localize the site, within the heart, of an ST segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) on a standard 12-lead EKG. Questions and answers were addressed by Dr. Lazcano throughout the slide presentation. Dr. Cunningham asked Ms. Owens and Mr. Sands if there would be someone in ODPS that could make the diagrams of our own Division of EMS drawings, similar to those in the presentations, in order to avoid copyright issues. Committee members will receive a copy of the final 12-Lead EKG on-line training program in the near future. Then, the program will be put on Lectora® as a training tool. Dr. Cunningham asked the committee members to review the document and forward comments/suggestions to Dr. Lazcano with a copy to her attention by Wednesday, September 1st. Dr. Cunningham would like to present this training to the EMS Board at their October meeting.

Senate Bill 58 and The Impact on EMS

A copy of a letter dated June 24, 2010 written by Dr. Cunningham plus draft rules were distributed to the committee members for review and comments. Dr. Cunningham announced that there will be a public forum tomorrow morning before the EMS Board meeting. Ms. Owens advised that Senate Bill 58 will be effective on September 17th. Therefore, the EMS staff has been working on the rules very expeditiously in order to provide some guidance for EMS services and medical directors and for them to be able to discuss this law with law enforcement officials. A question and answer period regarding SB 58 followed.

Ohio State Board of Pharmacy Letter

A copy of a letter received from the Pharmacy Board was distributed to all committee members regarding national shortage of emergency drugs affecting EMS licensed facilities. The notice included a list of drugs that are being allowed to be substituted temporarily until the shortage is over.

Next Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 19th, ODPS, 1st floor, Room 134, at 10:00 a.m.
Meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.