

CASAC Meeting
Minutes – March 28th, 2024



Meeting called to order by Chairman Rosenberg

Approval of minutes – the minutes from the January meeting were sent out by SOCALR.

Are there any additions or corrections to the minutes? None

Motion to approve – Mark Buchholtz, Seconded by Jonathon Siegel.

No objections to the motion – minutes approved.

State Medical Director’s Report – Dr. Chizmar

Protocol Review Committee vacancy:

MIEMSS seeks qualified nominees for the “Commercial Services ALS Clinician representative on the Protocol Review Committee”. The position has a four-year term which starts on the date of appointment. There are six meetings per year, held at MIEMSS, *653 W Pratt Street, Baltimore. MD. 21201*, (2nd Wednesday of odd months) with a minimum required attendance of four meetings per year. Virtual meeting options are made available for all in-person meetings.

Interested candidates should apply in writing to their respective Commercial Services EMS Medical Director for consideration. Clinicians should not submit applications to MIEMSS directly. Applicants, please provide information including but not limited to:

1. Length of time as an ALS clinician
2. Unique qualifications (training, instructor qualifications, supervisory positions, any committee service, etc.)

The advertisement period in the jurisdiction will be 30 calendar days from the time of this announcement. Once the advertisement period ends, all applications must be received. Commercial Services EMS Medical Directors will have 14 calendar days to submit one name to the State EMS Medical Director for consideration (no later than April 19, 2024). MIEMSS will announce the new PRC member’s appointment prior to the May 8, 2024 Protocol Review Committee meeting.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact the Office of the State EMS Medical Director 410-706-0880.

Thank you:

Dr. Chizmar would like to give a big “Thank You” to SCT Paramedic Gary Rains from Butler for all his help with the Protocol Review Committee over the years.

Legislative updates:

Several bills are going through the process. Senate Bill 210 for the EMS-Paramedics – Immunization Administration is moving through. Senate Bill for increasing the motor vehicle registration fees is moving forward and this bill will help pay for rising costs of the state’s emergency trauma system. In addition, Senate Bill 1099 will require naloxone to be located in public buildings with each AED.

Medications in the new Protocols:

Only one new medication, Esmolol, is being added into the 2024 Protocols. Single dose vial will suffice. For ALS units only. This medication will be added to the ALS Equipment Checklist.

Medications and Training:

Training has been added to the MIEMSS training website for diluting epinephrine 1 mg/mL to make epinephrine 0.1 mg/mL.

EMT Testing:

Randy Linthicum and Clinician Services are working on updating the EMT Testing Process. Good things are coming as there are areas to improve.

EMT Renewal:

Working with MFRI and the EMT Renewal requirements. There will be a change in the categories of training requirements. This change is targeted to be changed effective August 1st, 2024 and will have an impact on the January 31st, 2025 EMT renewal certification.

SOCALR Report

Inspection/License Update – Marty Johnson

Annual Renewal Inspections have started.

March is almost completed, April’s are getting scheduled, and May Service Reports are being mailed out.

Note – If an ambulance is not ready for the renewal inspection, we will hold off billing of that unit until it is ready to be inspected. Be aware of this change in the

renewal inspections. Jonathan Siegel questioned if this will change the window of the billing/payments? Marty advised that would not be changing. Associate Medical Directors are being added to each service's list of Medical Directors to have their information on record. The list of Associate Medical Directors will be updated during the renewal process.

QA Review/Data Imports – Scott Legore / Scott Barquin

There have been a lot of emails going out reference missing crew members on PCRs. Services are relying on the clinicians to affiliate. Please work with your new clinicians and confirm that they have been affiliated and can be added to your PCRs.

With Traumasoft updates, problems are occurring with clinician ID numbers. Please review when Traumasoft updates and confirm the data is processing correctly.

Equipment Update - Scott Legore

One ALS medication will be added with the 2024 Protocol updates. This medication will be added to the ALS Equipment Checklist.

