

NH EMS Medical Control Board**MEETING MINUTES** (Approved)**July 18, 2019**

9:00AM

Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy

Classrooms 5 & 6, Dormitory Building

98 Smokey Bear Blvd., Concord, NH 03301

Quorum: 7 members required (currently 13 positions on the MCB)**Members Present:**Joey Scollan (Chair), Marc Grossman, Frank Hubbell, Michelle Nathan, Robert Rix, Andrew Seefeld, James Suozzi, Brian Sweeney, and Thomas Trimarco. **(9)****Members Absent:**John Freese, Patrick Lee, Joshua Morrison, and Harry Wallus. **(4)****NH FST&EMS Staff:**Director – Deborah Pendergast; Bureau Chief – EMS Justin Romanello; Captain Vicki Blanchard; Gerard Christian, June Connor, and Hayley O'Brien (notes.) **(6)****Guests:**John Chisholm, Nathan Denio, Jeanne Erickson, Steve Erickson, Christopher Gamache, Bruce Goldthwaite, John Hall, Chuck Hemeon, Eric Jaeger, Aaron McIntire, Brian Nicholson, Anna Sessa, Jeffrey Stewart, Candace Tierney. **(14)****I. Welcome**

a. Meeting called to order at 9:00AM by Chair Scollan. Introductions / Disclosures / Membership:

- Vote to ratify Jim Suozzi and Marc Grossman to the MCB.

Motion made (Seefeld/Sweeney) - to accept the Region II re-nomination of Jim Suozzi and nomination of Marc Grossman to the Medical Control Board; passed unanimously

II. Approval of the minutes

Motion Made (Rix/Sweeney) - to approve the May 23, 2019 minutes as written; passed unanimously

III. Division / Committee Reports

a. Bureau of EMS and Division Updates – Director Deborah Pendergast and Bureau Chief of EMS Justin Romanello

- Preventative maintenance is being done. Including, inspecting all vehicles, testing ladders and hoses, testing air trailers, and the aerial ladder truck. The Divisions ambulance is going through an inspection as well.
- The Division accepted the new delivery of a Hazardous Materials Tank Rollover Prop which is portable and can be delivered to any community that would like to do spill training or anything that has to do with hazardous materials.
- The full time, 10 week Recruit Program just started on Monday, July 15th with 27 members enrolled. At the end of 10 weeks they will have certifications and an opportunity to take the CPAT test, which will then allow them to be hired full time by departments.
- August is the Divisions busiest time of the year. Some classes being offered are; Firefighter I, Rescue Skills, Swiftwater Rescue, Confined Space Technician, Fire and EMS Instructor I, II and III, Fire Officer I and II.

Several seminars, including Fire Investigation for First Responders, Youth Firesetter, Stress Management classes, and Human Trafficking continuing education.

