



## NASEMSO Medical Directors Council

May 4, 2015

### Meeting Record

**Attending:** Peter Taillac (Chair), Ken Williams (RI), Rich Kamin (CT), Curtis Sandy (ID), George Lindbeck (VA), Howard Backer, (CA), Julia Martin (KY), Dan Wolfson (VT), Tim Cathey (OK), Jeff Sather (ND), Brian Moore (NM), Joe Nelson (FL), Jim Suozzi (NH), Carol Cunningham (OH), David Lehrfeld (OR), Stephen Vetrano (NJ), Dia Gainor (NASEMSO), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO)

**Call to Order and Roll Call** – Dr. Peter Taillac called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM EDT.

**Approval of March 2 Meeting Minutes** – The March meeting record was approved as written.

**Report on NASEMSO Mid-Year/Spring Meeting** – Dr. Taillac gave a brief report on the NASEMSO Spring Meeting held earlier this month. Drs Sather and Lindbeck also attended.

**DEA Update** – Dr. Taillac summarized that the DEA is in the midst of promulgating rules about EMS, which do not currently exist. The rules, however, will not be able to address the issue of EMS administering controlled substances because EMS is not included in the governing statute, the Controlled Substances Act. ACEP, with input from NAEMSP, NAEMT and NASEMSO, has drafted legislation, which would correct this omission and permit the administration of controlled substances by EMS in the field. The intent is to tack the language onto another related bill as an amendment. Apparently the veterinarians successfully used the approach in the past.

**Election of Secretary (Dr. Cady's resignation)** – Dr. Taillac said the Dr. Cady has elected to leave his position with the Medical College of Wisconsin and will be going into private practice, effective July 1. The Medical College holds the contract for medical director. Peter suggested holding the election for secretary at the July meeting. There was a request for an email election; Mary said she will check the bylaws to determine whether an election by email is permissible.

**APA Draft "Transitions of Care for Children in the ED"** – Dr. Brian Moore said the APA has been working on this draft for a year and a half. Dr. Moore commented that he did not write it but is on the committee that is overseeing it. He asked if there were any comments. He said there is not anything new and both he and Cindy Wright Johnson (PECC) are on the committee. Any comments should be submitted to Mary by May 8, so they can be compiled and forwarded to the Board for approval. Dr. Moore asked to review any comments before forwarding them to the Board.

**Response to Nepal Earthquake** – It was noted that Dr. Ken Zafen (AL) was in Nepal at the time of the earthquake and was helping evacuate people from the basecamp, per an email he sent via the MD Council listserv. Howard Backer said one of the national search and rescue teams from Southern California was sent. Several medical teams responded from California.

**Project and Committee Updates** – Various Members

- **Air Medical Model Rules** – Dr. George Lindbeck reported that the committee had been moving along but came to a temporary halt after NHTSA issued an opinion earlier this month. It is one of the clearest statements on the issue that he has seen to date. The Airline Deregulation Act (ADA) had the goal of trying to increase competitiveness; thus, states cannot impose regulations that are not related to patient safety. To quote from the opinion, “State requirements with a ‘significant impact’ on an air carrier’s prices, routes or prices are preempted. Requirements that impact an air carrier’s prices, routes or services in only a ‘tenuous, remote or peripheral manner,’ however, are not preempted.” Discussion among members occurred about the legality of the state setting exclusive service areas. Dr. Lindbeck said the DOT has now posted the document, which he will share. State rules or statutes that reference CAAMTS accreditation as deemed equivalent for state licensing purpose are not allowed because CAAMTS addresses more than patient care matters. Dr. Sather said North Dakota recently passed a law intended to prohibit the high-priced air medical services coming from out of state (Utah). The state EMS office will be responsible for enforcing the new law.
- **National Prehospital EBG Consortium (NAEMSP)** – Dr. Taillac said there is nothing new to report. In summary, NAEMSP has taken the lead in developing the consortium, which will take the lead in overseeing prehospital evidence-based guidelines. NASEMSO’s Model EMS Guidelines may be the home of the new EBGs as they are developed.
- **EMS Compass Project (Performance Measures)** – Dr. Brian Moore, who is a member of the steering committee, had to leave the call. Dia Gainor reported they just issued a national call for performance measures. Suggested measures can be submitted by any agency at [www.emscompass.org](http://www.emscompass.org). The technology developers group is the next meeting of the project and the next meeting of the Steering Committee is in August.
- **NEMSAC Update** – Dr. Carol Cunningham reported that the National EMS Advisory Council (NEMSAC) met March 31-April 1. Three subcommittees reported. It was recommended that the Education Agenda for the Future be updated; also, that a strategic meeting be held on the subject of community paramedicine, including financing. The terms of all NEMSAC members expired April 22. Some will be reappointed while others are term limited. The new appointments have not yet been announced.
- **New Member Orientation** – Dr. Ken Williams said he and Mary will put something together and send it out for feedback. If anyone is interested in assisting, please contact him.
- **Statewide Implementation of a Prehospital Care Guideline** – Dr. Taillac said they are in the last year of the project but have applied for a no-cost extension. Each of the five participating states are piloting the guideline.
- **ACEP AACN Project** - Dr. Lehrfeld said there is a placeholder website at [aacnems.com](http://aacnems.com). They are revising the online course. The ACEP work group recently toured the Onstar Call Center and the Sirius XM Call Center. The original intent was to target the EMS medical directors because it was thought they had the most influence on the dispatch centers, but eventually it will go out to trauma nurse managers as well. The science behind the actual predictive value of the system is pretty solid. There currently is not enough penetration to do a good pilot project. Currently only GM and Audi have developed predictive models for their vehicles. It is rumored that the European Union will be requiring the technology in all new vehicles.

- **Joint Trauma Committee (JTC)** – Dr. Lehrfeld said the JTC has been dissolved. He is disappointed, but he understands that NASEMSO’s Executive Committee elected to withdraw due to being dissatisfied with the level of cooperation received from ACS. The last straw was when ACS issued a press release about states’ role in designating trauma systems (e.g., Florida) and the JTC only became aware of it by reading the newspaper.

**Fall Meeting Planning (October 12-16, Louisville, KY)** – Peter asked everyone to begin thinking about agenda items, which will be discussed at the July meeting.

**Other** - Dr. Jim Suozzi asked if other states are considering dialing down the screening at the call centers regarding Ebola. The New Hampshire Health Department does not want to do that yet. Drs Taillac and Kamin felt it was too early to remove the Ebola screening from EMD protocols.

**Next Meeting: July 6** - Mary will send the July 6 meeting invitation again as some people seemed to receive it while others did not.

**Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 2:12 PM EDT.

*Meeting record was respectfully prepared and submitted by NASEMSO Program Manager Mary Hedges.*

[Save the date: New England EMS Council Meeting – Monday, November 23, 2015, Newport RI.](#)  
Social gathering on Sunday eve, November 22.