

**Minutes of the  
State Emergency Medical Control Committee Meeting  
June 19, 2006  
Clanton, Alabama**

**Members Present:**

John Campbell, M.D., State EMS Medical Director  
William Crawford, M.D., Assistant State EMS Medical Director  
Sherry Melton, M.D., American College of Surgeons, State Trauma Committee  
Frank S. Pettyjohn, M.D., Medical Director, Southwest AL EMS  
Adam Robertson, M.D., Medical Director, Birmingham Regional EMS System  
Rick Weber, M.D., Medical Director, Southeast AL EMS

**Members Absent:**

Clement Cotter, M.D.  
Ann Klasner, M.D., American Academy of Pediatrics, AL Chapter  
John McMahon, Jr., M.D., American College of Emergency Physicians – Alabama Chapter  
Rodney Snead, M.D.  
Loring Rue, III, M.D., State Trauma Consultant

**Other Present:**

Russell Crowley, APDH	Mike Bolack, Bessemer Fire Dept.
Rachel Parrish, ADPH	Edgar Calloway, Northstar EMS
Earl Langley, ADPH	Bryan Galyon, Northstar EMS
Mark Jackson, ADPH	Kathy Gillison-Parker, GSCC/EAEMS
Hugh Hollon, ADPH	Rusty Fowler, Dekalb Ambulance Svc.
Gary Mackey, ADPH	David Garmon, USA Ed./Region Six
Chris Hutto, ADPH	Spencer Howard, Region One/HEMSI
Randal Gray, UAB	Melinda Cooper, GSCC/Traffic Safety
Kyle McDonnell, RPS	Matthew Knight, SUSCC/Emer. Med. Transp.
Lyn Smith, Jefferson State	Chris Mullins, Mountain Brook Fire Dept.
Cindy Dorn, Hanceville-WSCC	Brian Bonner, Homewood Fire/Rescue
Jennifer Ivey, Hanceville-WSCC	Cliff Carlisle, Beville State C.C.
Rebecca Burke, Wallace-Dothan	Rusty Lowe, Hoover Fire Dept.
Becky Morris, Trenholm State C.C.	Eugene Toxey, Vestavia Hills Fire
Anthony Cole, Enterprise C.C.	Julie Coffman, AFC
Jean Graham, Faulkner State	Gregg Jackson, Gadsden Fire Dept.
John Santa Cruz, Bishop State	Michael Bartlett, Rocky Ridge Fire
David Johnson, Simmons Ambulance	Tim Shotts, Trussville Fire
Donald Richardson, Birmingham Fire/Rescue	Dell Gamble, Care Ambulance
Charles Gordon, Birmingham Fire/Rescue	Ben Yanhko, Decatur EMS
Jeff Parker, Minor Heights Fire Dist.	Gary Cobb, AAVFD

## Minutes of the State Emergency Medical Control Committee Meeting

June 19, 2006

Page Two

Frank Perez, Care Ambulance  
Tim Pickering, Air-Evac EMS, Inc.  
Melvin Behel, Keller EMS  
David Gardner, Air-Evac EMS, Inc.  
Steve Kennedy, Air-Evac EMS, Inc.  
Roger Few, AMR-Mobile  
James Norris, AMR-Birmingham  
Charles Norton, Cahaba Valley Fire  
Michael Minor, BREMSS  
Mark Hansberry, MFRD  
Glenn Davis, West AL EMS  
Myron King, Mobile Fire Rescue

John Reed, BREMSS  
Joe Acker, BREMSS  
William Hewitt, AL Fire Chiefs Assn.  
Sherri Stone, AMR-Birmingham  
Shane Driver, AMR  
Bob VanHooser, Center Point Fire  
Trey VanHooser, Center Point Fire  
Denise Smith, SEAMES/ALACEP  
Billy Pappas, MFRD  
Tim Petreit, Prattville Fire Dept.  
Roger Wootten, Northewast AL C.C.  
Vince Parker, USA/EMS

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by John Campbell, M.D., Chairman.

**II. Review of Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2006, meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**III. QI Committee Report:** Shannon Stephens provided a brief update on the activities of the QI Committee. He announced that the QI Committee meeting originally scheduled to follow the SEMCC meeting was cancelled. The implementation of the new NEMSIS data is on-going. The Committee was referred to a report as distributed on the EMSIS demographic database of calls. There continues to be a significant decrease in the number of records in the database due to lack of electronic data submission by services. Russell Crowley stated that Mike Daughtry will manage the EMSIS database and Chris Lochte will provide technical support for NEMSIS compliance. ADPH has contracted with a software agency to develop an electronic reporting system that is in compliance with NEMSIS. The State EMS Office sent a letter to all provider services requesting that ADPH be notified of third-party vendors. The third-party vendors must sign an agreement with ADPH stating that they are in compliance with NEMSIS. Mr. Crowley concluded by stating that data-driven EMS is the future of Alabama and the country.

**IV. Administrative Update:** Russell Crowley stated that each of the six Regions have held meetings. He encouraged participation in the meetings. Dr. Campbell introduced Dr. Weber as the new Southeast Medical Director and Dr. Pettyjohn as the new Gulf Region Medical Director.

