

APPROVED MINUTES

Minutes of the State Emergency Medical Control Committee Meeting December 5, 2006 Clanton, Alabama

Members Present:

John Campbell, M.D., State EMS Medical Director
William Crawford, M.D., Assistant State EMS Medical Director
Ann Klasner, M.D., American Academy of Pediatrics, AL Chapter
John McMahan, Jr., M.D., American College of Emergency Physicians – AL Chapter
Frank Pettyjohn, M.D., Medical Director, Southwest AL EMS
Rick Weber, M.D., Medical Director, Southeast AL EMS
Adam Robertson, M.D., Medical Director, Birmingham Regional EMS System

Members Absent:

Clement Cotter, M.D.
Sherry Melton, M.D., American College of Surgeons, State Trauma Committee
Rodney Snead, M.D.
Loring Rue, III, M.D., State Trauma Consultant

Others Present:

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| Dennis Blair, ADPH | Jennifer Ivey, Wallace State-Hanceville |
| Russell Crowley, ADPH | Rebecca Burke, Wallace-Dothan |
| Rachel Parrish, ADPH | Michael Minor, BREMSS |
| Verla Thomas, ADPH | Gregg Jackson, Gadsden Fire |
| Chris Lochte, ADPH | Pat Brown, Gadsden State C.C. |
| Gary Mackey, ADPH | Toby Etheriedge, Lifeguard Ambulance |
| Earl Langley, ADPH | Larry Butler, Lifeguard Ambulance |
| Mike Daughtry, ADPH | Bart Wilkerson, North Shelby Fire |
| Vera Thomas, ADPH | Frank Perez, Care Ambulance |
| Hugh Hollon, ADPH | Donald Richardson, Birmingham Fire/Rescue |
| Joe Acker, BREMSS | Shane Driver, AMR-Birmingham |
| Denise Smith, SEAEMS & ALACEP | Roger Few, AMR-Mobile |
| David Waid, RPS | David Garmon, USA EMS |
| James Robinson, Moody Fire & Rescue | Don Meyers, MFRD |
| Robert Gwin, Moody Fire & Rescue | Billy Pappas, MFRD |
| Robert Ezekiel, Mountain Brook Fire | Jack Busby, MFRD |
| Chris Mullins, Mountain Brook Fire | Travis Parker, Tuscaloosa Fire |
| Brian Bonner, Homewood Fire | Glenn Davis, West AL EMS |
| Brandon Dahlen, Gardendale Fire | Al Torres, AMR-Mobile |
| Larry Manning, Midfield Fire | Patti Spivey, Haynes Ambulance |
| Cindy Jones, Trussville Fire | Randal Gray, UAB/Office of EMS |
| Reginald Anderson, Birmingham Fire | Dell Gamble, Care Ambulance |
| Anthony Cole, Enterprise-Ozark C.C. | Steve Hemby, Care Ambulance |

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Others Present:

Charles Boone, Care Ambulance
Bruce Carson, Air Evac Lifeteam
Tim Pickering, Air Evac Lifeteam
David Gardner, Air Evac Lifeteam
Eugene Toxey, Vestavia Hills Fire
Spencer Howard, HEMS/AERO
William Franklin, HEMS/AERO
Kathy Gillison-Parker, EAEMS
Rusty Fowler, Dekalb Ambulance Svcs.

Dan Goslin, EAMC-EMS
Matthew Knight, SUSCC-Emer. Med. Trans.
Lyn Smith, Jefferson State C.C.
Becky Morris, Trenholm State
Stiles Clarke, MedFlight
Stan Odom, AL Firefighter Assn.
Bill Warren, AL Firefighter Assn.
Charles Rowlett, AL Firefighter Assn.

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

II. Review of Minutes: Dr. Campbell noted that Item X, line 2, of the October 10, 2006, meeting minutes should be changed to add "...FDA approved blind insertion airway device..." A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Administrative Update: Dennis Blair reported that Verla Thomas has been hired to fill the Nurse Coordinator position in the Office of EMS and Trauma. Ms. Thomas will manage the Trauma Registry and EMSC programs. A statutory change for EMS will be introduced at the next legislative session. Development of the e-PCR system is on-going.

IV. State Trauma System Update: Joe Acker presented an update on the progress of the North Alabama Regional Trauma System. The North AL Trauma plan was submitted to the State Committee of Public Health but action on the plan was deferred. At recent meetings, the Alabama Hospital Association encouraged hospital administrators to participate on the Implementation Committee. ADPH approved the realignment of Jackson County from the East Region to the North Region. Three of the seven participating hospitals are ready to begin the contract process. Mr. Acker referred the Committee to the North Alabama Trauma System Implementation Timeline as distributed.

V. Medical Director's Course Update: Dr. Campbell stated that the Medical Director's course was designed to instruct physicians on Alabama's EMS system and was initially taught by the regional medical directors. The course has been updated and should be available on-line by the next SEMCC meeting. Physicians who have already taken the course will be required to complete updates.

