



A Tradition of Stewardship
S A Commitment to Service

Health and Human Services Department
Public Health Division
Emergency Medical Services Agency

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MINUTES

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE

August 18, 2009 11:00 A.M.
Queen of the Valley Medical Center (QVMC)
Main Conference Room 1

PRESENT: Mike Randolph (2nd Vice Chairperson), Ty Cook, Dr. Andrew Nothmann, Lois Husted, Jennie Courtemanche, Dr. Victor Aaen, Jeremy Piner, Glen Weeks, David Shew, Ben Schmidt, Carol Garcia, Charles Burton, Alexander Pader, and Keith Caldwell

GUESTS: Dr. Mark Luoto, Medical Director, CVEMSA; Joanne Chapman, Trauma Coordinator, CVEMSA; James Salvante, ALS Coordinator, CVEMSA; Sharon Antognazzi, EMS Office Assistant, CVEMSA; Mike Conley, Napa State Hospital Fire; Eric Freed, REACH; Ernie Loveless, Cal Fire / NCF; Sean Sullivan, Verihealth; and John Farris, QVMC.

I. **Introductions**

Mike Randolph started the introductions around the table of members and visitors.

II. **Approval of Minutes**

Glenn Weeks made a motion to approve the minutes of May 20, 2009, and Mike Conley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

III. **Committee Reports**

A. Operational Area / Disaster Committee

Ty stated that Napa County expects H1N1 vaccine delivery sometime in the middle to late October. A calendar of the regular seasonal flu clinics will be posted later for the mass vaccinations. The 2009 training calendar has been completed. The next meeting is September 17, 2009, 1195 Third Street, Administration Building, Third Floor, BOS meeting room.

Jenny stated that there will be an exercise on September 28, 2009 that replaces the State Exercise this year.

B. Public Information and Education

Sharon stated that PIE participated in the Children's Annual Picnic Day, on May 22, 2009. Sharon thanked Christine "the car seat lady", Margarita Contreras, who conversed with our Spanish speaking visitors and from QVMC, Vivian Castellan

and her boss, Connie Evens, who shared their shade as well as added fun and excitement to our tables.

Our next event will be Sunday, October 11, 2009, St. Helena Fire Departments' 15th Annual Open House.

Ty stated that REACH sponsored a training event on Saturday, August 14, 2009, at QVMC and had over 100 attendees from several different counties.

Ty stated that sidewalk CPR training took place at the Napa Town and Country Fair and was very successful

Ty also stated that CalStar is putting on a symposium tomorrow (08/19/09) at the Cordelia Fire Hall.

Mike stated that Napa Fire Department will hold its Fire Life Safety Day on Sunday, October 4, 2009, and invited the P.I.E. Committee to participate.

C. Base QA Meeting

Lois stated that they met before this EMCC meeting and discussed STEMI, reviewed intubations and pediatric calls; watching for trends or patterns.

Jenny stated that QVMC will be using the educational page on the CVEMSA web site to announce classes being given at QVMC, including community CPR.

James stated to add class announcements to the CVEMSA web, just send the announcement to him and he will see that it's posted.

D MAC

Dr. Luoto stated at the last MAC Meeting there was a lot of discussion on the various issues out for public comment. Included were: the Acute Cerebrovascular Accident Policy, revised to extend the window for rapid transport inclusion from 2 hours to 3.5 hours, to reflect changing timelines for rapid intervention in acute CVA; and the Trauma Center Bypass Policy revised to reflect change from Reddinet to EMSsystems.

Dr. Luoto stated that the new CPR methods using the auto pulse device is tripling results. Napa will start working the Pit Crew idea with the auto pulse device and we'll be watching the results. The next MAC meeting is October 7, 2009 at 475 Aviation Blvd, Santa Rosa at 11:30am.

IV. EMS Agency Reports

A Napa County EMS Update

1. RFP / Ambulance Ordinance

Ty stated that Fitch and Associates are working on our RFP and Ambulance Ordinance. A working draft of the Ambulance Ordinance is expected in the next couple weeks. Then each of the cities, as well as the county, will have to adopt the new ordinance.

Ty stated the anticipated date for the RFP is October for review and comments, then to go to the Board in November, and out for public comment in December; or at least that's the goal.

2. Surge / Pan Flu Annex

Ty stated he's been working on the Surge / Pan Flu annex which is a plan to help support healthcare facilities during a hospital surge event and keep the 911 system intact. A draft copy should be out next week for public comment.

3. EMS Aircraft

Ty stated that he has reviewed the first six months of this year's EMS aircraft calls. There were about 67 calls with a 50% cancellation rate. The difference seen from last year to this year is that last year there was a larger request from the Dispatch Center.