**V. Education Committee Report:** David Garmon gave a report from the Education Committee meeting held earlier this date. He stated that the EMS Education Standards will be completed in the Fall of 2008 and that they will match the Scope of Practice model released last fall by the NHTSA. The Computer Adaptive Testing by National Registry is on track for full

**Minutes of the State Emergency Medical Control Committee Meeting**  
**June 19, 2006**  
**Page Three**

implementation on January 1, 2007. Alabama is one of ten states participating in pilots for the Computer Adaptive Testing. The pilots will end on July 28, 2008. There has been no recent activity on the QI driven EMS Continuing Education at this time, but the committee is hopeful that additional funding could be provided to the regional agencies to aid in this effort. Finally, Mr. Garmon discussed the concerns of all programs regarding the recent poor performances on the NREMT Paramedic exam. He concluded by stating that the committee is addressing possible solutions to this problem.

**VI. Etomidate:** Dr. Crawford stated that etomidate is a sedative type drug used in emergency rooms as part of the Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI) protocol. It is a safe drug that allows the patient to continue to breathe on his own. Alabama ACEP and other emergency organizations are reporting that etomidate is currently being used throughout the country to sedate patients. Dr. Crawford asked the committee to consider doing a pilot study in the prehospital setting on the use of etomidate for difficult intubation. The Committee approved the pilot study. Individuals interested in participating in the pilot study were asked to contact Dr. Crawford or the State EMS Office. Dr. Melton reported that a study is already being conducted with some of the helicopter services..

**VII. CPAP Study Report:** Dr. Robertson gave an update on the CPAP study. He stated that a vendor provided in-house training for the services that will be participating in the study. There was positive response to the equipment and how it worked. The CPAP equipment was recently used by Rocky Ridge Services on a 75 year old female patient who needed immediate respiratory support. The use of the CPAP unit created a favorable outcome and prevented a failed intubation attempt. Dr. Robertson concluded his report by stating that the CPAP protocols were available upon request.

**VIII. Adult I/O Study Report:** Jack Busby gave a video presentation on the procedure and history of the study conducted in Mobile. He reported that three different brands of the intraosseous infusion needles were considered and the EZ-IO Product System by Vidacare was the chosen for the pilot study. There has been a long history of I/O needles used on adults with no complaints about needle insertion.

**X. Protocol Revision:** Dr. Campbell referred the Committee to the revised 3<sup>rd</sup> edition protocols as distributed. He thanked Spencer Howard for his efforts in completing the protocols. Dr. Campbell then gave a brief synopsis of the protocol changes as attached. Discussion ensued regarding making thiamine an optional or required drug. The Committee agreed to make it a required drug. The only change in the basic and intermediate protocols were to delete any advanced protocol procedures. Dr. Campbell proposed that the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition patient care protocols be accepted and that amiodarone, glucagon, and lidocaine be allowed as optional drugs, and thiamine be allowed as a required drug. There being no opposition, the revised protocols passed by acclamation. The protocol subcommittee will continue to meet on a regular basis to ensure that the protocols are kept current.

**Minutes of the State Emergency Medical Control Committee Meeting**

**June 19, 2006**

**Page Four**

**XI. New Business:** (1) *AIMS* – Dr. Campbell stated that the Alabama Incident Management System has been created to show which services are available to assist during a disaster. The system ensures that available units are sent to appropriate locations. Each regional agency has received training on the AIMS and must now provide training in their respective region. The University of South Alabama has contracted with ADPH to conduct additional training. Services who participate in AIMS will be eligible for reimbursement if provided by FEMA. (2) *2006 Fluid & Drug Law (HB 378)* – Dr. Campbell reported that in the last legislative session, a bill was passed which will allow ALS services to purchase their drugs from any reliable wholesaler. ADPH is in support of the bill. The law will go into affect on July 25, 2006. Services that choose to purchase their fluids & drugs from wholesalers must submit a plan to ADPH listing the wholesaler and the method of storage and disposal. The State EMS staff will meet with the legal department to discuss the possibility of granting variances to non-transport ALS services not included in HB 378. Russell Crowley stated that plans could not be accepted before July 25, 2006, and Mark Jackson should be contacted regarding the application process. (3) *Other* – Discussion ensued when an audience member asked if the revised rules and protocols could change the requirement from “highest level of care” provided in an ambulance to “appropriate level of care”. Discussion ensued. Dr. Campbell stated that the rules could possibly be changed to state that the highest level should “supervise” the care of the patient. Dr. Crawford requested that SEMCC table this issue until the next meeting and that a draft protocol be submitted for review. (3) *Magnesium Sulfate* - Denise Smith asked for clarification as to the mandatory date to have magnesium sulfate as well as all other new drugs on ambulances. Russell Crowley responded that a notice will be sent to all licensed providers informing them of the deadlines. (4) *UAB Trauma Symposium* – Dr. Melton announced that UAB will host a one-day Trauma Symposium on August 28, 2006. CEUs will be granted for nurses in attendance.

**XII. Next SEMCC Meeting:** Dr. Campbell announced that the SEMCC meetings for the remainder of the year are scheduled for September 12 and December 5. There will no longer be an EMS Staff meeting prior to the SEMCC meeting. The Education Committee will meet at 10:30 a.m., prior to the SEMCC meetings and the QA/QI Committee will continue to meet at SEMCC.

**XIII. Adjournment:** There being no new business, the SEMCC meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**John Campbell, M.D., Chairman**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**