EMSC and Pediatric Reference Cards – Scott Legore

MIEMSS has updated the pediatric reference cards and SOCALR has them available for commercial services. If your service is interested in the cards, please contact the office to arrange for pickup or delivery. Let us know the number of cards you would like to obtain per number of units or number of clinicians.

Introduction – Scott Legore

Scott Legore introduced Mr. Randall Linthicum with his new appointment as the Deputy Director for MIEMSS.

Clinician Services – Bev Witmer – No report.

Committee Reports

PEMAC Report – Jill Dannenselser – No report.

Scott Legore already shared information regarding the new Maryland Pediatric Reference Cards.

SEMSAC Report – Danny Platt – No report.

MIH Report – Mark Buchhotz – No report.

Old Business – Scott Legore

SCT Regulation Changes – Status

The SCT regulation changes will be going to the EMS Board Meeting in April for final approval. We are on track for these changes to move forward to publication in April or May so that the regulations can be in place before the new protocols come out in July.

Non EMS Driver Regulation Changes – Revision

These regulation changes were presented to CASAC in January. Following the meeting, there were some questions in reference to a non EMS licensed driver being utilized on NEO and SCT, since those units have full crews providing patient care. With those questions in mind, the regulation changes were not presented to the EMS Board and were brought back internally for discussion/changes. Attached is the updated regulation changes which now allow a non EMS licensed driver to drive an ALS, SCT or NEO unit with a minimum of three person crew.

No questions or discussion from the group.

Plan is to present these changes to SEMSAC and the EMS Board in April and vote in May at the EMS Board meeting.

MIEMSS Website – Scott Legore

The MIEMSS website has had a complete makeover. Commercial Ambulance Licensing and Regulation can be found under the “EMSOPS” tab. The information and forms are still on the website and available for your use.

Commercial Ambulance Services Dashboards – Scott Legore

A link has now been added to the MIEMSS website to lead the services to the Commercial Ambulance Services Dashboards and your service’s dashboard. Not every service is looking at the dashboards, but the services that are putting them to use are finding them useful. Please take a look at the dashboards and let our office know if you have any questions or changes.

Awards Review Panel – Scott Legore

We are looking for a Commercial Services representative to sit on the 2024 EMS Awards Panel. Single meeting date – April 9th (12:30 – 2 PM) with lunch provided. Please contact the office if you have someone interested in this role.

New Business - None

For the Good of the Committee

Scott Legore – 29th Annual EMS Medical Directors Symposium is coming up on April 10th, 2024.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Jill Dannenfelser, seconded by Matt Larrabee. Meeting adjourned.

Attendance:

In Person: Scott Legore, Will Rosenberg, Dr. Tim Chizmar, Randy Linthicum, Mustafa Sidik

Virtual: Jimmy Pixton, Dylan Seese, Bobby Harsh, Taylor D'Agostino, Teddy Baldwin, Tyler Stroh, Jonathan Siegel, Mark Buchholtz, Justin Gebhard-Kram, Zachary Rosoldi, Rob Weiss, Tim Gargana, Marty Johnson, Steve Hoffman, Scott Barquin, Todd Abramovitz, Kelly Hammond, Matt Larrabee, and Barbara Goff.

Callers: #2 – Jimmy Harsh
#4 – Leigha McGuin
#5 – Jill Dannenfelser

30.09.04.08 Waivers.

A. SOCALR may waive any equipment requirements under COMAR 30.09.07 and 30.09.10—30.09.12 for any commercial ambulance service which is licensed by Maryland or applying for a license, which demonstrates to the satisfaction of SOCALR that the equipment offered by the commercial ambulance service is equivalent to or superior to the equipment required by this subtitle.

B. Waiver of Personnel Requirements.

(1) SOCALR may waive any personnel requirements under COMAR 30.09.07, ~~except the requirement for a licensed or certified driver for a BLS ambulance,~~ for any commercial ambulance service which is licensed by Maryland or applying for a license, which demonstrates to the satisfaction of SOCALR that the personnel offered by the commercial ambulance service is equivalent to or superior to the personnel required by this subtitle, except the requirement for a license or certified driver for an ambulance, which may only be waived under subsection B(2) of this section.