VI. 2008 National EMT Curriculum Update: David Garmon reported that December 6, 2006, is the deadline for the 2nd draft of the revised educational standards. During the summer of 2007, State Coordinators will meet in Washington D.C., to re-examine the course and make

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recommendations. Implementation of the curriculum is scheduled for the second week of November 2008. Dr. Campbell stated that the new curriculum will include the "Advanced EMT" level which will be a "stepping stone" to the Paramedic level.

VII. Suggested Protocol Change: Dr. Campbell referred the committee to the suggested protocol changes noting that some were only grammatical changes. (1) Under Section 4.1, *General Patient Care, Circulation* - the following item was added: Consider drawing one tube of blood for hospital or prehospital analysis. A motion was made and seconded to accept the change as proposed. The motion carried unanimously. (2) Under Section 3: *Medical Direction for Drugs and Procedures* - "Pediatric" was deleted from Nasal Intubation and added to Naso-Gastric Tube Placement. (3) Under Section 2: *Patient Rights*, Item 7, the following statement was added: A child under the age of 14 may give consent if they have finished high school, or are married, have been married, or are pregnant. All changes were accepted as proposed. Dr. Campbell stated that the protocol scenarios need to be updated to coincide with the revised protocols.

VIII. Suggested Protocol Change: Frank Perez, Care Ambulance, gave a presentation outlining a request for SEMCC to amend the current rules to allow EMT-Basics to provide patient care on transport to the hospital. Discussion ensued. A motion was made and seconded to keep the current EMS rules as they are written to allow the highest level of EMT to provide care. The motion carried unanimously. Dr. Campbell stated that he would survey other states to see if they require minimum standards for staffing ambulances.

IX. Etomidate Study Update: Dr. Crawford reported that the study has not begun but preliminary preparations are being made. A residency program in Tuscaloosa has agreed to assist with the administrative functions of the study.

X. CPAP Study: Dr. Robertson stated that there have been three reported cases of CPAP used. All patients improved significantly. Dr. Campbell suggested that this issue be voted on at the next meeting.

XI. Adult I/O Study Update: Jack Busby reported that there have been 85 I/Os used in 80 patients within the last 14 months with 49 cardiac arrest patients, 17 medical patients, 14 trauma patients, and 5 diabetic patients. There are three different products and the study did not endorse one product over another. A draft protocol on the use of the adult I/O will be developed. A report on the study will be completed by January 31, 2007.

XII. Cardiac Marker Study: Joe Acker described a study to be done on prehospital cardiac enzymes. A tube of blood will be drawn on adult patients complaining of chest pain. The blood will either be taken with the patient to the hospital for baseline enzyme studies or will have immediate testing in the field so that the results can be used to triage the patient to the hospital most capable of treating them. BREMSS will also be doing a second study to determine blood

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cyanide levels on smoke inhalation patients. Patients over the age of eighteen years who are victims of smoke inhalation will have three tubes of blood drawn for hospital determination of serum cyanide and serum lactate. Mr. Acker requested a variance to draw three tubes of blood on patients meeting these criteria. The Committee agreed to recommend approval of the variance to the Alabama Dept. of Public Health. The study will last until July 1, 2007. Both studies are IRB approved by UAB and will require the patient giving informed consent. For patients who have an altered mental status in the field, there will be no studies done until they are able to give consent. If the patient does not give consent the blood will be discarded. There will be no change in field patient care for the patients of either of these studies.

XIII. Rescue Airway Update: Dr. Campbell stated that the combitube is the current approved rescue airway device in Alabama. A new FDA-approved device is the single-lumen airway device. Dr. Campbell demonstrated both devices. Dr. Campbell stated that he would review data from studies done by other states and present the information at the next SEMCC meeting.

XIV. Other: Dr. Campbell referred the Committee to an article on hemorrhage control during combat. The military has been experimenting with the use of two hemostatic agents for hemorrhage control: HemCon and QuikClot. A study is being published on the use of these products. Dr. Campbell will demonstrate the products at the next SEMCC meeting.

XV. SEMCC Meeting: The next meeting was scheduled for March 6, 2007, at 1:00 p.m., in Montgomery at the County Health Department.

XVI. QI Committee Report: Shannon Stephens announced that the QI Committee will now meet on the mornings prior to the SEMCC meetings. He gave a presentation on the status of the electronic data submission system noting a significant reduction in the number of records submitted this year. The name of the electronic PCR system has been changed from EMSIS to Alabama Patient Care Reporting System. The design is similar to the current system but the software will have three different modules: desktop, third-party integration, and web-enabled application. The new system will reduce the number of hours spent on data entry. ADPH will need 8-10 services to pilot each version of the new software. Statewide implementation of the new software is scheduled for the spring of 2007. Mr. Stephens asked the Committee to allow agencies using NEMSIS approved software to archive their data until the state system is set-up. Russell Crowley suggested that the State EMS Office send out a letter to respond to this request. The Committee agreed with Mr. Crowley's suggestion.

XVII. Adjournment: There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.

APPROVED: 

John E. Campbell, M.D., Chairman

3/14/07

Date