



# County of San Diego

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

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Base Station Physicians' Committee (BSPC)  
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California Children Services  
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, March 17, 2009

#### Members Present

Davis, M.D., Dan – UCSD/Mercy Air  
Dunford, M.D., Jim – City of San Diego  
Glasser, M.D., Judd – Tri-City  
Grad, M.D., Michele – Palomar/Pomerado  
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Palomar  
Kramer, M.D., Mark – Sharp Memorial  
Linnik, M.D., Bill – Sharp Grossmont  
MacPherson, Gary – Co. Paramedics' Agencies Comm.  
Madati, M.D., Jamil – Children's  
Reilly, M.D., Ian – Scripps La Jolla  
Schwartz, M.D., Brad – American Medical Response  
Workman, R.N., Debi – Palomar College  
Zahler, M.D., Steve – Scripps Mercy

#### County Staff Present

Haynes, M.D., Bruce  
Metz, R.N., Marcy  
Smith, R.N., Susan  
Stepanski, Barbara  
Wiejorek, R.N., Janet

#### Recorder

Rupp, Merle

#### Guests Present

Aker, R.N., Donna Kelly – UCSD ROC  
Anderson, R.N., Marilyn – Vista Fire  
Barnes, R.N., Melanie – S.D. Med. Serv. Ent.  
Batil, Patrick – Palomar College  
Bourdon, R.N., Darlene – Scripps Mercy  
Boyce, Marjorie – Palomar College  
Broyles, R.N., Linda – AMR/RCCP  
Buono, M.D., Colleen – UCSD/Palomar College  
DiBernardo, Tory – Palomar College  
Dotson, R.N., Melody – UCSD  
Eldridge, R.N., Leslie – Sharp Memorial  
Hinton, William – Mercy Air  
Howard, R.N., LuAnn – Scripps La Jolla  
Idman-Gervais, Dianne – Sharp Grossmont  
Johnson, Wayne – S.D. Med. Service Enterprise  
Judd, Justin – Palomar College  
Klingensmith, Todd – S.D. Co. Paramedics' As.  
Lemire, Harold – San Diego Fire Rescue  
Majerczak, R.N., Karen – Tri-City  
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Sharp Grossmont  
Mottet, R.N., Mary – S.D. Med. Serv. Enterprise  
Murphy, R.N., Mary – CSA-17  
Ochs, R.N., Ginger – San Diego Fire Rescue  
Quinn, R.N., Michele – Children's  
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Sharp Memorial  
Ross, Alyssa – City of San Diego  
Sallee, M.D., Don – Naval Med. Ctr. San Diego  
Scott, Chris – North County Fire  
Seabloom, R.N., Lynne – Oceanside Fire  
Smith, Mitch – San Marcos Fire  
Steen, R.N., Pam – Mercy Air  
Strelkaskas, Danielle – Nav. Med. Ctr. S.D.  
Vogt, Rick – San Marcos Fire

**I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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 Steve Zahller, M.D., to approve the Minutes of February 17, 2009 as submitted. MOTION carried.**

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

New County EMS Employee: Janet Wiejorek, R.N., was introduced as new to County EMS. Ms. Wiejorek transferred from Public Health Administration where she worked on a number of high profile projects. She has had hospital experience, and was an operating room nurse. She will be working with trauma and the CIREN (Crash Injury Research and Engineering Network) program, the grant program with UCSD for automotive injury prevention.

Other Employee Updates: Due to budget limitations and administrative restructuring within Public Health, EMS recently lost four student workers and three other part-time employees. The student workers processed the bubble forms submitted by agencies/hospitals for prehospital data collection. Current clerical staff in the front office reception area are now being cross-trained to work on the bubble forms which has led to reduced hours open to the public.

Change in EMS Reception Hours for Processing Certifications and Re-Certifications: The front office area for processing certifications and re-certifications will now operate on limited hours. Open hours will be Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. but closed on Fridays. These new hours will begin on Monday, March 30, 2009. Please notify your employees or students.

Influenza Update: The flu season has been mild so far this year with the number of isolates reported in the community being low.

Bypass Trial: EMOC (Emergency Medical Oversight Committee) has been discussing a no-bypass trial; however, hospital administrators have expressed reluctance to proceed with a trial at this time. In the Hospital Capacity Report, the hospitals enter the data for patients waiting for ICU, telemetry and hospital beds twice a day. The data entry has improved and is helpful but 8:00 p.m. data entry could improve. Emergency department holds tend to consistently include high numbers of telemetry patients.

Sexual Assault Concerns: Sexual assault examiners have concerns that evidence is being lost when patients go to emergency departments, now that forensic exams are no longer performed by the emergency department. County EMS staff will be meeting with them.

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

The BHNC's will be working with County EMS staff on the hospital designation report.

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

Have been working on renewal applications with ten different sites so no sites will get dropped. The application will be submitted in a month or so and the renewal will be in another year and one-half.

