



County of San Diego

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

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Community Epidemiology
Emergency & Disaster Medical Services
HIV, STD and Hepatitis
Immunization
Maternal, Child and Family Health Services
Public Health Laboratory
PH Nursing/Border Health
TB Control & Refugee Health
Vital Records

BASE STATION PHYSICIANS' COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

Tuesday, October 20, 2009

Members Present

Davis, M.D., Dan – Mercy Air/UCSD
Dunford, M.D., Jim – City of San Diego
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Palomar
Kramer, M.D., Mark – Sharp Memorial
Kusman, Travis – Co. Paramedics Agencies' Comm.
Linnik, M.D., Bill – Sharp Grossmont
Madati, M.D., Jamil – Children's
Marugg, Jim – S.D. Co. Paramedics' Association
Schwartz, M.D., Brad – American Medical Response
Zahller, M.D., Steve – Scripps Mercy

County Staff Present

Haynes, M.D., Bruce
Smith, R.N., Susan
Stepanski, Barbara
Thomas, R.N., Pauline

Recorder

Rupp, Merle

Guests Present

Aker, R.N., Donna Kelly – UCSD ROC
Allington, R.N., Linda – Carlsbad Fire
Anderson, R.N., Marilyn – Vista Fire
Barnes, R.N., Melanie – S.D. Med. Serv. Enterprise
Bennett, M.D., Don – Naval Med. Ctr. San Diego
Bourdon, R.N., Darlene – Scripps Mercy
Broyles, R.N., Linda – AMR/RCCP
Buckley, M.D., Kevin – Naval Med. Ctr. San Diego
Buono, M.D., Colleen – UCSD
Dotson, R.N., Melody – UCSD
Galluci, Joseph – Palomar College
Howard, R.N., LuAnn – Scripps La Jolla
Hudnet, R.N., Carlen – S.D. Med. Serv. Enterprise
Idman-Gervais, R.N., Dianne – Sharp Grossmont
Kelly, Chuck – Palomar College
Klingensmith, Todd – S.D. Co. Paramedics' Assoc.
Lamond, Amanda – UCSD
Maciel, Maciel – Palomar College
Marchi, Greg – Palomar College
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Sharp Grossmont
Miller, Ashley – Palomar College
Mottet, R.N., Mary – S.D. Med. Serv. Enterprise
Murphy, R.N., Mary – CSA-17
Ninberg, R.N., Lori – Children's
Ochs, R.N., Ginger – San Diego Fire Rescue
Quinn, R.N., Michele – Children's
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Sharp Memorial
Schoenheit, Frank – No. Co. Fire Protection Dist.
Scott, R.N., Chris – San Diego Fire Rescue
Seabloom, R.N., Lynne – Oceanside Fire
Stonecipher, R.N., Joanne – Southwestern College
Sullivan, Don – American Medical Response
Violante, Andrew – Palomar College

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Linnik, M.D., substituting for Judd Glasser, M.D., Chairperson, brought the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Jamil Madati, M.D., Seconded by Jim Marugg, to approve the Minutes of September 15, 2009 as submitted. MOTION carried.

III. MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Bruce Haynes, M.D.)

H1N1 Swine Flu Update: Surveillance of the H1N1 flu has been accelerated at the County. There have been 1,411 cases recorded in San Diego County thus far, although that number could be low as specific H1N1 testing is currently done only on hospitalized patients. There have been 769 males and 581 females with H1N1. A little less than half of the cases have been military personnel. There have been a total of 24 deaths recorded in San Diego County. The range of illness in age is two weeks to 89 years with the average age 26. The average age of death is 46.

County EMS released personal protective equipment guidance in the last few weeks. The new definition of a suspected case was changed by the State to include any patient less than 60 years of age with a fever of over 100 and cough, removing the sore throat component. Cal-OSHA recently passed the aerosol transmissible regulations and imposed the higher standard for any contact with the patient who is a suspected case. Cal-OSHA also gave guidance for re-using N-95 masks saving non-used ones for high-risk patients such as tuberculosis or invasive procedures. Health care workers can now return to work after 24 hours when they no longer have a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications. The County is attempting to obtain more masks and equipment. There are discussions going on to have POD's (Points of Dispensing) set up around the County to give the H1N1 vaccine. In some cases, paramedics are being approved to give the H1N1 vaccine.

Some seasonal flu vaccine has arrived and is available.

Hospital Capacity Plan: The Committee has been working on the Plan for some time. Revisions are being made in regard to surveillance and monitoring employee absenteeism.

A couple of hospitals discovered that using surge tents for additional capacity was quite valuable, including setting up a separate tent for short term treatment after going through the first tent for triaging.

Offload Issues: Offload delays will be watched carefully this winter.

Overcrowding Summit: Great presentations were made at this year's summit. Roneet Lev, M.D., talked about her survey of the emergency departments and Dan Gross, Executive Director, Sharp Healthcare discussed legislation currently in progress. Peter Viccellio, who's been doing hallway beds for years, discussed how patients are admitted and inpatient criteria. Billy Mallon talked about the surge planning in Los Angeles County.

