



NASEMSO Medical Directors Council

March 5, 2018

1:00 PM EST

Meeting Record

Attending: Ken Williams (Chair), Harry Sibold (MT), Rick Alcorta (MD), Jeff Jarvis (TX), Joe Holley (TN), Suzanne Martens (WI), Michael Kaufman (IN), Joey Scollan (NH), Carol Cunningham (OH), Jason Kegg (IL), Jeff Beckman (CO), Kate Zimmerman (ME), Mike Levy (AK), Lynn Wittwer (WA), Howard Backer (CA), Joy Crook (NM), Joe Nelson (FL), Daniel Wolfson (VT), Julia Martin (KY), Bill Fales (MI), David Stilley (IA), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO)

Call to Order, Welcome, Roll Call – Dr. Ken Williams called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM EST and welcomed new members.

Approval of November 28th Meeting Minutes – The meeting record was approved as submitted. (Moved by Alcorta/ Seconded by Nelson/ Unanimous approval)

New Member Welcome and Self-Introductions – Dr. Williams noted that there are seven new members, which is unprecedented.

- Dr. Bobby Lee (Louisiana) was appointed Feb 2018. Dr. Lee was not on the call.
- Dr. Jason Kegg (Illinois) was appointed in February 2018. He began as a paramedic over 20 years ago and now is an emergency medicine physician in Springfield, Illinois.
- Dr. Michael Kaufman (Indiana) was appointed in January 2018. He has been an emergency physician over 20 years and was an EMT initially. He has been the EMS director for his hospital EMS system. He became the state of Indiana's EMS medical director 3 weeks ago and appreciates all the information available to him from NASEMSO.
- Dr. Joey Scollan (New Hampshire) was appointed January 2018. She thanked everyone for the warm welcome. She completed her training in Baltimore 4 years ago. She is also a pediatrician.
- Dr. Jeff Jarvis (Texas) was appointed in November 2017. He has been a paramedic almost 30 years, completed medical school in Galveston and his full time position is EMS medical director for Williams County EMS, just north of Austin.
- Dr. Mike Levy (Alaska) was appointed in October 2017. He has been in Anchorage since the late 80s but has experience in many areas of the country. He has been the medical director at Anchorage Fire which involves about half of Alaska's EMS runs. He is excited to become a member of this group.
- Dr. David Stilley (Iowa) joined the call late and did not have an opportunity to introduce himself.

Dr. Rick Alcorta welcomed all new members and urged them to take advantage of the resources available to them and to reach out to Mary and other members of the Council with any questions.

NHTSA Update – Dr. Jon Krohmer was at the EMS Scope of Practice meeting and not available to report.

Project and Committee Updates – Various Members

- Naloxone EBG Project – Dr. Williams reported the project is fully underway. The in-person meeting was held in January at the NAEMSP meeting. The goal is to develop the evidence-based guideline for naloxone by EMS, performance measures to measure the effectiveness of the EBG and a training module. See [Naloxone EBG for EMS](#). Regarding naloxone, Dr. Alcorta expressed his concern that Adapt Pharma is marketing its delivery system (4 mg naloxone Intranasal) as the standard of care based on it being the only FDA approved IN device for an opioid antagonist. Several expressed concerns about a likely price increase that would follow, not to mention the clinical effects of using excessive doses of naloxone.
- Model EMS Clinical Guidelines – Dr. Carol Cunningham reported that she and Dr. Kamin presented the Model EMS Guidelines at the NAEMSP Annual Meeting in January and will be presenting to the EMS Fire Chiefs Association and at Pinnacle this summer. Mary tracks the requests for the Guidelines in MS Word; she has received 31 requests for the Word document in the first five months. There have been numerous downloads of the PDF version from the website. See [EMS Clinical Guidelines](#).
- NASEMSO Fatigue in EMS Project – Drs. Doug Kupas and George Lindbeck were not on the call to report. Dr. Williams said this was a significant project and they found that caffeine is good, and naps are even better during EMS shifts to combat fatigue. Dr. Kaufman asked if the end result is to recommend specific length shifts. See [Fatigue-in-EMS Guidelines](#) for detailed information.
- NASEMSO High Consequence Infectious Disease Transport Project - Dr. Ken Williams reported that the project has been completed. The objectives were to create a template for the inter-facility transport of patients with a suspected pathogen infection and to assess capabilities in the states. He referred members to the information on the NASEMSO website at [Emerging-Infectious-Disease-HCID](#).
- 2018 EMS Scope of Practice Model Revision – Drs. Peter Taillac, David Lehrfeld, Doug Kupas, Rich Kamin were not available to report as they were at the two-day Scope of Practice meeting. For further information, see [EMS Scope of Practice](#).

Other Updates / Discussion

- Joint Position Statement: Spinal Motion Restriction in the Trauma Patient (attached) – Dr. Williams reported that NASEMSO was asked to sign onto the ASCOT-ACEP-NAEMSP Position Statement on SMR. After consultation, the Board agreed to sign. Dr. Levy added that he was involved with the development of the statement on behalf of NAEMSP; the mandated cervical collars issue was controversial but NAEMSP eventually decided to accept it. He added that the position statement went through 30 versions before adoption. Dr. Howard Backer asked what advantage there is in accepting the position statement if there are statements with which we do not agree. Dr. Cunningham asked why NASEMSO was not invited to join at the outset. Dr. Dan Wolfson asked about no. 5 (regarding cervical collars) and elevation of the head. Dr. Levy explained that the first

version of the position statement was unacceptable to everyone except the surgeons. After many iterations, it became a greatly improved document and was eventually approved. The rationale to accept it was that they had come so far in reaching a consensus, they concluded a joint statement was an improvement over a variety of contradictory positions.

- Opioid Shortages/Alternatives - Dr. Jeff Beckman said they are facing difficulty getting morphine and other opiates in Colorado. He asked what others are doing in their states. Members from Maine, Maryland, California and Tennessee all reported similar drug shortages. Dr. Backer said California is experiencing significant drug shortages and is looking at using expired medications. This would be good topic for the MDC meeting in Providence. Dr. Williams referenced the presentation several years ago by Erin Fox of the University of Utah Drug Information Office on the reasons for drug shortage. Dr. Jeff Beckman would like to see a survey of the group to learn what EMS drug shortages other states are facing and what they are using as alternatives. Mary Hedges will follow up with the request.

2018 Meeting Schedule – Dr. Williams reminded members that the 2018 MDC meeting schedule is posted on the NASEMSO website at [2018 MDC Meeting Schedule](#). He urged attendance at the NASEMSO Annual Meeting, **May 21-24, 2018, Providence, RI**. See <http://nasemsso.org/AnnualMeeting2018/index.asp> for details, including hotel reservations and meeting registration.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM EST.

Next Meeting – May 21-22, Omni Hotel, Providence, RI.

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