



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*  
Chairperson  
Emergency Medical  
Services Board

*Theodore R. Delbridge, MD, MPH*  
Executive Director

410-706-5074  
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**State EMS Board  
Meeting  
February 8, 2022  
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Virtual Meeting**

- I. Call to Order - Mr. Stamp
  - Call the role
  - Approval of the December 14, 2021; January 4, 2022; January 18, 2022 minutes.
- II. MIEMSS Report – Dr. Delbridge
- III. MSP Aviation Command – Major Tagliaferri
- IV. R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma – Dr. Snedeker
- V. MSFA – President McCrea
- VI. Old Business
  - 2022 Protocol Updates – ACTION – Dr. Chizmar
  - Neuro Trauma & Eye Trauma Regulations – ACTION – Ms. Sette
- VII. New Business
  - Educational Programs – ACTION – Mr. Fiackos
    - Paramedic Educational Programs
      - Cecil College
    - EMS Refresher Programs
      - Freestate Ambulance
      - Washington County DES
- VIII. Adjournment



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**State Emergency Medical Services Board  
February 8, 2022  
Via Video Conference Call Only  
Minutes**

**Board Members Present:** Clay Stamp, Chairperson; Stephan Cox; William J. Frohna, MD; Sally Showalter, RN; Wayne Tiemersma; Mary Alice Vanhoy, RN; Jim Scheulen; Dany Westerband, MD; Molly Marra

**Board Members Absent:** Dean Reece, MD

**OAG:** Ms. Sette; Elena Langrill

**RACSTC:** Dr. Snedeker

**MSFA:** President McCrea; Ms. Tomanelli

**MSPAC:** Major Tagliaferri

**MIEMSS:** Dr. Delbridge; Ms. Gainer; Ms. Abramson; Ms. Aycock; Dr. Bailey; Mr. Bilger; Mr. Ebling; Ms. Witmer; Ms. Wright-Johnson; Ms. Wooster; Mr. Huggins; Mr. Tandy; Mr. Linthicum; Mr. Legore; Ms. Chervon; Dr. Chizmar; Ms. Mays; Ms. McAlister; Ms. Goff

Chairman Stamp called the meeting to order at 9:01 am and proceeded with calling the role.

Chairman Stamp welcomed and introduced Ms. Molly Marra. Ms. Marra is the Secretary of Health's designee to the Board and the Director of Provider Services at MDH. Ms. Marra gave an overview of her background and current position at MDH.

Chairman Stamp asked for a moment of silence in honor of the fallen Baltimore City Firefighters.

Chairman Stamp asked for approval of the December 14, 2021; January 4, 2022; and January 18, 2022 minutes.

**ACTION: Upon the motion made by Ms. Vanhoy, seconded by Mr. Cox, the EMS Board unanimously approved the December 14, 2021, January 4, 2022, and January 18, 2022, minutes as written.**

## **MIEMSS REPORT**

### COVID-19 Update

Dr. Delbridge said that the number of COVID hospitalizations is down considerably since its peak on January 11, 2022 of 3,435. Dr. Delbridge thanked hospital partners who submit the data to MIEMSS for analysis. The hospital data that is submitted is validated by MIEMSS.

### Yellow Alerts

Dr. Delbridge reported that utilization of Yellow Alerts that was at an unprecedented high level in January, has dropped significantly in February. In Region III, the median time to transfer a patient from EMS to hospital staff is 19 minutes; the 90th percentile is 43 (down from 70) minutes and 4% of patient transfers of care took less than 60 minutes. Dr. Delbridge added that the 90% of patients should be transferred from EMS to ED staff within 30 minutes of hospital arrival.

Dr. Delbridge said that he and Dr. Chizmar were part of conversations between a jurisdiction and hospital CEOs as the jurisdiction described how EMS would be handling their version of “crisis of care” by being prepared to leave patients on canvas stretchers in the emergency department in order to answer the next call. The hospital leaders acknowledged that the priority of EMS is to answer the next call, said that they hope the situation did not come to that and thanked the jurisdiction for making them aware.

### Maryland Emergency Department Advisory System (EDAS)

Dr. Delbridge said MIEMSS continues to work with CRISP on the Maryland Emergency Department Advisory System for an intended near real-time data sharing regarding ED patient census. He said that MIEMSS and CRISP are currently working on variances in the patient status data between the ED and CRISP.

