



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE



## REGULAR MEETING

Friday, July 7, 2017 – 9:00 am

Location: Hall of Administration: Commission Hearing Room  
333 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, California 92701

## MINUTES

### MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE

#### MEMBERS

- Ron Blaul, (excused)
- Jinha M. Park, MD, Ph.D.
- Vacant
- Timothy Greco, MD
- Michael Ritter, MD
- James Karras
- Linda Voss
- Letitia Clark
- Karen Sharp, RN
- Trez Gutierrez, RN
- Lindley Garcia, RN
- Chief Wolfgang Knabe
- Nick Anas, MD
- Rebecca Gomez
- Vacant
- Vacant

#### CATEGORY REPRESENTED

- Board of Supervisors, First District
- Board of Supervisors, Second District
- Board of Supervisors, Third District
- Board of Supervisors, Fourth District
- Board of Supervisors, Fifth District
- Ambulance Association of Orange County
- American Red Cross
- City Selection Committee
- Hospital Association of Southern California
- Orange Coast Emergency Nurses Association
- Orange County Business Council
- Orange County Fire Chiefs Association
- Orange County Medical Association
- Orange County Senior Citizens Advisory Council
- Orange County Police Chiefs/Sheriffs Association
- Society of Orange County Emergency Physicians

#### HEALTH CARE AGENCY STAFF

- Sam Stratton, MD, MPH
- Tammi McConnell, MSN, RN
- Steve Thronson
- Adrian Rodriguez
- Vicki Sweet, RN
- Jason Azuma
- EMS Medical Director
- EMS Administrator
- Deputy Agency Director, Regulatory/MHS
- EMS Performance Chief
- ALS Program Coordinator
- OC-MEDS Coordinator

#### GUESTS PRESENT

- Tina Heinemann, RN
- Aaron Oshima
- Patrick Powers
- Stephen Wontrobski

#### REPRESENTATIVES

- Lynch Ambulance Service
- Mercy Air Service
- Horizon Ambulance Service
- Mission Viejo resident

### I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dr. Michael Ritter.

### II. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Introduction of new members:** On June 27, 2017, the Orange County Board of Supervisors appointed Linda Voss, representing the American Red Cross; Karen Sharp, RN, representing the Hospital Association of Southern California; and Dr. Nick Anas, now representing the Orange County Medical Association.

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the April 7, 2017 Emergency Medical Care Committee meeting were approved as submitted.  
(Motion: R. Gomez; Seconded: T. Gutierrez)

### IV. OCEMS REPORT / CORRESPONDENCE

#### • Medical Director's Report:

– Dr. Stratton reporting:

**Orange County EMS Website:** Currently, posted to the Orange County EMS website are a number of system reports and white papers, including ambulance performance and hospital diversion reports.

**Approval of a Paramedic Training Program:** Orange County EMS recently approved Orange County Emergency Medical Training (known as OCEMT) as an additional training program. The program's first class will begin in September.

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**Sidewalk CPR:** On June 1, 2017, Orange County EMS, in conjunction with ambulance service providers, fire service providers, hospitals, and educational providers who trained over 700 people in "hands-only" CPR.

**2018 Point of Distribution (POD) Sites:** The Orange County Health Care Agency is hosting two POD sites in the cities of Tustin and Westminster to offer free flu vaccines on October 26, 2017.

**Medication Shortages:** Dr. Stratton reported there are medication shortages occurring throughout the United States which affect the EMS system. A memo was released for distribution which requires that patient notification be made when the patient receives an expired drug. Current medication shortages are due to manufacturing problems related to contamination that has occurred at the manufacturing level.

**Drowning Data:** Dr. Stratton reported that Orange County EMS has been asked to share drowning data from the OC-MEDS program with the Orange County Task Force on Drowning Prevention and with Public Health Services. Dr. Ritter asked if a monthly update on drowning prevention programs and outcomes could be requested from the Task Force. Dr. Stratton replied that data provide may be shared (under the Office of Compliance) and reports will be presented at future meetings.

