

## CASAC Meeting Minutes – July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023



Meeting called to order by Chairman Rosenberg.

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

Are there any additions or corrections to the minutes? None

Motion to approve – Jim Pixton, Seconded by Jonathan Siegel

No objections to the motion – minutes approved

### **State Medical Director’s Report – Dr. Chizmar**

**Protocols:** The new protocol books came in. They discovered there were some pages blank between pages 280-305 in some of the books. The printer made a mistake and corrected the order. If anyone has received a protocol book with blank pages, they can reach out to us and receive a new one, free of charge. The PRC committee has already started working on the updates for the 2024 Protocol update. There are several areas in which they are reviewing for change.

**Medications:** Moving over medications from RN to STC Level.

There is a proposal that if there is only one critical care intervention for a patient, that patient can go by STC Paramedic alone. If there is more than one critical care intervention for a patient, that patient would still need to go with a team. We can talk about what that team would consist of, usually that would include a nurse. However, we have a proposal to talk about other clinicians, like RTs.

We are looking to add normal saline boluses as a paramedic level skill. PEMAC had no issues with that.

We had proposed to add a respiratory therapist as part of the team for ventilated patients as opposed to requiring the second clinician to be a RN. That’s something that SOCALR requires a more regulatory process, more than protocol process. That’s a further discussion with Scott, Will, Claire, and Dr. Chizmar. PEMAC agreed with that.

We are still discussing the Antimicrobial OSP. Currently the Antimicrobial OSP states that you must be 18 and up to qualify. PEMAC needed some clarification. These would be antibiotics that have already been started. These are not antibiotics that are being dosed by the Paramedic, STC Paramedic, or RN. PEMAC will revisit the Antimicrobial OSP.

PEMAC is still concerned about the heated high flow nasal cannula. There will be more discussion between the Children’s team, Liz, Cindy, and Jenn.

Needle decompression. Research found indicates that the needles we are using (big, long needles) can cause injury to children. There is a proposal that is going through PCR that we use a separate smaller length needle for needle decompression on children. Proposal came out from PEMAC at the last PCR meeting. At that meeting Will and some of the others voiced some concern about adding an additional needle to the list of equipment we already carry and the cost of adding this additional equipment. There was some discussion about it being used the same as the IV needles. There was discussion and research being done during the meeting about the different lengths of the needles. Scott mentioned that he attended the PEMAC meeting and they are trying to get some clarification on the standard length of the needles.

The EMS Board and SEMSAC did not meet this month. They will meet next month. No updates there.

### **SOCALR Report** – Scott Legore

Inspection/License Update – Marty Johnson – Nothing new to report.

Annual Report for MIEMSS SOCALR – Scott Legore

Annual report for MIEMSS SOCALR coming out. Currently have 34 services, 29 of those services are ground services and 5 of those services are air services. Total of 261,616 calls transported.

QA Review/Data Import – Scott Legore

Data Import is in the process of changing over to the 3.0 version. Emeds should be set up. If you need help, please get with Scott Barquin to help check your data import. Target date for MIEMSS to be completely switched over is October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

Image Trend Vault – Scott Legore

Instructions for Image Trend Vault were sent out with last month's meeting minutes and available with today's agenda. The Image Trend Vault will help you access old files. If you need help with Image Trend Vault, reach out to Jason Cantera.

EMS 50 Project – Todd Abramovitz

Media Services is in the process of uploading data to the MIEMSS Online History Timeline and they plan to have it "live" on the MIEMSS website by "The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Maryland EMS System" celebration. Todd demonstrated the MIEMSS Online History Timeline and explained they plan to have a "contribute" button for everyone to be able to login and contribute to the timeline. They are looking for MEIMSS events, EMS company events, and world events that play a part in our timeline. These contributions can be in the form of photos, documents, and YouTube videos.

**Clinician Services** – Bev Witmer – Not present. Messaged that she has nothing new to report.

Expiration Date Reminder: BLS expiration dates changed from June 30<sup>th</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>. December 31<sup>st</sup> dates changed to January 31<sup>st</sup>. Note: if the provider filed an extension and they will expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, they will not be extended to the July 31<sup>st</sup> date.

**PEMAC** – Jill Dannenfelser

Dr. Chizmar covered the information Jill Dannenfelser had to cover so she has nothing new to report.

**SEMSAC** – Danny Platt - Nothing new to report.

**MIH** – Mark Buchholtz - No report.

**SCT** – Will Rosenberg - Dr. Chizmar covered the SCT information.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business** – Teddy Baldwin

Teddy Baldwin asked if we could look into expanding the Non-EMS Driver waiver, letting a Non-EMS driver drive an ALS unit as long as the crew consisted of an ALS and BLS clinician onboard. Crew would consist of a 3 person team. Reason for this question is because some services have EMTs who cannot drive because they do not have 3 years driving experience or some clinicians do not want to drive. Will Rosenberg thought that this crew would meet the regulations as the regulations do not state that the EMT must be the driver. Scott Legore advised this crew/team would need to be reviewed due to the Non-EMS Waiver. He believes that the Non-EMS Driver waiver indicates that this Non-EMS Driver would drive BLS units only. Scott advised we will need to review the language of the regulations and the waiver and come back to this for further discussion.

Motion to adjourn by Jill Dannenfelser, seconded by Jim Pixton. Meeting adjourned.

**Attendance:**

In Person: Will Rosenberg, Jim Pixton, Dr. Tim Chizmar, Scott Legore, Donna Geisel, Claire Pierson, Marty Johnson, Todd Abramovitz

Virtual: Jill Dannenfelser, Tyler Stroh, Randy Linthicum, Matt Larrabee, Lindsey Leach, Mark Buchholtz, Teddy Baldwin, Sarah Pysell, Jeffrey Huggins, Mary Bell, Jim Harsh, Jonathan Siegel, Jeff Kreimer, Cynthia Wright-Johnson, Gary Rains, Kenny Barajas, Steven Hoffman, Danny Platt, , , Devin Meyers, Kelly Hammond, Leigha McGuin, Susan Rainey, Mike Moretti.

Callers: #1 – John Damiani  
#2 – Matt Larrabee  
#3 – Abby Butler