(2) SOCALR may waive the personnel requirements under COMAR 30.09.07 for a licensed or certified driver ~~for a BLS ambulance,~~ for any commercial ambulance service which is licensed by Maryland or applying for a license. The initial waiver shall be for 1 year, subject to renewal.

(3) A commercial ambulance service seeking a waiver of the requirement for a licensed or certified driver for an BLS ambulance under COMAR 30.09.07 shall meet the following requirements:

(a) Submit to SOCALR with the application and on a monthly basis:

(i) The current number of unit hours staffed over a consecutive 7-day period during the most recent 30 days; and

(ii) The name and address of each non-EMS individual designated by the commercial service to drive a BLS an ambulance;

(b) Ensure that each non-EMS individual designated to drive a BLS an ambulance possesses a current and valid For-Hire Driver's license issued by the Public Service Commission prior to use of a non-EMS driver on a BLS an ambulance;

(c) Provide to SOCALR a photocopy of a current and valid For-Hire Driver's license issued by the Public Service Commission for each non-EMS individual designated to drive a BLS an ambulance prior to use of a non-EMS ~~drive driver~~ on a BLS an ambulance;

(d) Ensure that each non-EMS individual designated to drive a an a-BLS ambulance obtains an ePINS number prior to use of a non-EMS ~~drive driver~~ on a BLS an ambulance;

(e) Provide the following training to each non-EMS individual it designates to drive a BLS an ambulance prior to use of a non-EMS driver on a BLS an ambulance:

(i) COMAR 30.09.02.02 — Patient Rights;

(ii) COMAR 30.09.07.03 — Operational Requirements;

(iii) Bloodborne Pathogens (29 CFR 1910.1030 to include Personal Protective Equipment and Body Substance Isolation precautions);

- (iv) Lifting, moving, or positioning patients, to include stretcher and stair chair operations;
- (v) CPR certification training, including the use of an AED; and
- (vi) Driver's training program to include safe road operations, ambulance backing, and city driving; ~~and~~
- (f) Provide ~~SOCALAR~~ SOCALR with a copy of the training programs required for the non-EMS driver prior to use of a non-EMS driver on ~~a BLS~~ an ambulance; ~~;~~

(g) Ensure that any ALS licensed ground ambulance that is staffed with a non-EMS driver is also staffed with at least two individuals who meet the following requirements:

(i) A CRT or higher, who is responsible for the patient as described in COMAR 30.09.07.02A(4)(b); and

(ii) An EMT or higher; and

(h) Ensure that any non-EMS individual designated to drive an ambulance:

(i) is not subject to a current suspension or revocation of EMS licensure or certification; and

(ii) has not been determined by SOCALR to be a threat to the health and safety of patients or the public.

C. A commercial ambulance service seeking a waiver under this regulation shall apply in writing to SOCALR.

D. A waiver is not valid unless issued in writing by SOCALR for a specific period of time.

E. A commercial ambulance service granted a waiver under this subtitle shall reapply for the waiver 30 days before expiration of the waiver.

F. A waiver may be summarily suspended if SOCALR finds the party to whom the waiver has been granted has:

- (1) Obtained or attempted to obtain a waiver by fraud or deceit;
- (2) Made a material omission or misrepresentation of fact on an application for a waiver;
- (3) Made a material omission or misrepresentation of fact in response to an inquiry or investigation by SOCALR;
- (4) Defaced, altered, removed, or obliterated any portion of or any official entry on a waiver issued by SOCALR;
- (5) Interfered with SOCALR in the performance of SOCALR's duties;
- (6) Failed to reapply for a waiver;
- (7) Violated any applicable federal, State, or local statute or regulation; ~~or~~
- (8) Failed to comply with the terms of the waiver; ~~;~~ or

(9) Continued to use a non-EMS driver that SOCALR has determined, in its sole discretion, to be a threat to the health and safety of patients or the public.

G. Failure to comply with the terms of a waiver granted under this regulation may be grounds for further action under COMAR 30.09.09.02.