



PREHOSPITAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Meeting Report
17 September 2015
1000 hours
EHSF Conference Room

Attendance

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Present: | Scott Buchle | Chair |
| | Duane Nieves | Cumberland County EMS Council |
| | Mark Moody | York County EMS Council |
| | Richard Barner | White Rose Ambulance |
| | Phillip Beck | East Pennsboro EMS |
| | Doug Bitner | Holy Spirit EMS |
| | John Brindle | Community Life Team |
| | Darrell Fisher | New Holland EMS |
| | Nathan Harig | Cumberland Goodwill Fire EMS |
| | Suzette Kreider | Northwest EMS |
| | John Logan | Community Life Team |
| | Vickie Martin | Lancaster General Hospital |
| | John Roussis | JeffStat |
| | Jerry Schramm | Lancaster EMS |
| | Andrew Snavelly | Holy Spirit Hospital |
| | | |
| Staff: | Megan A. Hollinger | Director of System Operations |
| | Ann Marie Christie | Program Coordinator |
| | Michael J. Guerra | Resource Coordinator |

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Buchle called the meeting to order at 1003 hours and asked for introductions.

OLD BUSINESS

ePCR Project Update

Ms. Hollinger presented regional data from the ESO system from the EMS agencies currently submitting data. Ms. Hollinger mentioned there are still agencies working through implementation at this time.

Community Paramedicine/Mobile Integrated Healthcare (CP/MIH)

Ms. Hollinger discussed the status of CP/MIH in our region. Ms. Hollinger mentioned a working group consisting of PSAP and EMS agency representatives is meeting to discuss the needs of non-EMS patients. The focus of this working group is to evaluate alternative resources for citizens calling 911 with non-medical needs.

ALS Provider Expirations

Ms. Hollinger reminded EMS agency leadership to encourage ALS providers are verifying the renewal requirements are met for certification registration. The next certification expiration date is 01 October 2015.

Child Abuse Reporting and Background Checks

Ms. Hollinger reported the Bureau of EMS (BEMS) released an updated FAQ document stating EMS providers may not need the background checks. The EHSF encourages EMS agencies to continue with the process. The EHSF advises any agency considering not obtaining background checks on their providers should consult their legal counsel.

NEW BUSINESS

PA Scope of Practice

Ms. Hollinger announced the PA scope of practice for EMS providers was published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on 29 August 2015. The scope of practice for air was published on 05 September 2015. The newest release for the PA scope of practice provides clarification to ventilator usage by ALS providers.

Bariatric Resources

Ms. Hollinger announced the EHSF wishes to revive the previous bariatric resource project. Once the System Coordinator position is filled, the new hire will begin surveying the resources of EMS agencies.

EMS Protocols

Ms. Hollinger announced the 2015 statewide protocols for ALS providers are effective 01 October 2015. The original effective date was postponed because of the delay with the training module.

Ms. Hollinger reminded EMS agency leadership the BLS protocols have been effective since 01 July 2015. Ms. Hollinger stated aspirin administration by EMTs is a required treatment. EMS agencies have been communicating some EMS agency medical directors will not permit their agencies to carry aspirin. The EMS agency should communicate the requirement of aspirin

versus an optional treatment. If any agency is experiencing difficulty with their EMS agency medical director, they should seek assistance from the EHSF staff.

Legal Blood Draws EMSIB 2015-13

Ms. Hollinger reported the BEMS recently released EMSIB 2015-13 pertaining to EMS providers obtaining legal blood draws. The BEMS stated this exceeds the scope of practice of an ALS provider, but provides scenarios of acceptable situations for EMS providers.

EMS Medication List

Ms. Hollinger provided the recently published EMS medication list. Ms. Hollinger reported the region no longer has the authority to choose required medications for licensure. The Department of Health BEMS will not publish the list in the PA Bulletin providing which medications are permitted and required. Ms. Hollinger displayed some contradictions from the document and stated the EHSF sent correspondence to the BEMS for clarification.

Commendation Program Update

Ms. Hollinger reported the EHSF is working to create an electronic form for EMS agencies to submit the commendation request. More information will be forthcoming.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

ICD-10

Ms. Hollinger reported Chris Yohn from Lower Allen Township EMS asked to discuss ICD-10. However, he is not present at the meeting. Starting 01 October 2015, EMS agencies will begin billing using the ICD-10 codes.

EHSF Staffing Update

Ms. Hollinger provided the open System Coordinator position was offered and accepted by a candidate. However, the start date is postponed until after the state budget impasse.

Budget

Ms. Hollinger reported with the state budget impasse, there is no funding provided to the EHSF office. EHSF continues to function as usual. If any changes to the EHSF's operations occur, notification will be provided to the EMS agencies.

JeffStat

Mr. Roussis from JeffStat provided an update on their flight location in Chester County. This aircraft will be available to serve portions of Lancaster County.

Mr. Buchle adjourned the meeting at 1110 hours.

The next Prehospital Operations Committee meeting is scheduled for 12 November 2015 at 1000 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan A. Hollinger
Director of System Operations