



Tactical EMS Committee Meeting Meeting Minutes June 17, 2008

Committee Members Present: Mark Resanovich, Chair, Dr. Thomas Collins, Dr. Carol Cunningham, Dr. Jong Kim, John Kubincanek, Dr. Howard Mell, Bob Neidhart, and Dr. Drew Stephens.

ODPS / Division of EMS Staff Present: Heather Reed Frient, Chuck Milam, Ellen Owens, Richard Rucker, Robert Ruetenik, John Sands.

Others Present: Chief Mark Burgess, EMS Board Chair

Call To Order:

The regular meeting of the Tactical EMS (TEMS) Committee was called to order at 3:07 PM by Mr. Rucker due to a delay in the arrival of Mr. Resanovich.

Information Updates / General Discussion Points:

Dr. Cunningham presented her concepts for EMT-Tactical 1 & 2, grouping EMT-Basic (EMT-B) and EMT-Intermediate (EMT-I) into one level. It was thought that limiting the EMT-Intermediate skills would be preferable to having an EMT-Basic exceed their scope of practice.

Mr. Sands also presented his concepts of skills to be included in the levels based on his review of other courses.

There was discussion on where the EMT-Intermediate should fall in the grouping. The general consensus was to leave the EMT-I grouped with the EMT-B. There are only approximately 2500 EMT-I certificate holders in the state. The group did not wish to restrict the EMT-Paramedic (EMT-P) scope of practice by grouping them with the EMT-I level.

The committee broke into 2 groups to review the information presented by Dr. Cunningham and Mr. Sands to compare the differences.

Group 1 discussed adding intranasal medication administration and needle thoracostomy to level 1; rapid and remote patient assessment to levels 1 & 2; non-emergent medications for crew management and plasma expanders to Level 2. The addition of information on incident command, interagency communications within the tactical environment, CBRNE and clandestine lab awareness was also discussed.

Group 2 discussed the addition of needle decompressions, auto-injector medications without a declared emergency, intraosseous and intravenous access to Level 1. The need for

more in-depth anatomy and physiology and patient assessment training was discussed for Level 2 along with the possibility of “treat & release” of team members (i.e. rehydration / salt tablets). The group also discussed the need for indemnification for the determination of medical competence and conscious (i.e. use of gas with an asthma patient), clearing of team members on medical competence issues, and altered triage.

Dr. Cunningham will take the information from today’s meeting and update the Scope of Practice draft. It was also noted that there are a number of issues that will still need to be addressed including curriculum development, testing, liability, continuing education, etc.

Mr. Resanovich reported that Heather Reed Frient, Tonia Fritos and Nancy Crespo will provide a presentation on legislative changes and processed needed to make TEMS happen. Mr. Resanovich asked that an updated copy of the draft scope and a member listing be e-mailed to the committee members prior to the next meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Dr. Mell, seconded by Dr. Cunningham, to accept the minutes of the May 20, 2008 meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Next meeting: July 15, 2008 – 3:00 pm – ODPS Rm 134