



NASEMSO Medical Directors Council

Nov. 7, 2016

Meeting Record

Attending – Ken Williams, Chair (RI), Aaron Burnett (MN), Harry Sibold (MT), Joy Crook (NM), Julia Martin (KY), Douglas Kupas (PA), Carol Cunningham (OH), Rick Alcorta (MD), Curtis Sandy (ID), Matthew Sholl (ME), Joe Nelson (FL), Jim Suozzi (NH), Tim Cathey (OK), Lynn Wittwer (WA), Howard Backer (CA), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO), Kathy Robinson (NASEMSO), Dr. Jon Krohmer (NHTSA)

Call to Order and Roll Call – Dr. Ken Williams, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM EST.

Approval of September 19-20 Meeting Minutes (attached) – The September 19-20 meeting record was approved with Dr. Cunningham's edits as presented.

Introduction of New Member, Dr. Joy Crook, New Mexico – Dr. Williams introduced Joy Crook, the new state EMS medical director in New Mexico. Dr. Crook explained she has been in New Mexico since 2011, and has been working with EMS since 2007. Her particular areas of interest are tactical EMS and disaster medicine. She apologized for not being able to attend the meeting in Albuquerque, but was not appointed until after the meeting. Dr. Crook looks forward to learning more about her role as the state EMS medical director.

Dr. Williams welcomed Dr. Jon Krohmer and invited him to say a few words. Dr. Krohmer, who has been in his new position as the Director of the NHTSA Office of EMS for two months, said he appreciates the opportunity to participate in the call.

Air Medical Model Rules – Kathy Robinson, NASEMSO Program Manager, explained that NASEMSO's air medical model rules have been finalized and are now posted on the NASEMSO website. Before the model rules were finalized, the USDOT's Office of general counsel reviewed them extensively to assure there was no conflict with the Federal Airline Deregulation Act. They have received some comments from the air medical industry. They are collating the comments from outside groups and will look at them once NASEMSO has appointed a new chair of the Air Medical Committee. There are no plans to change the model rules but NASEMSO may provide some explanation to the comments. She thanked Dr. Lindbeck who served on the committee from the Medical Directors Council. Dr. Alcorta congratulated the group on obtaining consensus on a controversial topic. More information on the document is available at <https://www.nasemso.org/Projects/AirMedical/documents/NASEMSO-Press-Release-State-Model-Rules-for-Regulation-of-Air-Medical-Services-21Sept2016.pdf>

Kathy pointed out that the Association of Critical Care Transport (ACCT) recently issued its critical care standards. ACCT is mailing a hard copy to each state and additional copies (digital and hard copies) can be purchased on the ACCT website at <https://www.acctforpatients.org/>. They have provided NASEMSO with a copy which is posted on the members only section. Kathy

offered to email a copy to the Medical Directors Council listserv, but asked that members not share it, as a courtesy to ACCT, who has it available for purchase.

HR 4365 and S 2932, Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act of 2016

Update— Dr. Harry Sibold explained, for the benefit of new members, the background of the companion bills which are intended to codify the longstanding practice of EMS administering controlled substances in the field by standing order. This practice is not presently allowed under the Controlled Substances Act. The House bill moved through various committees of jurisdiction in September. If the bills are not passed by the end of the year, the effort would have to begin again with the new two-year congressional session. Harry said that everyone who has a bill introduced in this congressional session will be pushing for passage during the lame duck session which begins after tomorrow's election. Harry emphasized that members of Congress are much more willing to respond to a tweet than to email, because twitter is public. Harry explained that he received a response from his representative within hours of tweeting him regarding the need to pass the bill. Dr. Williams asked about whether the Medical Directors Council can contact congressional representatives. Mary said that although NASEMSO is supporting the bills, it is preferable for individuals to contact his or her own congress person and senators in support of these companion bills. Carol Cunningham commented that in her state it would be an ethics violation if she used her position as the state medical director to advocate on behalf of certain legislation, as such communication must go through the designated person in her state agency. It was agreed that individuals may contact their own representative if they act as an individual and not as a representative of their state agency. Harry agreed to send instructions to the Medical Directors Council listserv about using Twitter to contact one's representative.

Planning and Logistics for January 23 Meeting, New Orleans – Mary Hedges explained that arrangements have been made for the Medical Directors Council to meet the day before the National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP) meeting gets underway, which has been the practice for the past several years. The MDC will meet 1 – 6 PM at Le Pavillon, which is less than a half mile from the Hyatt. NASEMSO has secured a small room block for a significantly discounted rate of \$129 per night. The Model EMS Clinical Guidelines Work Group will be meeting there also on January 21-22. She will send an email with further information.

Medical Directors Council Meeting at NASEMSO Spring Meeting, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, March 6 – Ken asked Mary to explain the potential for the Medical Directors Council to hold a short meeting at the NASEMSO Spring Meeting on March 6. Because the regularly scheduled Medical Directors Council Meeting falls on Monday, March 6, the first day of the NASEMSO Spring Meeting, it was suggested that we hold a short meeting in person for those who attend and join the other members by teleconference. Carol suggested moving the MDC meeting to Tuesday, March 7, so in order to better accommodate those who wish to stay for the remainder of the NASEMSO meeting. Ken suggested polling the members via the listserv to determine which day to meet.

Other

Teleflex's MAD Recall – Ken said the recall of the atomizer device will pose some problems for those using the device for naloxone administration. This should not be a problem for hospitals and EMS but it may be more problematic law enforcement who may not receive notice of the recall.

Destination Protocols for Stroke - Rick Alcorta asked who is using a state accredited stroke-ready institution in their destination protocols. Some Maryland hospitals are downgrading to a free-standing emergency department only. They are now trying to determine which type of patients should be going to a free standing medical facility rather than a full service hospital.

Doug Kupas asked for others to share what they have used for determining destination protocols in time sensitive cases. For example, is it better to take the patient to a closer primary stroke center rather than a comprehensive stroke center which is further away? Dr. Julia Martin responded that she has learned that time is of the essence and it is better to take the patient to the closer facility where tPa can be administered and then later transfer the patient if necessary.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM EST.

Next Meeting – January 23, 1:00 – 6:00 PM, New Orleans

The meeting record was prepared by NASEMSO Program Manager Mary Hedges and Dr. Aaron Burnet, Secretary.