



MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

05 November 2015
0930 hours
EHSF Conference Room

ATTENDANCE

Present:	Michael Reihart, DO Salvatore Alfano, MD Christine Dang, MD Donna Fehrenbach, DO Jeffrey Lubin, MD Steven Schirk, MD	Regional Medical Director, Chair Holy Spirit Hospital Lancaster Regional Medical Center Harrisburg Area Community College Hershey Medical Center – Life Lion WellSpan Health – York Hospital
EMS/Hospital:	Scott Buchle Bradley DeLancey Darrell Fisher Nathan Harig Suzette Kreider Mark Moody Robert Patterson Steven Poffenberger Joshua Roberts	Life Lion EMS Susquehanna Township EMS New Holland EMS Cumberland Goodwill EMS North West EMS Memorial Hospital ALS Lancaster EMS West Shore EMS Susquehanna Valley EMS
Staff:	Megan A. Hollinger Katelyn M. Galer Michael J. Guerra Timothy S. Melton	Director of System Operations Program Coordinator Resource Coordinator System Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Reihart called the Medical Advisory Committee meeting to order at 0931 hours and asked those present to introduce themselves.

OLD BUSINESS

ePCR 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. Ms. Hollinger mentioned data will be shared at each future meeting.

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.

Naloxone

Mr. Melton reported the EHSF surveyed BLS agencies within the region to determine naloxone use. Of those who responded, 78% are not participating in the optional naloxone program. The purpose of the initial survey was to simply determine which BLS agencies are participating. The EHSF will follow-up with those who do not participate to determine the reason they opt not to carry naloxone. The EHSF will also encourage more participation among the EMS agencies. Discussion pursued identifying reasons why some EMS agencies may not participate in the optional naloxone program.

EMS Protocols

Ms. Hollinger reminded the committee the BLS protocols have been effective since 01 July 2015. The ALS protocols were effective starting 01 October 2015.

Scope of Practice & Ventilators

Ms. Hollinger reported concerns from several EMS agencies and healthcare facilities regarding transports of ventilated patients without the critical care transport level of licensure available. Ms. Hollinger provided clarification to the updated PA scope of practice for EMS providers published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on 29 August 2015. Dr. Schirk stated Dr. Bledsoe was working on a flowchart to assist with assuring ALS providers are transporting patients with ventilators that do not exceed the respective scope of practice.

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.

Spinal Care

Dr. Reihart asked those present if the receiving facilities are still experiencing patients not properly immobilized. Discussion ensued regarding proper spinal immobilization and concluded with those present stating they have seen an improvement with spinal care. The EHSF will continue to monitor for concerns.

Ms. Kreider expressed concern involving lifeguards and athletic trainers who do not understand the changes of immobilization by EMS providers. Ms. Hollinger provided the EMS for Children's Committee discussed the changes with the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association. The athletic trainers are aware of the change. However, they do not agree with the change in standards of care. In most cases, athletic trainers will continue to backboard athletes based on mechanism of injury.

NEW BUSINESS

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.

Mr. Patterson questioned the status of the ketamine trail. Dr. Reihart provided the upcoming State Medical Advisory Committee should provide an update.

ALS Protocol 7007 Seizure – Valium IM

Dr. Dang questioned if the protocols should be changed to include valium via intramuscular injection for seizure patients. Dr. Alfano provided a history of valium administer via IM. Dr. Reihart provided alternatives, such as versed, and he explained the region does not have the authority to change the protocols. The consideration must be forwarded to the Bureau of EMS for a decision.

Aspirin for BLS

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. Any EMS agency medical directors with questions or concerns should contact the EHSF office.

Pediatric Voluntary Recognition Program

Mr. Guerra presented information on the optional pediatric voluntary recognition program through the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council for EMS agencies. He also provided information on the EMS for Children's next project to focus on pediatric readiness within the emergency departments. The EHSF supports this program to enhance pediatric care.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

EMS Agency Medical Director Communication

Mr. Guerra reported his attempts to gather contact information for EMS agency medical directors. He will continue to include the EMS agency medical director in the communications involving inspection results for licensure.

EMD v.13

Ms. Hollinger provided a quick update regarding upcoming changes during the emergency medical dispatching process.

Recognition of PCI Centers: ALS Protocol 5001

Ms. Hollinger reported the EHSF office is fielding questions regarding the region's ability to identify a receiving facility as having PCI capabilities. At this time the region will not be determining if a facility has appropriate PCI capabilities. The EHSF will defer to the two accrediting organizations mentioned within the protocol.

State Budget

Ms. Hollinger reported to date there is still not an approved state budget. The EHSF continues to function as usual. If any changes to the EHSF's operations occur, notification will be provided to the EMS agencies.

EHSF Staffing Update

Ms. Hollinger provided the open System Coordinator position was offered and accepted by Tim Melton. Mr. Melton recently started his role with the EHSF office.

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.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Reihart adjourned the meeting at 1105 hours.

The next Medical Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for 04 February 2016 at 0930 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan A. Hollinger
Director of System Operations