



# Jurisdictional Advisory Committee Agenda

## **VIRTUAL MEETING**

**October 14, 2020**  
**10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon**  
**653 West Pratt Street**  
**Baltimore, Maryland**

**Meeting called by:** Christian Griffin, Chairman

<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	Christian Griffin
<b>10:00-10:30 AM</b>	<b>OMD Update</b>	Dr. Chizmar
<b>10:30-10:45 AM</b>	<b>Emergency Operations Update</b>	Randy Linthicum
<b>10:45-11:00 AM</b>	<b>EMS-C Update</b>	Cyndy Wright-Johnson
<b>11:00-11:15 AM</b>	<b>PRC Nominations</b>	Christian Griffin
<b>11:15-11:30 AM</b>	<b>Jurisdictional Roundtable</b>	Christian Griffin

## JAC Meeting – October 14, 2020

Christian welcomed all to the meeting.

Chair Griffin asked for motion to approve the August Minutes. Chief Matz, Baltimore City made the motion to approve, second by Chief Lambert, Prince George's County. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Chizmar: Thanked all during the Declaration of Emergency for their dedication. He is still hearing from the training center perspective that there is still very much the need to allow EMT and paramedic students back into clinical rotations. This is both hospitals and jurisdictions. He is still hearing from several of the training programs they are having difficulties getting the students onto clinical rides. Dr. Chizmar understands this is not easy and asks as PPE becomes more available, reach out to the programs. Some programs may be willing to fit test and bring their own PPE. He asks that everyone please try and make accommodations so all have enough career and volunteer staff to go around.

COVID-19 Testing: Nasal PCR testing remains available. If you have need for more test kits, contact the regional administrator for your region. They are still seeing test results within 24 hours, oftentimes less than 24 hours. It also remains available for testing of Priority 4 patients who are not medical examiner cases, and some of the jurisdictions who are on the call can share their experiences.

Currently transporting 120-130 PUI's per day in the 9-1-1 world statewide. Also tracking the number of known COVID positive patients that are being transported, people who have been tested already and tested COVID positive. Still seeing at least 10-20 known COVID positive patients per day that are being transported statewide. The 9-1-1 volume is very close to baseline, around 1300 per day, and the hospitalizations are oscillating between 350 and 400. There is considerable discussion as to the triggers that will cause the hospitals to surge. The Convention Center and the other alternative sites will remain open. The current hospitalizations represent about five percent of the overall COVID hospitalizations.

MIEMSS will be putting out a written document concerning licensure. As you know, all ALS licenses were extended from April 30<sup>th</sup> until October 31<sup>st</sup>. BLS was extended automatically from June 30<sup>th</sup> until December 31<sup>st</sup>. After these deadlines, the Governor's Order requires that licenses extend until 30 days after the termination of the emergency. What that means is the license will very likely become month to month and cannot expire, provided Governor Hogan continues to renew the State of Emergency. MIEMSS Licensure is aware of that. The plan as of now is to extend those on a month to month basis. At this time, there are no plans to grant another extension moving forward. It begins to have consequences, particularly on the ALS side for the next cert cycle. The message is to have folks continue to take continuing education and recertify even though those licenses technically will not expire until 30 days after the emergency is terminated.

The National Registry for ALS recertification, the distributive education requirement has been waived, that means essentially all ALS recertification can be online except for the skills assessment. For BLS refresher it is partially online. There are 12 hours that MFRI has put online with a new vendor this year for the didactic portion. For their 12 hours skills portion they have plans in place for distancing, disinfection and appropriate precautions. They have migrated as much of the con-ed as they can to an online format. The last thing he covered under recert was the state ALS recert content. They have that posted on the EMS online training.org website. As discussed at prior meetings, there will be a total of 10 hours of state ALS content. In the process of making the three hours that were originally called face

to face into online format so that all 10 hours can be online. They will not audit or look for that until March, 2022. This is the right thing to do for the ALS research content.