### Governor’s Executive Order

Dr. Delbridge said that the Executive Order issued by Governor on January 4, 2022, was terminated effective February 3, 2022. This will mean that EMTs and CRTs can no longer function as vaccinators; the allowance of NREMT cognitive exams prior to practical experience has ended (pending regulatory changes to continue). Additionally, MIEMSS will no longer be able to issue provisional licenses or continue the Clinical Extern program. Extended licenses are still good.

### Critical Care Coordination Center (C4)

Dr. Delbridge said that, to date, MIEMSS C4 has handled more than 2628 patient cases. MIEMSS is restructuring the staffing to be more cost-efficient. The current plan for the C4 is to continue operation through funding from the June 2023 CDC workforce grant. The C4 was originally funded with CARES money through July 1, 2021.

### Maryland Hospitals Commercial Ambulance Request System (MH-CARS)

Dr. Delbridge reported that MIEMSS has created an online system whereby hospitals can notify all commercial ambulance services when hospitals are having challenges arranging for transport. Commercial ambulance services can, in turn, advise of their availability to transport the patient.

A discussion regarding the Medicaid reimbursements for interfacility patient transports ensued. Ms. Marra will follow-up on the Medicaid reimbursement.

### Maryland EMS Operations Fund (MEMSOF)

Dr. Delbridge reported that the current financial projections predict insolvency of the MEMSOF in fiscal year 2025. The Board, MIEMSS and MEMSOF partners are working with DBM and the Administration toward interim and long-term solutions.

### Medicaid Supplemental Payment Program

Dr. Delbridge said that the participating jurisdictional cost reports were due to the audit company (Meyers and Stauffer) by December 31, 2021. Jurisdictions should start to receive funding in the summer. Projections indicate that Baltimore City could receive upwards of \$40 million dollars representing the federal share of Medicaid reimbursement for a one-year period. Jurisdictions that do not qualify this year have the opportunity to be eligible in the future.

### EMS and Law Enforcement

Dr. Delbridge said that MIEMSS has convened the Crisis Scene Collaboration Workgroup to develop a multi-disciplined guidance for EMS and law enforcement case interactions. The workgroup includes statewide law enforcement, EMS clinicians, crisis intervention personnel, attorneys, social workers, allied partners, and MIEMSS.

### Legislation

HB 286, as discussed earlier, proposes to delay until January 1, 2026, the sunset on the ability of paramedics to administer influenza and 2019CoV immunizations to the public as part of public health initiatives conducted by a hospital or health department. Unless the law is changed, the ability of paramedics to administer these immunizations will end on January 1, 2023.

### Papers and Publications

Dr. Delbridge gave an overview of published papers and articles authored or co-authored by MIEMSS staff:

- The Maryland Acute Stroke Emergency Medical Services Routing Pilot: Expediting Access to Thrombectomy for Stroke;
- Are Pelvic Binders an Effective Prehospital Intervention
- Correlation between Emergency Medical Services Suspected COVID-19 Patients and Daily Hospitalizations
- A Statewide EMS Viral Syndrome Pandemic Triage Protocol: 24 Hour Outcomes
- 911 EMS Activations by Pregnant Patients in Maryland (USA) during the COVID-19 Pandemic
- The Role of a Statewide Critical Care Coordination Center in the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic-and Beyond)

All publications can be found on [www.pubmed.gov](http://www.pubmed.gov)

A discussion regarding the Trauma Fund distribution ensued. It was suggested that perhaps TraumaNet could discuss.

Chairman Stamp said that, although the Administration made suggestions to mitigate the insolvency in the short term, the Board and the MEMSOF partners will need to strategize for a long-term solution.

Chairman Stamp said this is the 30<sup>th</sup> year of the MEMSOF.

Chairman Stamp applauded the of the MIEMSS staff on moving forward with the EMS Plan by collaborating with our partners on research and publications of papers and articles.

## **SEMSAC REPORT**

Chairman Tiemersma said SEMSAC received reports from all of the current standing committees. He said SEMSAC members have volunteered to participate on the EMSOP (EMS Operational Program) Committee to review the current regulation, give guidance defining what an EMSOP is, and recommend qualifications needed to become an EMSOP.

SEMSAC reviewed and recommended to forward the 2022 Protocols to the EMS Board.

## **MSPAC**

A written report was distributed.

Major Tagliaferri highlighted personnel additions and changes, current aircraft maintenance, the MedHub grant project with the Army, the Whole Blood program, and the unmanned aircraft systems.