Pearls for PAC: PAC Co-Chairs Steve Zahller, M.D., and Darlene Bourdon, R.N., along with Susan Smith, R.N., and Dr. Haynes are trying to provide more information in the Pearls and looking for ways to improve their effectiveness. Enhancing the distribution is being reviewed.

IV. BASE HOSPITAL NURSE COORDINATOR'S REPORT (Cheryl Graydon, R.N.)

The BHNC's will be giving a presentation at the PAC meeting this date on Interfacility Transports.

The BHNC's would like to know the requirements from the County or through BSPC on equipment lists and the requirements for adding additional equipment.

The BHNC's are also looking for clarification on the respiratory policy for Albuterol and Atropine. They are also requesting clarification on mild, moderate, and acute status as there appears to be different versions of "mild" in the field.

V. ROC (Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium) UPDATE (Dan Davis, M.D.)

The National Institute of Health (NIH) is meeting to discuss funding for ROC next week. The Data Safety Monitoring Board meets this week to review the ROC prime data and hopefully there may be some news from the Data Monitoring Board this week.

VI. PATIENT DESTINATION REPORTS

Dr. Haynes opened the discussion on patient destination reports by requesting input from the group on what they feel would improve the use of this type of radio report. Ms. Graydon stating that in her area some agencies do it and others don't and to have clarification on when it is appropriate to use.

Melody Dotson, R.N., UCSD, stated that destination reports help her out a lot but they should only be for mild status. Mary Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Sharp Grossmont, added that American Medical Response and Barona do destination reports for Grossmont and it's gone very well. Darlene Bourdon, R.N., Scripps Mercy, added that destination reports are a great idea because of the call volume. LuAnn Howard, R.N., Scripps La Jolla, stated that the majority of their agencies do have PDR's and would hate to lose that as it saves time for the MICN.

ACTION: Dr. Haynes stated he would make the effort to come to the next BSPC meeting on November 17, 2009 with a draft policy.

VII. SDBREATHE (Ginger Ochs, R.N.)

Ginger Ochs, R.N., San Diego Fire Rescue brought up the issue of the Toomey device not being used by agencies much anymore due to the advent of CO2 and the King Airway. Ms. Ochs stated that the Toomey device is an expense for the agencies and requested it be reviewed whether it still needs to be part of the required inventory. Ms. Ochs reviewed San Diego County's mnemonic SDBREATHE and felt that size, depth, lung sounds and abdominal sounds were the important documentation pieces. Ms. Ochs suggested at some point in the future, changing the mnemonic to be more user-friendly, and a little quicker.

VIII. SAN DIEGO HEALTHCARE DISASTER COUNCIL (Linda Rosenberg, R.N.)

A drill was conducted on October 15, 2009 called a "shake-out drill." Sharp Memorial performed the radio part. The next drill should be May 17-19, 2010.

The Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) is in the process of writing the paperwork for the HPP Year Eight grant. The funds from HPP Year Seven have been distributed to the hospitals. Many hospitals are using monies for N-95 masks. The federal government is asking hospitals to report their bed status every week on Tuesday before noon and also for 72-hour projections.

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

SDBREATHE, what's going to happen with hospital capacity plans, patient destination reports and offload topics will be among issues to be discussed at the November 17, 2009 BSPC meeting.

Jim Dunford, M.D., City of San Diego, stated that San Diego is going to have an Emergency Cardiac Care Update conference in December, 2010. The committee working on it will be looking at San Diego to demonstrate their "heart-healthiness" such as access to schools and CPR efforts. Their focus is how to get citizens involved knowing CPR and calling 9-1-1. Dr. Dunford is the contact person.

Dr. Dunford stated that most of San Diego hospitals have signed up for CARES (Cardiac Arrest Registry) and it is hoped there will be system-wide approval for all the hospitals linked to the City of San Diego Cardiac Registry.

Dr. Haynes introduced Pauline Thomas, R.N., who has been appointed to a temporary position of EMS Coordinator during Rebecca Pate's military deployment. Ms. Thomas has been working for EMS on the disaster preparedness side of the house and did some outstanding work with fires, compiling a complete coordination system with skilled nursing facilities. Ms. Thomas has worked in emergency departments throughout the County and was a emergency department supervisor at Paradise Valley Hospital.

Michele Quinn, R.N., Children's Hospital, introduced Lori Ninberg, R.N. who will also be a representative from Children's at these meetings.

Kevin Buckley, M.D., Naval Medical Center San Diego, introduced Don Bennett, M.D., to the group. Dr. Bennett was a former paramedic.

X. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, 2009, 11:00 a.m. at Sharp Spectrum, 8695 Spectrum Center Court, Kearny Mesa, San Diego, California.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Merle Rupp, Board Secretary,
County EMS