

Region IX RPAB
Minutes
June 23, 2009

Members Present: Drs. Feltoon, Levine, Garlisi

Dr. Feltoon called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

The updated members list was distributed, which still shows a current roster of 7 members.. Dr. Bowen's term expires in 2009, the rest of the current members' terms expire in 2011. There is still room for 2 more members, and the hope is to have Pediatric representation again on our RPAB. Dr. Karen Lidsky from RB&C may be interested in serving on the RPAB.

Highlights of the Chairperson's meeting of May 13 include:

1. AHA *Mission: Lifeline* committees are being formed. This is a national program to improve STEMI care.
2. There was further discussion about hypothermia, both in post-drowning victims and induced for cardiac arrest victims. The Ohio Hospital Association needs to poll the State's hospitals to identify those centers that can treat post-arrest victims with hypothermia. The State's Trauma Committee is developing a protocol for hypothermia. It is being proposed that any immersion in an open body of water is <70 degrees and therefore the victims should be assumed to be hypothermic.
3. There is new legislation being proposed to control aeromedical transports.
4. Dr. Cunningham has been active in opposing proposed legislation that would allow EMS to collect body fluids or draw blood for legal purposes. This is out of the Scope of Practice for EMS.
5. The role of EMS workers being employed in other positions (hospital tech, non-medical setting, execution teams) was discussed.
6. All RPAB meeting date has been changed to Nov. 5.
7. There is some discussion about the State developing a template for a State-wide EMS run sheet.

Representative Nancy Garland of District 20 is proposing legislation that would replace the current Comfort Care rules. This would be based on the POLST program and be called MOLST (Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment), and would give healthcare workers more choices in end of life care. Ohio would allow not only physicians, but also other health care professionals or social workers to complete the form in collaboration with the patient or surrogate.

The EMS Board has published a statement encouraging some type of written report be left at the hospital by EMS before they leave, especially if using an electronic run sheet.

The E.D. at University Hospitals is capable of providing hypothermia, as well as in their critical care transport vehicles. This form of treatment may also be extended to CVA victims. Cooled IV fluids are used to induce hypothermia.

The next meeting of Region IX will be Tuesday, Sept. 22. 4pm, at South Pointe Hospital.

The all-RPAB meeting is Thursday, Nov. 5, in Columbus. All members are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Arnold Feltoon, MD
Chairman, Region IX RPAB

