



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

Statewide EMS Advisory Council (SEMSAC)
June 2, 2022 - 1:00pm
Virtual Meeting

- I. Call to Order – Mr. Tiemersma
 - Call the roll
- II. Approval of the April 4, 2022 SEMSAC meeting minutes
- III. MIEMSS Report – Dr. Delbridge
- IV. SEMSAC Chair Report – Chairman Tiemersma
- V. MSPAC Report – Major Tagliaferri
- VI. MSFA Update
- VII. Committee Reports
 - ALS Report – Dr. Fillmore
 - BLS Report – Ms. Dousa
 - MIH Report – Zach Yerkie / Chief Matz
 - Regional Affairs – Mr. Smothers
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business



State EMS Advisory Council (SEMSAC)

June 2, 2022

Via Conference Call Only Meeting Minutes

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SEMSAC Members Present: Wayne Tiemersma, Chairperson; Eric Smothers, Vice Chairperson; Justin Orendorf; Scott Haas; Tim Kerns; Kathryn Burroughs; Linda Dousa; Michael Cox; Kathleen Grote; Lisa Tenney; Lisa Lyle; Tim Burns; Karen Vogel; Kristie Snedeker; Jim Matz; Wayne Dyott; Major Tagliaferri; Gordon Wallace; Michael Millin, MD; Alan Butsch; Rosemary Kozar, MD; Linda Young, MD; Erik Abrahamson; Jeffrey Sagel, DO; Jeffrey Fillmore, MD; Elliott Haut, MD

SEMSAC Members Absent: Michael Rosellini; Jennifer Anders, MD;

MSFA: President McCrea

OAG: Ms. Sette; Mr. Malizio

MIEMSS: Ted Delbridge, MD; Pat Gainer; Tim Chizmar, MD; Jeannie Abramson; Mark Bilger; Michael Cooney; Bryan Ebling; Doug Floccare, MD; Dwayne Kitis; Scott Legore; Luis Pinet Peralta; Andy Robertson; Mustafa Sidik; Patrick Tandy; Cyndy Wright Johnson; Elizabeth Wooster; Sheile McAllister; Barbara Goff

Chairman Tiemersma called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. The roll was called.

Chairman Tiemersma asked for approval of the April 7, 2022, SEMSAC meeting minutes.

ACTION: Upon the motion of Dr. Young, seconded by Mr. Dyott, SEMSAC unanimously approved the April 7, 2022, SEMSAC minutes as written.

SEMSAC Report

Chairman Tiemersma reported that the EMS Board met on May 10, 2022, and approved two educational programs for 5-year renewal: Frederick County Division of Fire/Rescue ALS program and the US Secret Service Academy BLS initial and refresher program and an ALS refresher program.

Chairman Tiemersma said that the EMSOP Workgroup has met and is in the process of defining and outlining recommendations for changes to the EMSOP regulations.

MIEMSS Report

COVID-19 Update

Dr. Delbridge said that the uptick in numbers of COVID-19 hospitalizations appears to be leveling off. It is anticipated that hospitalizations will level off at around 500 and gradually decline. The concern is that circulating COVID variants will come back around in the fall.

Yellow Alerts

Dr. Delbridge reported that utilization of Yellow Alerts has crept up in between the end of April and early May. In Region III, the median time to transfer a patient from EMS to hospital staff is 22 minutes; the 90th percentile is 57 minutes, and 8.8% of patient transfers of care occur within 60 minutes. This is not sustainable for the EMS system.

Emergency Department (ED) Patient Boarding

Dr. Delbridge said, as part of a quality measures, data is collected on a patient's length of stay in an ED. MIEMSS has participated in state policy meetings discussing the impact that boarding patients in the ED has on the Maryland healthcare system, including EMS. MIEMSS appreciates the time hospital staff spends each day collecting and submitting the necessary data. Dr. Delbridge presented the current available numbers and types of patients boarded in the ED. He added that there are a couple of different efforts regarding pediatric behavioral health patients requiring hospital admission. It is recognized additional resources are needed.

Medicaid Supplemental Payment Program

Dr. Delbridge said that Medicaid Supplemental Payment Program for EMS is to rebalance Medicaid reimbursement by providing the federal portion of Medicaid reimbursement, which is half of the remainder of allowable costs after Maryland Medicaid pays \$100.00 per transport State portion. (The Medicaid reimbursement to EMS increases to \$150.00 per transport in July). He explained the process for applying for reimbursement and the qualifying factors, include being a designated jurisdictional EMS operational program that is funded directly by public (tax) dollars; billing Medicaid for EMS transports; and documenting expenses that are paid with public funds. Fourteen jurisdictions qualified to receive federal reimbursement for costs incurred from October 2020 through June 2021, which is projected to be about \$80 million. Baltimore City alone is projected to receive 39.2 million in federal Medicaid reimbursement for their costs incurred over the nine-month period.

