



NAEMSO Model EMS Clinical Guidelines Project

**March 14, 2016
Work Group Meeting**

Meeting Record

Attending: Carol Cunningham, Rich Kamin, Rick Alcorta, Brian Moore, Susan McHenry, Alexander Isakov, John Lyng, Joe Nelson, Harry Sibold, Jim Suozzi, Peter Taillac, Lynn Wittwer, Mary Hedges

Call to Order, Roll Call – Dr. Cunningham (Carol) called the meeting to order. She welcomed new members Alexander Isakov and John Lyng, representatives of NAEMSP.

Review February 8 Meeting Record – The February 8 meeting record was approved as submitted.

Invitation to EMS Physician Organizations (see attached) Carol noted that AMPA and AAEM were not on the work group list. Mary said that was an oversight, and she will add them. Mary confirmed that invitational letters had been sent to both of these organizations.

Welcome to New Workgroup Members

- NAEMSP Rep/Alt – Dr. Alexander Isakov and Dr. John Lyng
- ACS-COT - Mark L. Gestring (EMS Committee Chair)

Review Guidelines Retained in Escrow from Launch of Project – Dr. Cunningham referred to the list of potential new guidelines distributed with the meeting materials. The original guideline list was presented during the very first workgroup meeting after the launch of the project. The guideline list that was reviewed included those that were not completed during the original project. She asked members if the list should be limited to patient care guidelines and not include administrative/operational guidelines. After discussion, the majority felt it was best to limit new guidelines to patient care, although some administrative guidelines that touch on patient care, particularly those that are evidence-based, could be added or included in the document's appendix. Rich Kamin explained the original guideline list was derived by comparing a number of states' clinical protocols and selecting those that were most commonly included. John Lyng offered that his ambulance service recently overhauled its guidelines and used the Model Guidelines as the foundation. He asked if the goal is to restrict the guidelines to those that everyone will use nationwide or if will we include those that are applicable to niche areas (e.g., altitude sickness, etc). Carol responded that the primary goal was to be patient-centric; however, if the public requested a "niche" guideline, we would be open to include it. The original work group did not address this specifically. John stated that NAEMSP is currently working on a position statement regarding assisting patients with administration of their own medications as there are not many protocols that allow this. He suggested adding this to the potential individualized patient care guideline. Carol expressed hesitation about including guidelines that include actions that many states do not allow by law or regulation. In Ohio, EMS providers must undergo training before assisting with the administration of the patient's own medication. Not all states require training to do this. Jim Suozzi said New Hampshire has an exception statement allowing them to administer medications that are not necessarily on the formulary. Rich Kamin reminded the group of the functional needs discussion that was never-ending in the original project. He agreed with John Lyng's point that it may be helpful to include guidelines even if they are not allowed in some states. Peter Taillac suggested waiting to see NAEMSP's position statement and deciding at that time.



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The discussion proceeded to which guideline titles should be deleted from the list that is to be distributed to stakeholders for comment. Members decided to delete the following from the list:

- Diarrhea -- covered elsewhere in the original set
- Device Malfunctions -- Individualized patient care – will revisit after the release of the NAEMSP position statement
- Insect envenomation -- included in the original set
- Seriously Ill Patient -- unnecessary

Carol will revise the list based on today's discussion.

Next Steps:

The next step is to distribute the potential additional guideline titles via Survey Monkey® and the revised resuscitation chapter for public comment. Carol referred members to the draft letter she prepared to distribute to EMS stakeholders requesting comment. Members reviewed and, with one minor correction in the letter, suggested distribution of these documents to the EMS stakeholders today with the public comment period ending on May 1, 2016.

EMS Compass Update (Evidence Review Group) – Carol explained, for the benefit of new work group members, that NASEMSO is overseeing a NHTSA-funded project to develop EMS performance measures, known as EMS Compass. Included in this project is an evidence review group led by Dr. Alex Garza. It includes 5 members from the Model Guidelines team (Cunningham, Kamin, Kupas, Sholl and Taillac) and 5 physicians appointed by Dr. Garza. They met last week and will be meeting again in early April during the NASEMSO Spring Meeting. It was felt that the performance measures will mesh nicely with the Model EMS Clinical Guidelines.

The Data Managers Council will appoint a liaison to the Model EMS Guidelines Project to help ensure that new guidelines are consistent with NEMSIS Version 3.

Carol added that the Ohio EMS Board approved the adoption of the NASEMSO Model EMS Guidelines as the foundation for the revision of Ohio's state guideline document.

Susan McHenry said the NHTSA Office of EMS is working to ensure that there will be financial support in the upcoming cooperative agreement with NASEMSO so that the Model Guidelines Project is continued. This will include funding for an in-person meeting of the group.

Mary suggested it would be useful to learn from those that have used the Model EMS Guidelines as the group move forwards with the next phase. Peter said Utah is considering using the Model Guidelines as the foundation for its state protocols and suggested we survey states to learn which states have used the model guidelines. Carol offered to draft questions for the survey. Peter said he will include it on the agenda of the March 28 Medical Directors Council meeting.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 1:58 PM EDT. **Next Meeting – April 11**

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