Enrollment is very important in bringing up both the City and County on the Hypertonic Saline trials; enrollment continues at about the same rate for the head-injured patients. The criteria is head-injury without any documented hypotension to the point of enrollment.

The Shock Side of the study was halted in autumn, 2008.

The Cardiac Arrest Study has now brought the City of San Diego up and they have been enrolling 15-20 cases a week. The other seven agencies in the County have continued to enroll patients. In a recent National Institute of Health (NIH) visit, it was recommended strengthening the feedback for the different agencies participating in ROC, specifically in regard to the CPR process and ROC is working on ways to do that.

**VI. AUTOPULSE AND LUCAS PRESENTATIONS (Colleen Buono, M.D., UCSD, Chief John Davidson, Chula Vista Fire/Mary Murphy, R.N., CSA-17)**

Colleen Buono, M.D., UCSD/Palomar College, stated that AutoPulse and LUCAS are two new devices that are being studied and tried for mechanical CPR.

Chief John Davidson, Chula Vista Fire, explained that AutoPulse has a band that wraps around the chest, runs on a battery and costs between \$11,000 and \$15,000, plus \$125 per band, per patient. At the present time, a study of 1,000 patients nation-wide is going to be reviewed.

Chula Vista Fire started using AutoPulse on August 21, 2008 and for six months there were 53 patients that met the criteria. The ROSC (Return of Spontaneous Circulation) rate went from 8% to 41.5%. There has been noted a significant reduction in pauses during cardiac compressions. With the use of AutoPulse, pauses such as down stairways, through narrow hallways, etc. are eliminated. It is also a benefit to crew and patient safety. The AutoPulse automatically does the sizing and circumference configurations.

Mary Murphy, R.N., CSA-17, stated that the LUCAS device has a piston with a plug and runs on compressed air or oxygen. Cost is around \$12,000 to \$14,000 inclusively. The LUCAS studies that have been done show positive results and can improve ROSC results. The LUCAS machine is easy to get on the patient within 10-15 seconds and practical for the field and has three switches. Statistics show that 25% of all back injuries occur directly related to CPR so there is a big benefit for the patient being belted in.

**VII. COUNTY EMS PDA/PRINTER COMMITTEE (Rick Vogt, San Marcos Fire)**

This committee has been tasked with looking for a solution for prehospital documentation being left at the hospital by transporting agencies. The committee has been staffed with hospital and County EMS staff and transporting providers with varied technology. The group has met twice with very good dialog both times. The goal is to provide a County-wide standard for medics to provide documentation with a web-based repository for documentation to access the patient's record at any time.

The Committee has both short and long term goals. A short-term goal is looking at July 1, 2009 when infra-red based printers go away at the hospitals. Long-term goals include reviewing the viability of what San Diego Fire and Rescue is doing with UCSD.

**VIII. SNAKE BITE ANTIVENIN STUDY (Colleen Buono, M.D.)**

A flyer was distributed titled "Rattlesnake Antivenom Research Study" which included a letter to emergency department medical directors stating that the Division of Medical Toxicology at UCSD Medical Center and Rady Children's Hospital are the local participants in a multi-center, phase III study of an experimental rattlesnake antivenom. The study is looking for subjects who have been bitten by a rattlesnake. The patient may be referred if deemed to be medically stable for transport up to two hours to an outside facility and if private vehicle transport by a friend or family member is available. The subject will be interviewed and consented for the study. Study-related drugs and procedures will be provided at no cost and the subject is eligible for up to \$200 for participation. Patients can be anywhere from 2 to 80 years of age. Contact Alexander Miller, M.D. at (619) 290-1163, Jean Marshall, R.N., at (619) 290-2960 or Richard Clark, M.D. at (800) 596-5023.

**IX. POLICY B-451 (Bruce Haynes, M.D.)**

Dr. Haynes distributed a draft of this policy for the Advanced EMT, a position that will primarily be utilized in rural areas. This will allow EMT's with some additional training, to perform selected ALS interventions. **ACTION: Unanimous approval was given on this policy.**

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

Hospitals continue to spend grant monies by August, 2009.

A table-top pandemic drill is planned for March 23, 2009, a precursor to the June 18, 2009 State-wide drill.

**XI. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION (Judd Glasser, M.D.)**

A review of STEMI Receiving Centers data some time in the future.

Address the issue of amiodarone in the prehospital arena.

Resuscitation Receiving Centers to be reviewed.

Marcy Metz, R.N., Chief, County EMS, announced that negotiations are continuing for a Memorandum of Agreement with First Watch. Meetings are held every two weeks.

Jim Dunford, M.D., City of San Diego, stated that the CARES Initiative appears to have approval from hospital chief executive officers. The next step will be identification of the contact staff at each hospital, then the CARES staff will begin initially with the City of San Diego, then the County.

**XII. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, April 21, 2009, 11:00 a.m. at the Sharp Spectrum Auditorium, 8695 Spectrum Center Court, Kearny Mesa, San Diego.

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Merle Rupp, Board Secretary,  
County EMS