- The Candidate Physical Ability Test the Divisions held in June had a 68% pass rate on the first try. The final CPAT of the year is scheduled for September 16th.
- A review was done for the EMS investigation process. The newly improved process was done up with an algorithm to streamline the investigation process going forward. A noticeable difference will be seen in the fall.
- The Department of Safety played a huge part in the multiple fatality incident in Randolph, NH. Several meetings occurred with the Fire Chiefs and all the First Responders involved. Follow ups are still being conducted to be sure the needs are being met involving behavioral health. The State of NH has a resource available for information regarding a CISM Team.
- The State is in a continuing resolution, meaning the budget was not approved and we have last year's budget. Positions are now on hold that were looking to be filled. No hiring freeze or layoffs have been mentioned. An agreement in September would put the Division back where they need to be.
- June Connor is retiring! Today is her last day. Kim Mattil and Denice McAdoo have also announced their retirement.
- Richard Murphy was recently hired part time as the Divisions EMS Initial Programs Coordinator.
- Committee of Merit Awards Ceremony is September 30th a Capital Center for the Arts in Concord, NH.
- Trauma Coordinator position: on hold
- State of NH Medical Director Position: changing from chair of this committee to a contracted paid position did not go in effect July 1st like discussed because of the budget. Dates: August 5th at 11AM, Oral Presentations August 19th by 4PM, and notification August 26th by 11AM.
The hiring process has not been finished. Any questions regarding this position are directed to Heather Clough from the Division. The Commissioner has extended the chair of this board's position until that position is filled.
- EMS Operations: Rules were ratified and approved by the Commissioner.
- 1 of 4 states for the National registry to offer mobile testing. The Division will be hiring a part time mobile testing coordinator in the near future. The cognitive exam will be offered in Concord, Gorham, and Bethlehem locations.
- Clinical Systems: User Management System (respondNH) will be tested in 3 months will EMR recertification's coming up in the fall.
- TEMSIS Data Management Specialist position: actively hiring
- Education and Delivery: EMS continuing education has slowed down in the summer, but the Division is still ahead with offerings from previous years. Yoga for First Responders is being offered tonight too!
- September 14th 8:30-12:30 weekend, quarterly training for NCCP. \$5 includes 4 hours of CME time and breakfast.
- Possibility of a late fall EMR class if there is an interest. This will be a first test run of the state initial program.
- Staff Instructors: actively hiring
- Simulation Program Coordinator: on hold; the job was offered to a potential candidate, but they declined and the hiring process will now start from the beginning.
- Rural Health: 15 minute workforce survey will be sent to all new, current and expired/non-renewed licensee's once the new User Management System (respondNH) is up and running.

b. Coordinating Board Update:

- F. Hubbell reported: The last CB meeting was held on May 23, 2019
- Highlights of the May meeting:
 - ♦ EMS Physician Level of Licensure – nothing to report at this time.
 - ♦ A motion was made to approve the EMS Rules and it is now moving forward.
 - ♦ Old Business: discussion about creating a subcommittee with 3 members of the MCB Committee and 3 members of the CB Committee to take a look at data and how it is gathered.
- Next CB meeting is this afternoon: July 18th, 2019 at 1:00PM

- Here is the link to the minutes for MCB meetings:
<https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/boards/medicalcontrol/mbminutes.html>

c. Trauma Medical Review Committee Update:

- T. Trimarco reported: The last TMRC meeting was held June 19th, 2019

Highlights of the TMRC meeting:

- Dr. Eric Martin was appointed the new chair of the TMRC. He is the head of Trauma at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center.
- New Members: Thomas Trimarco and Alan Flanagan. Kathy Bizarro renewed her membership.
- 2019 trauma plan spreadsheet was updated and is ready to be disseminated. The plan was approved by the overall committee.
- Pre-hospital subcommittee did not meet the month prior.
- Decision was made that the TMRC supports the AMT Protocol and the Trauma Triage Protocol as written at that time with a working group actively doing data analysis for all AMT that service the state.
- Trauma Conference: September 26 and 27, 2019. Pre-conference being offered, but limited to 24 attendees.
- Drug overdose deaths slightly decreased, but still between 2nd and 3rd per capita in the country. The State is also in the top 3 for suicides in the country.
- Next TMRC Meeting: August 21, 2019
- Here is the link to the minutes for TMRC meetings:
https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/boards/traumamedicalreview/trauma_minutes.html

IV. Protocols

Routine Patient Care:

Changed SpO₂ from ≥ 94% to 94% - 98%

Added lactated ringers as an additional IV fluid

Added a link to the hospital services

Exception Protocol:

No change

Extended Care Guidelines:

Last sentence of opening paragraph add some examples, (e.g., extreme weather conditions or extended mass casualty with active shooter incident).

Pediatric Respiratory Distress

As requested from May meeting, added racemic epinephrine for Croup

Nebulized racemic epinephrine (2.25% solution) 0.5 mL in 2.5 mL 0.9% NaCl, may repeat in 20 minutes as needed.

Bradycardia – Pediatric:

Added calcium chloride infusion 20 mg/kg/hour.

