



# NASEMSO Opioid & SUD Ad Hoc Committee

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## MEETING RECORD

**September 1, 2022**  
**2:00 – 3:30 PM EST**

**Attending** – Tim Seplaki (NJ), Stephanie Busch (VT), Anthony Panteleo (MI), Teresa Windham, Anna Civitarese (RI), Emily Baker (MI), Chris Montera (ESO), Joe Ferrell (biospatial), Josh Walters (biospatial), Elle Hammond (DE), Eva Nelson (NJ), Jamie Silverberg (SD), Jay Ostby (WY), Dr. Ken Williams (RI), Dr. Michael Levy (AK), Mike Hall (FL), Peter Geissert (OR), Paul Westlake (DE), Ridgely Ficks (MA), Rita Masiello (NJ), Wendy O’Hare (KS) Arnold Alier (SC), Steven Jones (MS), Chiara Moore (MA), Duane Spencer (PA), Dr. Tripp Winslow (NC); For NASEMSO: Mary Hedges, Lynn Dommel, Adrienne Wilson

**Call to Order & Welcome** – Tim Seplaki, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM ET.

**Self - Introductions** – Attendees introduced themselves.

**Review and Approve August 4th Meeting Record (attached)** – Stephanie moved approval; Paul Westlake seconded. The motion to approve minutes as submitted passed.

**Creating a White Paper: EMS Response to Overdose Crisis (attached template)** – Tim Seplaki said the idea of a white paper was discussed by some at the Annual Meeting to showcase what state EMS offices are doing to address the overdose crisis. Mary sent a template with the meeting materials for states to complete to be included in the white paper. She asked that the completed template be returned to her by September 8.

**Mini-Presentation: Delaware’s Overdose System of Care** – Paul Westlake, Systems of Care Coordinator at the Delaware Office of EMS, presented the Delaware Overdose System of Care (OSOC), which was enacted into state law in 2018.

The system is modeled after their statewide trauma system and their other systems of care, including pediatric and stroke systems. Participation in any of the state’s systems of care are voluntary for hospitals, but with participation comes requirements, including standards and site visits. In return, they benefit from state recognition and system quality and performance improvement. With most systems of care, there is a single source of data, but with overdoses, it is more complicated. The OSOC was initiated due to the high rate of overdoses in Delaware (3<sup>rd</sup> highest state). The Overdose System of Care has been challenging to get up and running. They hired Health Management Associates which has

been key to system development. A strategic plan was developed in 2021 and subcommittees were formed in 2022. An oversight committee meets quarterly, led by the directors of the Division of Public Health and Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health. Four subcommittees were created: Rural, Acute OUD Stabilization, Naloxone, Quality & Data Evaluation. All subcommittees have a workplan with goals as to what they plan to achieve. There has been strong leadership between the Directors of Public Health and the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health. The sharing of information has been excellent.

They have overdose stabilization centers in all four Delaware counties. They will be installing naloxone vending machines in one county. EMS will be piloting administration of buprenorphine in the fall. Dr. Tripp Winslow offered to share the protocols used in North Carolina for paramedic administration of buprenorphine in the field.

Unlike the other systems of care (trauma, stroke, pediatric emergency), the challenges with the overdose system of care include the multiple data sources, the multitude of agencies involved and resulting turf issues. It has been difficult to designate levels of care as is done with the other systems of care. Also, many patients decline care.

Delaware is not yet using biospatial but they hope to do so. They recently hired an epidemiologist for EMS. The data subcommittee has helped to break down the data silos. Josh Walters explained that biospatial can move a state's EMS data to ODMAP at no cost to the state or ODMAP. States may choose the criteria (syndrome definition, type of service, patient disposition, etc.) for export.

The Delaware Code defining the EMS systems of care is available at <https://nasemso.org/wp-content/uploads/Delaware-EMS-Systems-of-Care-Code-Title-16-Chapter-97.pdf>

The presentation is available at <https://nasemso.org/wp-content/uploads/Delaware-Overdose-System-of-Care-Presentation-2022.09.01.pdf>

**Call with White House ONDCP and NHTSA/NEMSIS TAC** (see attached)– Jay Ostby, Data Managers Council Chair, reported that the Office of National Drug Control Policy requested that states allow sharing of zip code level data for overdoses through the NEMSIS TAC. They want to create a public map of recent overdoses. The request was presented to the Data Managers Council in June but there was concern because of the privacy issues (HIPAA) when zip code data is provided, especially in rural areas where there may not be many overdoses and everyone knows each other. They had a follow up call with ONDCP recently but no resolution was reached. Jay said he believes those from ONDCP who were on the call now understand the states' concerns with releasing zip code data. Tim thanked Jay and asked him to keep this committee updated on the matter.

**Co-Responder Consortium Update** – Dia Gainor was unable to attend the meeting today.

**Volunteer for Next Month's Presentation** – Tim asked for volunteers to present next month. Stephanie suggested asking NAEMT to share information about their compassion fatigue course. Steven Jones offered to contact NAEMT since their headquarters are near his office in Mississippi. Tim suggested that funding be on the next agenda since the CDC's OD2A funding is on the horizon.

**Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 3:27 PM.

**Next Meeting** – October 6, 2022