4. Lake Berryessa

Ty stated that Lake Berryessa is pretty slow this year. We do have QRV Paramedic coverage on the Holiday weekends: Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day. The call volume remains slow; mostly residents around the lake; even the normal weekend volume is down, not like we've seen in the past.

5. Flu Season

Keith Caldwell stated that the County held a meeting yesterday with the command general staff of the EOC. Nancy Watt and Dr. Smith announced that the EOC for H1N1 will open September 1, 2009, with a "soft opening" where people will continue to work from their desks and could continue until the spring.

Ty stated that the regular seasonal flu clinic list for this year will include a drive-thru clinic to be held on October 2, 2009 at Napa Valley College. H1N1 vaccine is expected shortly there after and those clinics will then be posted probably sometime in mid to late October. Ty concluded by saying the drive through clinic is an exercise for a mass prophylaxis in response to the pandemic.

6. Pharmacy Card

Sharon brought a stack of Napa County Rx Free Prescription Discount Cards to hand out. Sharon stated anyone can use the Prescription Discount Card when their prescription is not covered by insurance. The average savings is 22% and 9 out of 10 pharmacies nationwide accept the discount card. There is no enrollment form, no membership fee, just use this card. It was also noted that this card works on prescriptions for animals that use human drugs.

B. Regional EMS Update

1. CQI Program

James stated the region hired Fitch and Associates to do a study on the current CQI practices and make recommendations for improvement. Fitch is going to review what the various counties currently have in place, then provide the region with suggestions for improvement and write a regional CQI plan. James went on to say that Napa has a good model. James also asked if members have receive a survey from Michael Green regarding CQI and if so

please complete it and return it as soon as possible. If any member didn't receive a survey they should contact Ty or James.

2. Governance

James stated another regional project is a governance assessment and recommendation, which was conducted by Jack Becker. Jack reviewed the current structure of the agency; met with the current directors and various stakeholder groups within the three counties. The final report is expected to be in the hands of the directors in the next couple weeks. Mike asked when the stakeholders will have access to the report. James stated after the directors have had time to review and discuss.

3. Trauma

Joanne stated she's working on a Trauma Registry grant that would capture the Trauma Registry data electronically. Joanne stated she will be working with Jenny Courtemanche to complete this by November 1st.

C. Medical Director's Report

Dr. Luoto stated that at the next State EMS Meeting Zofran will officially become part of the paramedic optional scope of practice and provider agencies no longer are required to submit study data.

Dr. Luoto stated that Dr. Smith has asked if paramedics can be used to help provide vaccinations. Dr. Luoto stated that they can. Dr. Smith, as Public Health Officer may declare the need for paramedics to provide vaccinations and Dr, Luoto as medical director over sees that a training program is put together and this plan is forwarded to the state. The State's approval for this should be swift.

V. Announcements / Good of the Order

1. Veterans Home Closing

Dr. Aaen was asked what effect has there been since the Veterans Home closing. Dr. Aaen stated that effective August 1, 2009, the Hospital and Laboratory at the Veterans Home closed. There is no acute care at the Veterans Home. Many clients of the Veterans Home, who were admitted there, will now be transported to QVMC and the questionable ones will now end up in local emergency departments. This will put a strain on the Veterans Home, a strain on the 911 system and ED's. It is estimated there will be four to six additional transports. The Veterans Home still has skilled nursing, intermediate and elder care. The Veterans home serves about 600 ambulatory and 400 non-ambulatory persons.

The question was asked if this decision was financial or accreditation. Dr. Aaen said it was a business decision made by the Department of Veteran Affairs and had nothing to do with accreditation.

Dr. Aaen concluded stating that currently the Veterans Home is still using the Medical Officer of the day for 16 hours. There is discussion about removing this service. This too would add an additional burden to the 911 system.

Jeremy stated he pulled out information regarding 911 calls to the Veterans Home and hasn't reviewed all the information but noticed they were all full response 911 calls. Jeremy asked if there could be a discussion regarding the level of response for Veterans Home calls.

Dr. Luoto stated he has seen this before and the modification to the response can be done.

2. H1N1

Mike stated he had a question for Dr. Smith and asked how and when the providers would receive notification that they did indeed treat and or transport a person with H1N1. Mike stated he needs this information in writing due to Union issues, Workers Compensation and Exposure Reports.

Ty stated that the latest lab reports are expected in three to five days. But since we share the lab with Solano County it ultimately depends on the numbers of samples brought into the lab.

Dr. Luoto stated protect your self when transporting; don't expect the transfer of information after the fact to help.

Dr. Nothmann stated assume anyone with flu like symptoms has H1N1 and take precautions to protect your self.

Dr. Aaen stated if they have a fever and other flu systems; protect your self.

VI. Adjournment

Dr. Nothmann made the motion to adjourn; the motion was unanimously seconded and passed.