Emergency Medical Technician Education Stipend

Dr. Delbridge said that MIEMSS has established funding to provide a stipend for qualifying EMT students up to \$2000 each. As of June 1, 2022, 273 students had qualified for the stipend. Funding will be distributed to students as they complete various milestones, culminating when the student passes the NREMT exam. This stipend is available for up to 500 students through June 2023.

Crisis Scene Collaboration Workgroup

Dr. Delbridge said that work continues with 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.

Dr. Delbridge said that Maryland's evolution of the "Use of Force" statute, amending Public Safety §3-524, effective July 1, 2022, codifies "common sense" and places some perfunctory tasks in the purview of law enforcement agencies. EMS personnel have asked if this statute changes the ability of law enforcement to assist and facilitate appropriate disposition of EMS patients.

There has been lengthy discussion among the EMS clinicians and Law Enforcement members of the Crisis Scene Collaboration Workgroup as to reasonable expectations and capabilities of both disciplines. Dr. Delbridge said that queries have been sent to the AAGs office working on the Crisis Scene Collaboration Workgroup seeking clarification.

Legislative Reports 2022

Dr. Delbridge said that MIEMSS is working on two legislative reports due by the end of 2022. One on the use of Ketamine by EMS Clinicians that is due in October, and a report on the Hospital Interfacility Transport of Medicaid patients.

Data Transmission to EDs

Dr. Delbridge said that there is interest among stroke centers for HIPPA compliant patient information data transmission to the emergency departments by EMS. MIEMSS has reviewed several approaches and is seeking to establish pilots.

MSPAC

A copy of the MSPAC written report was distributed.

Major Tagliaferri said that law enforcement does not see any change in operations regarding the “Use of Force” statute, amending Public Safety §3-524. All officers are being trained on the new laws and EMS should not see changes in assistance by law enforcement.

Major Tagliaferri reported on the Maryland State Police Aviation Command’s current numbers of EMS clinicians and pilots, personnel recruitments, and ongoing projects and initiatives, including the Whole Blood Program, the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Program, and hoist platform training. He added that 2 aircraft are undergoing heavy maintenance inspections and one aircraft down for a fuel leak; seven aircraft remain in service. Major Tagliaferri added that the MedHub program is on hold as the military is reevaluating their involvement with supporting the grant.

Major Tagliaferri reported that MSPAC mission data is similar to last year is on pace with calls of service and response times.

Major Tagliaferri reminded everyone to call SYSCOM for MedEvac requests and not to contact the MSPAC sections for helicopter response.

MSFA

A written report was distributed.

Vice Chair Smother said that the MSFA’s 2022 Convention and Conference course information and registration are on the Convention website. The new parking in OC will be at the Jolly Roger.

SEMSAC Committee Reports

Regional Affairs Committee (RAC)

Vice Chair Smothers said that the Regional Affairs Committee met this morning. There is only \$200 of unallocated funding remaining for this cardiac arrest grant cycle. Vice Chair Smothers added that due to supply chain issues there will likely be delays, up to six months, in receiving the monitors.

It appears that MEMA will not be continuing grant funding for Mass Casualty training this year.

ALS Committee

Dr. Fillmore said that Pete Fiackos will be taking over the ALS responsibilities for MIEMSS. Melissa Meyers will still be working on some current ALS projects.

Dr. Fillmore said the Protocol orientation/efficacy project continues. The State content renewal courses should be available in July.

BLS Committee

Ms. Dousa said that the May meeting was canceled, and the next meeting of the BLS Committee is scheduled for July.

MIH Committee

Chief Matz said that the MIH Committee met on May 26, 2022. Two Montgomery County MIH members received awards for the work with geriatric patients. A discussion took place surrounding SB295 and its impact on MIH programs. Kathi Burroughs attended.

Chief Matz asked Zach Yerkie to give the report on MIH training component.

Mr. Yerkie, Chairman of the MIH Committee, said the major project for the Committee is the educational standards for MIH clinicians. Thirteen educational topics have been identified:

- Community Risk Reduction
- Social Determinants of Health
- Cultural Competency
- Infectious Disease
- Behavior Modification
- Telemedicine
- Special Populations and Chronic Disease Management
- Documentation
- Motivational interviewing and patient interaction
- Resource Knowledge
- Compassion Fatigue
- Patient-Driven vs Patient-Centric Care
- Scenarios

At this time, the curriculum has been built, the Beta version is complete, and the current plan is to reach out to the identified individuals in each jurisdiction on June 6, 2022. Beta testers will be completed on all thirteen modules and survey feed-back will be provided. The MIH Committee will review feedback, update content as needed, and post to MIEMSS LMS. The MIH Committee anticipates releasing the training module by September 1, 2022.

Matt Burgan, Frederick County, is serving as the MIH representative on the eMeds® steering committee. He is advocating changes to procedures and certifications regarding needs for MIH data collection on MIH specific interventions and clinician level certifications.

The MIH Committee plans to host a CRISP workshop for all MIH programs to increase the accuracy and the types of data available.

Old Business – N/A

New Business – N/A

A motion was made by Ms. Grote, seconded by Ms. Burroughs and unanimously agreed upon to adjourn the meeting.