

NH EMS Medical Control Board

MEETING MINUTES (**Approved**)

MAY 18, 2023

9:03AM

NH Fire Academy Classrooms 5 & 6

Quorum: 9 members required (currently 14 positions on the MCB)

Members Present: Jon Gray, Marc Grossman, David Hirsch, Michelle Nathan, Robert Rix, Andrew Seefeld, James Suozzi, Brett Sweeney, Tom Trimarco, Jane Wieler

Members Absent: John Freese, Frank Hubbell, Patrick Lee, Joshua Morrison

NH FST&EMS Staff: Justin Romanello, Vicki Blanchard, Maria Varanka, Walter Trachim, Joe Cartier, Dave Simpson, Crystal Tuttle

Meeting called to order at 9:05 AM by Chair Rix

1) Welcome/Membership

- a) No member expirations currently.

2) Approval of the minutes

- a) **A motion was made (Grossman/Suozzi) to accept the minutes from the March 16, 2023 meeting as presented. All in favor. None opposed.**

3) Division/Committee Reports

- a) Bureau of EMS
 - i) The public health incident expired on May 11, 2023. Discontinued all COVID related emergency protocols and staffing modifications.
 - ii) A letter regarding data sharing has gone out to all hospitals to ensure compliance.
 - iii) Education: MIH & IFT programs continue to grow. EMR continues.
 - iv) Licensing: 500 EMS providers did not renew in the last renewal cycle.
 - v) Chief of the Bureau of EMS, Justin Romanello, was appointed by Secretary Buttigieg on May 2, 2023, as a member of the National EMS Advisory Council. He participated in the first meeting on May 10th and 11th.

4) CB Report-

- a) Nothing to report. John Freese was absent.

5) TMRC Report- Tom Trimarco

- a) Discussed rehab bed shortage statewide.

6) Protocols- Jim Suozzi

- a) Point of Care Ultrasound *POCUS)

- New protocol

Ventilator:

- Removed specificity language and moved toward provider training, manufacturer's recommendations, and patient condition.
- Removed the weight charts and SCOPE box.

Added a section on what to avoid:

- Inverse I:E ratios.
- PEEP > 20 cmH₂O
- High frequency oscillation.
- Any mode of ventilation without apnea backup.

Sent back to Protocol Committee to change PEEP >15 for intubated patients and add back in Tidal Volume and weight boxes.

Air Medical Transport:

- Under clinical conditions, circulatory insufficiency added HR > SBP.
- Under clinical conditions, neurologic compromise removed "or total GCS ≤ 13".
- Removed cardiac arrest bullets.

Amended Stroke bullet from "abnormal signs" to "positive stroke screen".

Baby Safe Haven

- No changes

Bariatric Triage, Care & Transport

- Word smithing

Infection Control

- Under Airborne Personal Protective Equipment (APPE) added "or higher" after N95.

Communication & Communication Failure

- Combined into one protocol.
- Word smithing and added language to account for communication via the internet.

Consent for Treatment of a Minor

- Word smithing

Continuity of Care

- No change

Crime Scene

- No change

Amended to add a bullet, "Do not document penetrating wounds as entrance or exit."

Add to the rollout Medical Examiner's concern with cutting through holes made by penetrating trauma and documenting entrance and exit wounds.

The following protocols have been previously approved but are brought back with minor corrections:

CPAP

This protocol was (July 2022) approved but the Protocol Subcommittee brought it back after working on the ventilator protocol, recognizing some ventilator can be used in CPAP mode.

- Added a box stating, “Permitted devices for CPAP include stand-alone mask devices and appropriately configured ventilators.

Surgical Cricothyrotomy Bougie Assisted:

This protocol was already approved the MCB (March 2023) with an amendment to add language regarding training the same as Percutaneous Cricothyrotomy.

Cricothyrotomy – Percutaneous

This protocol was approved by the MCB (March 2023) to be used only in pediatric patients less than 8 years old.

- Red flag edited from “of any age” to “less than 8 years old”
- Indications: Added “Children less than 8 years old”.

Amendments to both cricothyrotomy protocols to add in “biannual” training.

Suction

- Removed the bullet pertaining to suctioning for no more than 15 seconds.

Non-Traumatic Shock

- Removed the 2 L fluid bolus before vasopressors bullet.

Hypothermia

- Moved defibrillation from A/P section to EMT section.

A motion was made (Nathan/Wieler) to approve protocols as amended. All in favor. None opposed.

7) Old Business

None to report.

8) New Business

- a) Antibiotics: Discussion will be revisited after review by the TMRC.
- b) K9 Protocol (SB 268): Vice Chair Nathan will have a meeting with veterinary professionals to go over BLS for operational canines.
- c) Presentation by Dr. Tim Fisher- OB/GYN Recommendations: Dr. Tim Fisher of Dartmouth gave a presentation of the STONE project and gave recommendations to the MCB about certain protocols. *See Attached Presentation*

9) Topics Ad Libitum

None to report

10) Adjournment

- a) **A motion was made (Trimarco/Hirsch) to adjourn. All in favor. None opposed.**

i) Next Meeting: July 20, 2023