## **RACSTC REPORT**

Dr. Snedeker announced that the Gala will be held in the Fall of 2022 and at a different venue.

Dr. Snedeker said that MDH has set up a PCR COVID testing Center at the modular care unit. (Open 9am to 7pm.)

**MSFA – No Report**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### 2022 EMS Protocols

Dr. Chizmar said that the 2022 Protocol updates were presented to the Board and SEMSAC at the January 18<sup>th</sup> Joint meeting. He added that no comments have been received and asked the EMS Board for approval. Dr. Chizmar asked whether, jurisdictions could demonstrate that all training has been completed, the TXA protocol (for patients with suspected hemorrhagic shock) be implemented prior to the July 1, 2022, start date.

**ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Westerband, seconded by Mr. Scheulen, the EMS Board unanimously approved the 2022 EMS Protocols with a July 1, 2022, start date.**

**ACTION: Upon the motion of Mr. Scheulen, seconded by Ms. Vanhoy, the EMS Board unanimously approved implementation of the TXA protocol in advance of July 1, 2022, provided a jurisdiction can demonstrate the completion of clinician training.**

### Eye Trauma Regulation Updates

Ms. Sette said the updated Eye Trauma Center regulations, previously approved by the EMS Board for promulgation and published in the Maryland Register on November 15, 2021, received one comment. Ms. Sette said the comment was for a non-substantive change and that the regulation is ready for final adoption.

**ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Westerband, seconded by Dr. Frohna, the EMS Board voted unanimously to approve the Eye Trauma Regulations.**

### Neuro Trauma Center regulations

Ms. Sette said that the EMS Board previously began the promulgation process for these regulations which were published in the Maryland Register on November 5, 2021. No comments were received, and the regulations are ready for final adoption.

**ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Frohna, seconded by Ms. Vanhoy, the EMS Board voted unanimously to approve the Neuro Trauma Center Regulations.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Educational Programs

A copy of the proposed Educational Programs was distributed.

Mr. Fiackos said that Cecil College requests approval as a Paramedic Educational Program. Based upon national accreditation and a site visit, MIEMSS recommends that Cecil College receive a five-year approval in accordance with COMAR 30.04.02.12.C, provided they continue to comply with COMAR regulations and remain accredited programs in good standing with CAAHEP.

**ACTION: Upon the motion of Mr. Tiemersma, seconded by Mr. Cox, the EMS Board voted unanimously to approve Cecil College as a Paramedic Educational Program for five-years.**

### EMS ALS & BLS Refresher Education Programs

Mr. Fiackos said that Freestate Ambulance and Washington County Division of Emergency Services have met the requirements for approval as ALS and BLS refresher educational programs. MIEMSS recommends Freestate Ambulance and Washington County Division of Emergency Services receive a five-year approval in accordance with COMAR 30.04.05.B.(2).

**ACTION: Upon the motion of Mr. Scheulen, seconded by Dr. Frohna, the EMS Board voted unanimously to approve Freestate Ambulance and Washington County Division of Emergency Services as an EMS ALS and BLS Refresher Educational Programs for five-years.**

Chairman Stamp said that the Board and the EMS system mourns the loss of the three Baltimore City firefighters/EMS clinicians. He added that it reminds us of the risks our first responders and EMS clinicians take every day in the line of work they have chosen.

**ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Westerband, seconded by Ms. Vanhoy, the EMS Board voted unanimously to adjourn to closed session.**

Adjourn to closed session to carry out administrative functions, to consult with counsel, to obtain legal advice on pending disciplinary actions under General Provisions Article §3-305(b) (7), and to maintain certain records and information in confidence as required by Health Occ. Art. §14-506 (b) under General Provisions Article §3-305 (b) (7).

**In closed session:**

**Board Members Present:** Clay B. Stamp, NREMT P, Chairperson; Mary Alice Vanhoy, RN; Sally Showalter; Stephan Cox; William J. Frohna, M.D.; Wayne Tiemersma, NREMT P; Dany Westerband, M.D.; James Scheulen

**Board Members Absent:** Dean Reece, MD

**MIEMSS:** Dr. Delbridge; Ms. Gainer; Dr. Chizmar; Ms. Goff; Ms. Chervon; Mrs. McAllister

**OAG:** Ms. Sette; Elena Langrill

**In Closed Session:**

1. The Board considered disciplinary matters.