

EMS REGIONALIZATION PHYSICIANS ADVISORY BOARD

~ REGION 8 ~

October 25th, 2007, 1:30 p.m.; Akron, Ohio

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Drs. Campensa, Mencl, Lutes, Kyriakedes, and Steer

Board Members Absent: Drs. Bartkowski, Gradisek, Baumgardner, Fallon, and Bulgrin

Guests Present: AGMC Residents, Andrew Jacques, Melissa Underwood, and Kerry McCabe, Dr. Eric Schwiger, D.O., Jon Zalewski, Jeff Funai, Susan Forgacs, Chief Dale Evans, Rita Chambers, Kim Hamilton, Ray Poynter, Kobe Brooks, and Ellen Owens.

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order by Ross Campensa, M.D., FACEP, at 1334 and introductions were made.

Dr. Campensa led a moment of silence in memory of and in appreciation of the service of Doctors Thomas Elson and Steve Robisher.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

Dr. Campensa reported on the RPAB Chairpersons meeting that was held September 12th.

NIMS Job Classifications: The NIMS job classifications are published and available for review.

EMS Grants: the amount of money available has decreased. They are looking for better ways to parcel out what they have.

Chempack: The educational component (Chempack 101) is now available via the internet. The OHA website has a version available for the hospitals and the State now has a link to the EMS version on their website. The first version put out on the website had some IT issues, but the bugs have been worked out.

Trauma Triage: There is some question as to the voracity with which the required 2 hours of trauma triage in each certification cycle for EMS providers has been checked. Suffice it to say there is some grace period right now. However, the plan is for the training to be offered via the internet and the issues of issuing certificates and tracking are being worked on right now. In the very near future they will again be tracking closely the need to fulfill this 2 hour requirement and the best way to document the training will be via completing the training on the State's website.

EMSIRS 2: The EMSIRS 2.2 update is complete and ready to be rolled out. Providers who submit via the states system will be required to submit data in the 2.2 format beginning January 1, 2008. Agencies that submit data using third party software will be given a two year grace period phase in implementation and will be required to submit data in the 2.2 format by January 1, 2010.

CPAP: A recommend guideline for EMS use of CPAP was officially passed by the board and it included a provision for EMT-B's to be cleared to administer CPAP if approved by their Medical Director. The guideline approved is just that, a recommended guideline and not a protocol. It does not recommend a specific device

or manufacturer. There were some additional questions raised about definitions of the terms in the guideline and Dr. Campensa will seek clarification.

Disaster Planning: A pandemic flu plan was presented for approval. However, it included a provision for establishing a separate pan-flu specific triage and color coding system. This provision was challenged and it was decided that the START triage System and the current mass casualty color coding system would be maintained even in a pan-flu situation.

Open Forum:

Tactical EMS: There is a working group being formed at the State level to unify and organize what is occurring across the State. Contact Dr. Campensa if you are interested in assisting this effort.

Medical Direction: Dr. Campensa relayed a story concerning a squad in rural Ohio that continued to operate under the Medical Direction of an individual who had lost his Medical License. The rules of the State require the individual to report the loss of his license to anyone with whom he had a contractual obligation. The relationship between the Medical Director and the squad was not formalized by a contract or written agreement. To address this, the State Medical Board is changing their rules to require this kind of notification to all interested parties and the State EMS Board is suggesting that the relationship between Medical Directors and EMS squads be made formal.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Data Collection

Already covered in the chairperson's report. A question was asked about data submitted in the new format prior to January 1, 2008: would it be dumped or not when the system went live? Answer – yes it will be dumped and the system will start fresh on 1/1/08.

Performance Improvement

No report.

Medical Protocols

Dr. Campensa asked that the Board re-review the Region VIII protocol and ensure that it is up to date. He asked that if you have any interest in helping with the review or in leading the review of any particular section, please contact him via e-mail. He requested that Children's Hospital lead the review of the Pediatric portion of the protocol.

EMS Training and Continuing Education

Kristy Cato has an excellent pandemic flu training that she is willing to present to any group that is interested.

EMS Equipment

Chief Evans reported that he is still working to determine who has the data that has been gathered in the past: the Summit County Fire Chiefs' Association and Summit County EMA or both may have information.

Medical Directors

No report. The Committee will be preserved in the event one of the Region VIII squads loses its Medical Director; this committee will function as the Medical Director until the squad can secure a new one.

Mutual Aid

No report. Due to the fact that statewide and regional Mutual Aid agreements are well established and in place, Dr. Mencl made a motion to eliminate this subcommittee (2nd by Dr. Kyriakedes). The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Research and Experimental Procedures

Dr. Campensa reported that if the area / subject matter of your research is within the normal scope of practice of EMS, the research only needs to be approved by your local review board. However, if the area / subject matter of your research is not within the normal scope of practice of EMS, the State EMS Board must grant their approval for the research. Dr. Campensa will get back to the group with the answer to who should review the research topic for approval if there is no local review board.

Restocking

No report from a Board Member, however, Jon Z. from Summa reported that there was an ARHA Re-stocking committee meeting yesterday and it was decided that since there was no consensus on which CPAP unit EMS will be using and the device is used on less than 1% of EMS runs, the hospitals will not be re-stocking the CPAP equipment. After a short discussion, Dr. Campensa determined that the group feels strongly about having CPAP available as a treatment modality for EMS and Dr. Campensa will contact Marianne Lorini to lobby the ARHA to provide CPAP restocking.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dr. Campensa reported that Dr. Mencl has completed the application and review process and is formally a part of the Region VIII Physicians Advisory Board.

A discussion was led by Dr. Campensa regarding concerns forwarded by the members concerning how members are notified of the expiration date of their term on the Board. Dr. Campensa reported that almost all information that you need to apply / reapply for the Board can be found on the State EMS Board's website, with the notable exception of when your term expires. He stated that members receive an e-mail from Dr. Cunningham when it is time for them to reapply for the Board.

Dr. Campensa reported on the City of Akron's Mayor's EMS Advisory Meeting. One topic of note was the new free standing AGMC facility in Stow. Concerns have been raised about the possibility of AGMC diverting ambulance traffic to this remote facility. To date it has been a non-issue and most patients would not fall into a category that could be diverted away from the main AGMC facility. The issue will be monitored.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Kobe Brooks offered that his company is operating a critical care program that includes the ability to host observers. If anyone is interested, please contact him. He also stated that they are willing and have the ability to provide Continuing Education on a variety of EMS subjects. Contact him at University Hospitals MedEvac 216-509-7880.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 1440 hours. Next meeting information – January 24th, 2008

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Funai

Reminder: You may reach Dr. Campensa by
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