



Statewide EMS Advisory Council (SEMSAC)
Teleconference
AGENDA

State of Maryland

**Maryland
Institute for
Emergency Medical
Services Systems**

653 West Pratt Street
Baltimore, Maryland
21201-1536

Larry Hogan
Governor

Clay B. Stamp, NRP
Chairman
Emergency Medical
Services Board

Theodore R. Delbridge, MD, MPH
Executive Director

410-706-5074
FAX 410-706-4768

May 7, 2020

- I. Call to order: Chairman Tiemersma
 - Call the roll: Ms. Goff
 - Approval of Minutes from the April 2, 2020 meeting
- II. MIEMSS Report: Dr. Delbridge
 - COVID-19 update
- III. Old Business
- IV. New Business



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Via Conference Call Only Meeting Minutes

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SEMSAC Members Present: Wayne Tiemersma, Chairman; Karen Doyle, Vice Chair; John Filer; Wynee Hawk; Michael Cox; Jeffrey Fillmore, MD; Michael Rosellini; Habeeba Park, MD; Justin Orendorf; Kathleen Grote; Tim Burns; Scott Haas; Keith McMinn; Murray Kalish, MD; Wayne Dyott; Melissa Meyers; Tim Kerns; Rosemary Kozar, MD; Kathryn Burroughs; Jim Matz; Karen Vogel; Jennifer Anders, MD; Brian Frankel; Linda Dousa; Michael Millin, MD; Michael DeRuggiero

Members Absent: Lisa Tenney; Eric Smothers

MSPAC: Major Tagliaferri

MSFA: Kate Tomanelli; Joel McCrea

OAG: Mr. Magee; Ms. Sette

MIEMSS: Ted Delbridge, MD; Pat Gainer; Tim Chizmar, MD; Jeannie Abramson; Sherry Alban; Dave Balthis; Terrell Buckson; Randy Linthicum; Nick Seaman; Cyndy Wright Johnson; Jim Brown; Carla Baily; Mark Bilger; Anna Aycock; Carole Mays; Terrell Buckson; Barbara Goff

Mr. Tiemersma called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Mr. Tiemersma thanked everyone for the efforts during this health crisis.

ACTION: A motion was made by Dr. Kalish; seconded by Ms. Doyle and unanimously approved to accept the April 2, 2020, minutes of SEMSAC as written.

MIEMSS Report

Dr. Delbridge said, similar to the rest of the country, there is approximately a 40% decrease in the volume of EMS transports and ED patients. The low volume of ambulance transports has resulted in financial stresses on commercial ambulance service companies. Calls to 911 centers is rising, but are still down by approximately 30%. He added that 30 – 40% of EMS calls are Persons Under Investigation (PUIs) for COVID-19.

Dr. Delbridge said that Hospital Yellow Alerts status continues to be down.

MIEMSS COVID-19 Activities

Dr. Delbridge highlighted some of the current MIEMSS COVID-19 activities. He said that MIEMSS participates in daily morning conference calls with MDH, MEMA and others for situational awareness and planning, and surge planning group calls for clinical awareness and EMS perspective. MIEMSS continues to staff at the SEOC during the week with

virtual response on weekends. MIEMSS continues to hold EMS COVID-19 conference calls with EMS Jurisdictions, commercial services and Medical Directors three times per week and bi-weekly calls with 911 Centers. Dr. Delbridge added that the Metro Fire Chiefs have also been meeting bi-monthly to discuss COVID-19 related issues.

Dr. Delbridge gave an overview of the current ED Patient numbers, Adult and Pediatric staffed in-bed availability, and the MIEMSS COVID-19 Hospital Status Dashboard that is updated daily.

Dr. Delbridge updated the SEMSAC on the Governor's Executive Order Number 20-03-19-03, augmenting the Emergency Medical Services Workforce to improve the response of EMS to the state during the state of emergency.

Dr. Delbridge gave an update on the current numbers of Provisional Clinicians and Clinical Nurse and Respiratory Externs.

Dr. Delbridge said MIEMSS has also taken several clinical actions, including the implementation of two emergency protocols: a viral pandemic triage protocol and authorizing use of terbutaline as a beta agonist in cases of bronchospasm. He added that guidance on 911-center specific queries to identify persons under investigation, as well as guidance "to not instruct" the caller to perform mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, were issued.

Dr. Delbridge gave an update on several EMS/Ambulance Operations changes during the state of emergency including: MIH staffing requirement changed to permit only one paramedic, provisional approval of the Kaiser/ProCare Ambulance MIH program, SCT personnel staffing revision depending on patient need, and the authorization of out-of-state licensed vehicles by in-state ambulance services.

Pending issues include the development of alternate care sites and transportation plans.

Dr. Delbridge said that as a result of the Pleasant View Nursing home evacuation, MIEMSS is collaborating with MDH, hospitals, the National Guard and HHS to assist Skilled Nursing facilities and nursing homes.

Dr. Delbridge gave an update on the Hospital Dashboard "@HA" (Ambulances at Hospitals) platform to provide real-time information on the number of ambulances waiting at hospital to monitor offload times. He said MIEMSS is working on adding jurisdictions to provide real time awareness of EMS-ED interface.

Dr. Delbridge gave an overview of the requirements within the proposed regulation for the conversion of Provisional EMS clinicians to full certification or licensure status.

Mr. Tiemersma thanked Dr. Delbridge for the updates. He said, due to the COVID-19 outbreak, regular state business has been suspended but that we do not want to lose sight of the ongoing issues with gaps in EMS Services.

Ms. Doyle wished everyone a happy and health Nurses Week.

A motion was made by Ms. Doyle; seconded by Vogel and unanimously approved to adjourn the SEMSAC adjourned at 1:50 pm.