Flu Vaccine: Dr. Chizmar said he is encouraging all clinicians to get vaccinated every year, especially this year. September and October are the optimal times to be vaccinated, but can be done all the way up to January. He said they believe they have the opportunity to vaccinate most of the workforce based on the results of the survey conducted by Mustafa. This will prevent massive outages this winter. All of the 25 jurisdictions have signed up for the traditional flu, hepatitis, tuberculosis, vaccination protocol. What that enables you to do is vaccinate first responders, law enforcement, members of the fire marshall's office, none of that has changed. You can continue to do that. However, Dr. Chizmar explained what has changed is things have opened up for both commercial and 9-1-1 services to be able to administer flu and COVID vaccine, when it becomes available to members of the general public. The only strings placed on that are they partner with the hospital or health department to do it. There are a couple of different reasons for that. The COVID vaccine will be in extremely low/limited supply. Randy and Jeff have been working with the Department of Health on how folks plan to distribute it out. The other reason is that with vaccinating members of the public, several have asked the question in regard to minors, don't mandate that you vaccinate minors if you are uncomfortable. The idea with COVID and flu vaccine is to have you partner with either a hospital or a health system for the public outreach portion of things. In Dr. Delbridge's Public Notice #6 on vaccination, the only thing Dr. Chizmar asks, where it says, approval from the State Medical Director, let Dr. Chizmar know what your broad strokes plan is. If you plan to do public flu and COVID vaccination, e-mail is fine.

Protocol: Issued updates that include high flow nasal cannula and updates to the BIPAP protocol, those are posted on the website. Both the change pages and the complete protocol have been updated on the website. At the next Protocol Review Committee Meeting next week, which will be entirely virtual, Dr. Victor Urrutia, the PI on the stroke routing project will provide a report; will continue to tackle the revision to the Agitation Protocol as it relates to ketamine submitted by Dr. Levy as well as Tim Burns and Chief Butsch from Montgomery County; and will have a formal presentation on the spinal protection protocol by Dr. Millin.

The MDH lead sero survey is something that is still ongoing. That is being coordinated by MDH, Jake Whittaker. MIEMSS is not playing a coordinating role in this. That is looking at antibodies; not whether you are actively infected or not. Looking at rather or not you have had exposure. Let Dr. Chizmar know if you are interested. If you are, he will get you connected.

Dr. Chizmar announced, from the Compliance Office, Ron Schaefer will be retiring after 42 years of service; Lisa Chervon is now the Acting Chief Compliance Officer.

From the Aviation Command, there will not be any short term cuts to bases or helicopters.

ET3 did announce that their rollout will be around January 2021. Dr. Chizmar has been working with the four approved jurisdictions towards that: Annapolis City, Baltimore City, Charles County and Montgomery County.

Randy Linthicum: He asked all to remember that PPE remains available. If you need PPE, go through your local emergency manager, get a Web EOC request in if you need anything. Be sure that you have adequate stockpiles on hand. Regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, working with other state partners, including the MDH as to what is going to happen when a COVID-19 vaccine is available. It is still possible

that a small amount could be available later this month. Working with the MDH on how that would get out. There are not a lot of answers yet. Working on a guidance, list of considerations that EMS jurisdictions can use to rank their employees on who should get the vaccine first as it could come out in small numbers first. You would need to decide who is the highest risk and who should get the vaccine first.

Cyndy Wright-Johnson: Update on the survey from last year. PMAC continues to work on Protocols with Dr. Anders and Dr. Chizmar. Re-read the TOR protocol that was distributed. September was a busy month with emphasis on the Child Safety Seat. Hope to continue having courses in 2021.

Pediatric Champion Update: Cyndy thanked everyone for their participation in the January and February survey. Somerset County does not have a Pediatric Champion. Will be working with the Region IV Office on this.

November 4<sup>th</sup> PMAC Meeting.

The next PEPP Course will be held at Winterfest.

Cyndy will send handouts regarding the information she discussed at today's meeting.

Star of Life Awards and Right Awards 2020: Cyndy and Dr. Delbridge have been crossing the State giving out the awards to the recipients.

