



HITS Committee Meeting

October 13, 2015

Fall Meeting - Louisville

Meeting Record

Attending: Donnie Woodyard, Jr, Chair (LA), Dale Adkerson (OK), Jean-Marie Bakehouse (CO), Chris Bell (VT), Michael Berg (VA), Billie Collier (MS), John Cramer (ID), Dr. Carol Cunningham (OH), Guy Danske (UT), Wayne Denny (MT), Jim DeTienne (MT), Ernie Doss (GA), Richard Fenlason (NV), Richard Gibbons (PA), Shari Graham (MT), Keith Griffith (Red Flash), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO), Mel House (OH), Mark Jackson (AL), Nancy Kelly-Goodstein (NJ), Rob Klein (TX), Dr. David Lehrfeld (OR), Tom Mitchell (NC), Nina Leung (TX), Steve McCoy (FL), Susan McHenry (NHTSA), Steve Murphy (AAA/AMR), Jason Rhodes (RI), Joe Schmider (TX), Donna Tidwell (TN), Keith Wages (GA), Alisa Williams (LA), Stephen Wilson (AL), Scott Winston (VA),

Welcome and Roll Call – Chair Donnie Woodyard called the meeting to order at 3:16 PM EDT.

Review & Approval of August 12th Meeting Record – The August meeting record was approved without changes.

Reporting Ambulance Safety Complaints to NHTSA – Mary Hedges informed members that NHTSA’s Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) will investigate ambulance vehicle safety complaints. This is not well known by the EMS community. The link is <http://www.safercar.gov/Vehicle+Owners/Emergency+Response+Vehicles>

TIM Training for EMS – Donnie Woodyard reported that EMS is still very under-represented in the percentage of those who have received TIM training. He asked members to share their respective experiences in promoting Traffic Incident Management training for EMS. Joe suggested partnering with the insurance providers to promote the training. Donna Tidwell said Tennessee offers CE credit for TIM training for EMS personnel.

Federal Partner Update – Susan McHenry, NHTSA Office of EMS, said she appreciated all the good work of this committee. She reported that the 35th continuing resolution to fund the Highway Trust Fund expires the end of this month. Congress seems to be unable to pass a long term funding bill, but the Highway Trust Fund is too important to be handled this way. Susan added they were surprised at their staff meeting last week when Drew Dawson announced his retirement effective October 30. Several good projects are in the works currently that they cannot yet share, but they are excited about what lies ahead.

Project and Committee Updates

- **ACEP/NAEMSP AACN Project** (See <http://www.aacnems.com>) – Dr. David Lehrfeld, Oregon’s state medical director, represents NASEMSO on a joint NAEMSP/ACEP

project, funded by NHTSA OEMS, on the Advanced Automatic Crash Notification (AACN) training project. The intent is to enhance the use of the AACN data to improve outcomes for crash victims. Dr. Lehrfeld reported that the black boxes in cars with AACN (some GM and Audi models) measure a variety of factors which can predict if the accident will result in an injury severity score (ISS) of 16 or greater. The black boxes notify the PSAP and can provide helpful data. The overall project goal is to develop training for EMS providers (PSAP dispatchers, EMS medical directors, trauma nurses) on using AACN data to improve patient outcomes. They are about halfway through the project. The penetrance of AACN in the USA is fairly low now, but it is expected that Europe will require this technology within 5 years and that this country will eventually follow Europe's lead.

Collaboration between State Highway Safety Officials and State EMS Officials

Donnie asked for members to share examples of their collaboration with their state highway safety offices. Steve McCoy (FL) said they were able to fund their statewide EMStars with funding from the highway safety office. They will soon be under going a NHTSA assessment funded by the TRCC, which is now done online. Dale Adkerson said Oklahoma went through the NHTSA assessment last spring.

Special Presentation: Linking EMS Data and Crash Data – Nina Leung, PhD, Texas Department of State Health Services

Dr. Nina Leung presented the data linkage and research project she is conducting at the Texas Department of State Health Services. The study is funded by a traffic safety grant. She explained that data linkage is necessary to obtain outcome data. Some important questions can be asked, such as, "how do crash factors impact patient outcomes?" All EMS runs must be reported to the Texas EMS data registry. They then must clean the data before formatting and linking a subset of data. They use probabilistic linkage. Of the 2013 data, 28,582 EMS records from crashes were successfully linked (or 39% of the EMS records from crashes.) They were also able to fully link (crash-EMS-hospital) 3,408 records or 11.9%. The study objectives were 1) to determine crash-related risk factors in primary motorcycle drivers in Texas, and 2) to describe EMS pre-hospital times and field health characteristics among primary motorcycle drivers in the state of Texas. Of the fatal motor cycle crashes, 60% were non-helmeted drivers.

Members discussed the value of the data. Once providers see these kind of outcome data, they become more motivated to submit quality data.

Chair Donne Woodyard thanked Dr. Leug for sharing her work. The presentation is available at <https://www.nasemso.org/Meetings/Annual/Presentations2015/index.asp>.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM EDT. The next meeting of the HITS Committee will be December 9th.

The meeting record was respectfully prepared by NASEMSO Program Manager Mary Hedges.