



NASEMSO Medical Directors Council
November 2, 2020, 1:00 PM ET

Meeting Record

Attending – George Lindbeck (Chair), Matt Sholl (ME), Joe Holley (TN), Curtis Sandy (ID), Riccardo Colella (WI), Gail Bradley (AZ), Tripp Winslow (NC), Dan Wolfson (VT), Ken Schepcke (FL), Joey Scollan (NH), Kate Zimmerman (ME), Michael Levy (AK), Michael Kaufmann (IN), Jeff Beckman (CO), David Lehrfeld (OR), Lynn Wittwer (WA), William Fales (MI), Joy Crook (NM), Peter Taillac (UT), Jason Kegg (IL), Doug Kupas (PA), Carol Cunningham (OH), Jon Krohmer (NHTSA), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO), Dia Gainor (NASEMSO), Jay Bradshaw (NASEMSO)

Call to Order, Welcome, Self-Introductions – Dr. George Lindbeck called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM EST.

Approval of August 24th Meeting Record – The meeting record from August 24th was approved.

NAEMSP Equipment for Ground Ambulances Revision (attached) – Dr. Ken Williams reported that the final draft is now available for final approval by the stakeholder organizations. NAEMSP approved it last week. Ken Williams moved that the MDC recommend that the NASEMSO Board approve the equipment list. Mike Levy seconded the motion. The motion passed.

NAEMSP Joint Position Paper on Care of Agitated/Combative Patients– Dr. Doug Kupas noted that NASEMSO and NAEMSP were the two main groups that authored the paper, and they have received support from other EMS organizations. The position paper has been approved by NASEMSO and is posted on the NASEMSO website (Medical Directors Council webpage) at <https://nasemso.org/Clinical-Care-and-Restraint-of-Agitated-or-Combative-Patients-by-EMS.pdf>

Monitoring Patients in Custody (attached draft) – Dr. George Lindbeck said the MDC elected to table this draft in deference to the above NAEMSP Joint Position Paper.

Ketamine Survey – Dr. Lindbeck said NASEMSO has been receiving requests from journalists about ketamine use and will be issuing a brief survey. Mike Levy added that a position paper is being drafted. Jeff Beckman thinks the survey will be helpful because there is misinformation about ketamine. Dr. Schepcke said a paper is underway based on data from ESO® on ketamine use by EMS, and he expects it will be published soon. They reviewed case fatalities and found none were associated with ketamine use.

NHTSA Update – Dr. Jon Krohmer shared that, although the CDC recommendations have not been released, EMS providers are included in the first phase of vaccinations for COVID. There

are also plans for EMS administration of vaccines, but more will be known next week. All states have submitted their vaccination plans and are being reviewed now. With regards to ketamine administration by EMS, they are looking at the national EMS data set, but it will require more analysis. Ken Scheppke said they are planning to utilize EMS in mass vaccination protocols in Florida but wanted to know if there is liability protection. Dr. Krohmer said they will know more next week. Dr. Taillac said the Utah Health Department is hiring paramedics to help with immunizations. Dr. Kaufmann and Dr. Sandy said their state health departments, Indiana and Idaho respectively, are doing the same. Several others shared how their states were preparing for EMS administration of vaccines.

Interfacility Transport Position Paper – Dr. Lindbeck said he was not able to participate in the meeting when the NASEMSO Board reviewed this paper, but he understands they opted not to act on the position paper at this time. He will check with the Board to see if they wish to consider it at a later time.

Comments to Submit in response to DEA Proposed Rules - Dr. Lindbeck noted that the DEA has published its proposed rules to implement the *Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act of 2017*. See <https://beta.regulations.gov/document/DEA-2020-0029-0001>. He said Virginia will have to make some changes because they have a system where the hospitals provide drug kits to EMS. Dr. Levy expressed concern about certain provisions. Dr Lindbeck also noted that the EMS unit could be restocked at the hospital, but it was unclear if that is meant to be an exception or an ongoing practice. Comments are being accepted until December 4th at the above link. To be considered for inclusion in comments submitted by NASEMSO, please send comments to Mary Hedges by Friday, November 6th as she will be collating them for the November 12th NASEMSO Board meeting.

COVID-19 Update from States – Dr. Bill Fales asked if EMS agencies are using the antigen tests to test their EMS providers. He was informed that the test is 95% accurate for people with symptoms but less effective with asymptomatic cases. Dr. Taillac said they are starting to pilot test this product with a limited number of agencies. They are also considering a pilot program to test EMS patients (with their consent) in rural areas. Dr. Scheppke said the antigen tests are not FDA-approved and that they are most effective when there is a high viral load. They are not using the test in Florida due to its unreliability. Dr. Beckman noted that they have discouraged using the antigen test for screening asymptomatic healthcare providers. Jon Krohmer said he expects to have more information on this topic next week.

Project and Committee Updates – Various Members

- Pain Management EBG Project – Dr. George Lindbeck said the project is rolling along and is ahead of schedule.
- NEMSAC Update – Dr. Peter Taillac said NEMSAC has not met since he last reported.
- Code of Ethics for EMS Medical Directors – Ken Williams said the Code of Ethics has been electronically published in PEC, but not currently available in paper form.

- NASEMSO National Model EMS Clinical Guidelines, Version 3 – Dr. Carol Cunningham reported that she and Dr. Kamin had their kick-off meeting with NHTSA and are in the process of soliciting workgroup members from the stakeholder organizations.
- Prehospital Guidelines Consortium – Dr. David Lehrfeld was recently appointed as the NASEMSO representative to the Consortium.

Other Matters of Interest –

NAEMSP Annual Meeting - Mike Levy said the NAEMSP meeting will be virtual and will be the same dates as the meeting was originally planned.

Next Meeting – Because the MDC will not be meeting at the NAEMSP meeting, the MDC meeting will revert to its regular day of the first Monday of the month, which is January 4th. It was noted that this may make it easier for people who want to attend the NAEMSP virtual meeting and any potential pre-conference offerings.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 2:03 PM EST.

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