Chair Griffin recognized Scott Wheatley for his many years of service representing the Jurisdictional Advisory Committee (JAC) on the Protocol Review Committee (PRC). Scott is stepping down from this position, opening the opportunity for another JAC member to serve on PRC.

Floor is now open and nominations are being accepted for his replacement on PRC: Brian Frankel, Ben Kaufman (nominated by Chief Butsch), David Chisholm (nominated by St. Mary's, David Stamey), Danielle Knatz, and Richard Schenning, Chad Packard, Michael Lambert (all nominated by Christian Griffin). Vote will be held at the December JAC meeting.

### **Jurisdictional Roundtable**

Annapolis City: The MOU has been approved by the hospital and Annapolis City; they have received the final revision for telemedicine and plan to have it up and running in the very near future.

Anne Arundel County: They are actively tracking 30 clients for the MIH program. Also, moving forward with the ultrasound program; conducting internal weekly training for the ultrasound program. They are looking forward to getting this program fully operational within the next month or two. They are having good experiences. By the first of the year, they will be 100 percent operational. Regarding telemedicine, Dr. Wendell can direct the crew on how to turn the device to get the best view using his iPad.

Baltimore City: On October 28<sup>th</sup> will be starting a recruit class of firefighter/EMT class of 24 people. They are starting their influenza vaccination series this week. They are completing their first round of the virtual ALS refresher with two weeks of the skills verification.

Baltimore County: Moving forward with the Overdose Action Grant in partnership with the Health Department. They are getting ready to roll out the TOR protocol.

Carroll County: Carroll County Department of Fire and EMS has been established, Robert McCoy is the current director.

Cecil: Flu shots came in yesterday and will be distributed. COVID testing is ongoing and are actively interviewing for paramedics.

Charles County: They currently have an academy class that will be graduating within the next two weeks. They are working on getting ET 3 up and running.

Harford County: They lost one of their paramedics suddenly and Tami thanked everyone who reached out to assist them during this time and offered condolences. A special thank you to Cecil County. They are currently in the design stages of their third county funded station that will be located in the northern end of the county. They are hoping to hire after the first of the year to staff that station.

Howard County: The Department is running an antibody testing program. They are working to build a network flow so they are able to offer testing to their personnel within the next few weeks. They are maintaining a liaison position started in March with COVID at Howard County Hospital. They are maintaining this position and are finding they are getting a lot of good information/feedback along with building good relationships. They hope to sustain that. The MIH Program, took a while to get up and running due to COVID. They are looking to build partnerships with other county agencies to grow the program. MIH program at this point has a zero percent

Montgomery County: If anyone would like information on lessons learned regarding the TOR testing, contact them. They have done 115 tests with 8 positive.

Prince George's County: They currently have a recruit class in. Effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, Dr. Millin is no longer their medical director. For the next three months or so, Drs. Chizmar and Stone will be providing medical direction.

St. Mary's County: In the very near future will have a flu clinic for all EMS clinicians. Also looking at testing for them. David directed anyone with questions about staffing questions, working diligently the services are getting a contract support for all the county.

Would like to thank Barry Contee and Alfred Jeffrey for all of their input because they went through the same trials.

Washington County: Received a Safer grant; will be hiring three firefighters/fire apparatus operators. Will be hiring three EMS supervisors who will cross staff on fire apparatus as needed. They are delivering flu vaccines to their first responders. Also working with the health department to assist them with public vaccinations. They are looking at purchasing IV pumps so that they can administer epinephrine drips in a safer fashion.

BWI: On behalf of Chief Packard, they are wrapping up COVID-19 antibody testing. With a department of 100, six declined; great response. The new recruits are on the floor, they hired six. Currently dealing with the homeless issue at the terminal.

MSFA: The Executive Committee Meeting was held in Flintstone this past weekend. They will continue to monitor the EMT success rate from the three course types. Waiting for information from MFRI.

MFRI: Classes are up on the MFRI website for the spring and courses are running across the state.

The next meeting is December 9, 2020.

Motion adjourned at 11:00 am