- **Emergency Ambulance Transportation Contract Performance Report: Fiscal Year 16-17 Mid-Year Report:** Adrian Rodriguez presented the FY 2016-17 Third Quarter Report on the 9-1-1 Emergency Ambulance Transportation contract for the period of January 1 to March 31, 2017 for the contractual response times for each of the five exclusive operating areas (Regions A – E) as seen in attachment #2. Presently, staff are working on the annual report which will be presented at the next meeting.
- **Orange County Hospital Diversion Report: January 1 to June 30, 2017:** Dr. Stratton provided a report on Orange County Hospital Diversion Data as seen in Attachment #3. Higher diversion rates may be seen during the winter months with an increase in respiratory viruses seen in both adults and children.
- **EMCC Correspondence:** Dr. Stratton reported on the correspondence included in the agenda packet. Correspondence including memorandums on the implementation of the OC-MEDS data dictionary; on medication shortages; a formal letter on the designation of Foothill Regional Medical Center as an emergency receiving center; as well as a number of letters received from Stephen Wontrobski.

## V. EMCC ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE AND ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS

Dr. Stratton reported on items discussed at the Facilities Advisory, Education and Training Advisory Subcommittee; and County Paramedic Advisory Committees. Among the discussions that had taken place was the acceptable wall-time; revisions to upcoming policies and procedures; the use of IFT-ALS providers to provide hospice care until the hospice staff is present to care for the patient. It was reported that Orange County is the first in the state to provide these types of services. While the Transportation Advisory Subcommittee met in late April, no reportable action had taken place.

## VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Ground Ambulance Rates:** Tammi McConnell reported that the Orange County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on the ground ambulance rates on Tuesday, August 8, 2017. The rates to be presented are those that were approved by the EMCC at the April 7, 2017 meeting.
- **Ambulance Patient Off-load Time (APOT):** Attached to the agenda packet (Attachments 5 and 6) are the data for the first quarter of 2017 (January 1 to March 31, 2017) and the standardized methods for data collection and reporting approved by the EMS Commission. Dr. Stratton presented the quarterly report for ambulance patient off-load time as required by the State of California EMS Authority. Data provided show only the number of transports made by 9-1-1 ambulance service providers (including Orange City and Huntington Beach Fire Departments). Committee members suggested the addition of standard deviation and averages.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

### A. **Education and Training Advisory Subcommittee Bylaws and Membership Representation**

Dr. Stratton provided background information on the need to change the bylaws and the organization of the Education and Training Advisory Subcommittee's structure. Currently, the Subcommittee has found it difficult to meet quorum requirements. As a result, a task force to change the bylaws and the committee structure has met so that changes may be made to policies/procedures and guidelines as needed due to changes in state regulations.

Committee members discussed the representation for the various groups including the need to have representation from each of the community college districts (including those not offering an EMT training program); the need for representation from both the Ambulance Association of Orange County (AAOC) and non-AAOC members. Mr. Karras stressed that the AAOC continue to have a representative serve on the committee as change in current regulations affect the ambulance industry and that the majority of licensed ambulance vehicles are owned by AAOC members. Committee members suggested that a pediatric expert and a consumer be added to the membership. It was also suggested that Orange County EMS approach the local chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics to determine their interest in adding the Committee.

*Stephen Wontrobski strongly urged that all ambulance service providers be represented on this Committee in the interest of the taxpayers.*

**MSC:** *The Emergency Medical Care Committee recommended that the Education and Training Advisory Bylaws be approved as discussed. The representative groups in the Committee structure include: paramedic training; community colleges; ROP schools; working paramedics; working EMTs; ambulance service provider (non-AAOC); fire service; lifeguards; base hospital coordinators; law enforcement; and the Ambulance Association of Orange County.*

**VIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

**VIII. MEMBER COMMENTS**

**IX. PUBLIC FORUM**

*Stephen Wontrobski: (Dr. Ritter allowed Mr. Wontrobski with five minutes of Comments due to the amount of correspondence). Comments regarding Assembly Bill 263 and SB 302.*

**X. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 6, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.