



NASEMSO Medical Directors Council

November 4, 2019, 1:00 PM EST

Meeting Record

Attending – Ken Williams (RI), Mike Kaufmann (IN), Jon Burstein (MA), James Bledsoe (AR), Riccardo Collela (WI), Richard Kamin (CT), Gail Bradley (AZ), Jeff Beckman (CO), Joe Holley (TN), Doug Kupas (PA), Ken Scheppke (FL), Lynn Wittwer (WA), Bill Fales (MI), Tim Chizmar (MD), Kate Zimmerman (ME), Harry Sibold (guest), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO)

Call to Order, Welcome, Self-Introductions – Ken Williams, Immediate Past Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM EST. Chair George Lindbeck and Chair-Elect Matthew Sholl were unavailable due to clinical obligations, as was Secretary Carol Cunningham.

Approval of September 23rd Meeting Record – The September 23rd meeting record was accepted as submitted.

Self-Introduction of New Member - Gail Bradley, MD (Arizona) introduced herself and shared that she has been the state EMS Medical Director for about 6 weeks and is learning the various duties of the position. Dr. Williams welcomed her to the Medical Directors Council and NASEMSO. She replaces Ben Bobrow as the state EMS Medical Director for Arizona.

MDC Work Plan: Review and Discussion (attached) – Mary displayed the draft workplan that was created by the MDC Steering Committee and other volunteers a few weeks ago. Tasks 1 and 2 are ongoing activities of the MDC. New tasks are:

- *Task 3 - Provide leadership for the development of Version 3 of the NASEMSO National Model EMS Clinical Guidelines in order to update add to and maintain this valuable resource document. Publicize and disseminate widely to the EMS community.* Mary explained that this task was included in NASEMSO's recently submitted proposal to NHTSA for the new "umbrella" cooperative agreement and we are waiting to hear if it is funded.
- *Task 4– Examine concerns relating to interfacility transports specifically addressing the resources available in rural and urban environments. Develop a white paper and make recommendations for improvement.* George Lindbeck and Ken Williams previously volunteered to work on this task. Mike Kaufmann also offered to assist.
- *Task 5 - Develop destination guidelines for patients with LVO stroke.* Peter Taillac had suggested this task and previously volunteered. Ken Scheppke said Florida recently created a stroke protocol and offered to help. Mike Kaufmann expressed interest noting that Indiana has new rules relating to stroke destination.
- *Task 6 - Collaborate with NAEMSP in developing a strategy to recruit and retain EMS medical directors.* Mary commented this is a new version of a former task promoting high quality EMS medical directions (supporting EMS fellows, etc). This could be a major project or more scaled down. No one has volunteered to lead this effort.

NHTSA Update –Dr. Jon Krohmer was not available to join the call.

ASTHO Post-Overdose Project - Mary Hedges reported that she had been contacted by staff from the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO) who would like to include an EMS component in their opioid project funded through the CDC. They have some funding to support the project and initially wanted to conduct a survey to collect EMS protocols for opioid overdose. Dia and Mary explained to the ASTHO representatives that NASEMSO is interested in working with them, but informed them that we had already completed a model protocol. They are considering other options. Ken asked members for suggestions. Doug Kupas and Mike Kaufmann suggested creating a compendium of opioid programs conducted by EMS around the country, such as warm hand-off community paramedicine programs and other alternative approaches. Ken Scheppke agreed noting the success with the addiction stabilization center in West Palm Beach as well as EMS suboxone programs. Ken also shared that in his service area they have reduced the naloxone administration rate dramatically (75%) by stressing rescue breathing for 2 minutes. These patients are not as combative when they return to consciousness.

NASEMSO Opioid Ad Hoc Committee – Ken Williams reported that NASEMSO has created an opioid ad hoc committee which is seeking members. Tim Seplaki, the data manager from New Jersey, recently spoke at the NASEMSO East Region Conference about the Camden, New Jersey program which authorizes paramedics to administer suboxone. Tim has been passionate about EMS trying novel approaches to address the opioid crisis and advocated for NASEMSO to create the committee. The following people volunteered to participate in the committee: Ken Williams, Ken Scheppke, Gail Bradley, Lynn Wittwer, and Rich Kamin.

National Pediatric Readiness Project (NPRP) Liaison Needed – Dr. Joey Scollan (NH), a pediatric emergency medicine physician, has volunteered to serve as the NASEMSO liaison to the EMSC project.

Agenda topics for January 8 Meeting – The draft agenda was displayed and members were asked for suggestions. Bill Fales suggested a status report on the DEA controlled substances rulemaking. Mary will ask Ritu Sahni to provide an update. Tim Chizmar suggested a discussion about limiting the number of doses of epinephrine given in cardiac arrest. He volunteered to lead the discussion. It was suggested asking Tim Seplaki to speak on the opioid ad hoc committee. Also, it was suggested that the topic of laws and protocols for transporting working canines be added to the agenda. Kate Zimmerman reported that legislation on this topic passed in Maine. Online registration for the January 8 meeting is now available on the NASEMSO website at <https://nasemso.org/news-events/events/event/medical-directors-council-mid-year-meeting/>

Project and Committee Updates – Various Members

- Prehospital Airway Management Systematic Review – Dr. Michael Levy was not on the call to report. This is a new project just getting started.
- Triage Working Group Update – Dr. Doug Kupas reported that the group met and determined that the ASPR paper, *Mass Casualty Trauma Triage: Paradigms and Pitfalls*

was quite good. They have arranged for the paper's lead author, Dr. John Hick, to provide a presentation at the NASEMSO annual meeting in June.

- NEMSAC Update – Dr. Peter Taillac was not on the call to report.
- Code of Ethics for EMS Medical Directors – Dr. Williams reported that the draft was reviewed, edited, and approved by NAEMSP's Standards & Practice Committee and Board. He also believes it was approved by AMPA at an earlier date. Harry Sibold said it was not discussed at the ACEP EMS Committee meeting; however, he believes that they previously reviewed it and had no major editions.
- NAEMSP Equipment for Ground Ambulances Revision – Dr. Williams explained that he participated in this group effort with Dr. John Lyng serving as the lead. After initial work and discussion, Dr. Lyng and others felt that the minimum equipment list is not necessary especially since there is variation among state requirements. Dr. Williams said he had misgivings about this conclusion as a regulator. Doug Kupas added that when ACEP decided to drop the equipment list, NASEMSO pointed out that states rely on this to develop their requirements. Richard Kamin reported that Connecticut has a list in regulations and stated that he is not sure if it is worth the effort to create and maintain a national list especially since many states will have their own.
- Defining Ideal Pediatric Trauma System (Childress Grant) – Dr. Joey Scollan (NH) was not on the call to report.

Other Matters of Interest

- Antibiotics for Open Fractures - Doug Kupas asked if others had data on antibiotics used in the field for open fractures. Mike Kaufmann and Rich Kamin offered to send him data.
- CP/ MIH Summary – Mike Kaufmann shared the results of a summer intern's project, in which all states were contacted to learn about Community Paramedicine/ Mobile Integrated Healthcare programs and laws. He noted there may be errors and asked everyone to let him know if their state's programs were not accurately portrayed.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 2::08 PM EST.

Next Meeting – January 8, San Diego, 1-6 PM PST.

Save the Dates:

January 8, 2020 – MDC Mid-Year Meeting, San Diego (in conjunction with NAEMSP)

June 15 - 19, 2020 – NASEMSO Annual Meeting, Reno, Nevada

For information on NASEMSO Annual and Regional Meetings <https://nasemso.org/news-events/meetings/>

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