Stroke:

Completely revised stroke protocol to include the FAST-ED Scale, destination guidelines and thrombolytic checklist.

Strangulation:

Added additional signs and symptoms:

- Vision disturbances or changes (spots, light flashes, tunnel vision, etc.)
- Hearing disturbances or changes (buzzing or ringing in the ears, etc.)
- Headache

- Subcutaneous emphysema
- Incontinence

Implantable Ventricular assist Devices:

Cleaned up redundancy and outdated devices.

Interfacility Transfers – Prerequisite Protocol:

Completely reorganized to include:

Transferring Facility Responsibilities

Transporting Agency responsibilities

Shared Responsibilities

Definitions

Color coded checklist table

Added to all levels: Therapies and medication within their scope of practice.

Added to EMT:

- Chest tube capped and without need for suction during transport.
- Maintenance of stable, long term ventilated patients with any mode of ventilation so long as the patient is familiar and capable of operating the equipment OR patient is accompanied by a care provider who is capable of the same

Added to AEMT:

- Cardiac monitoring with non-cardiac diagnoses (4 lead ECG as vital sign, non-interpretive) with no anticipated need for ACLS intervention.
- CPAP

Added to PIFT section:

- Maximum 1 vasopressor infusion
- Cardiac monitoring of 4 lead ECG with anticipated need for ACLS intervention
- Invasive monitoring equipment which has been capped or locked for transport.

Added a section requiring a SECOND provider in the patient compartment:

- Transcutaneous pacing
- Intubated non-complex vent setting
- Deep suctioning
- RSI/DSI (Agency & providers must be credentialed)

Added to CCT section alternatives to CCT:

Alternative 1: PIFT paramedic and 1 additional transferring facility care provider from the following list:

- CFRN/CTRN/CCRN/CEN (with appropriate adjunctive certifications e.g., ACLS, NRP etc.)
- FP-C/CCP-C
- Physician Assistant
- Nurse Practitioner
- Physician

Alternative 2 is the measure of last resort from our previous version.

Blanchard is to talk to Cooper about adding a bullet referring to properly documenting crew configuration for Alternative 2.

A motion was made (Nathan/Sweeney) – to approve the protocols, as discussed with the Bureau working on the language to optimize data collection in the inner facility transport protocol as well as moving up non-cardiac diagnosis in the table and in the bullet points in reference to cardiac monitoring for AEMT's and updating the BEARS in their routine care protocol; passed unanimously.

V. Old Business

- a. Cardiac Arrest / CARES update:
J. Freese was absent. Vicki Blanchard talked with Andrew Mason and reported they were actively working on it.
Following the Resuscitation Academy: Prescott who enters data for Vermont is going to work with Dr. Freese in Maine to compare all 3 states data for next year's Resuscitation Academy.
Hopefully have some updates from Dr. Freese on state wide data in September.
Dr. Suozzi met with Derek and he reported they are fairly close to entering in the dispatch data.
- b. Bureau Chief of EMS Justin Romanello reported for Chief of Strategy and Planning Nick Mercuri;
Role of the Medical Director: hoping to have another meeting and guidance from legal, but they are moving forward
- c. Pre-hospital physician certification: reviewed the boiler plate document based on documentation out of Pennsylvania and a few other pre-hospital physician groups, updated it with current RSA's and legal listings for physician practice in the State of NH. This needs to be a rare occurrence. In the instance of a lifesaving procedure, documentation from your institution, privileges need to be granted, and liability coverage.
A lengthy discussion ensued about the pre-hospital physician certification, lifesaving procedure, including the liability and functioning on a physician's level.
Instruction given to contact Captain Vicki Blanchard if anyone would like to join in the workgroup for the pre-hospital physician certification.

VI. New Business

- a) Clinical Bulletin #54: Vaccination Protocol Clarification – If there is ever a Public Health Safety Epidemic declared in the state, Paramedic's & AEMT's may assist the public in giving vaccinations.
- b) Clinical Bulletin #55 & #56: "Multi-Function Cardiac Monitors" AED Mode: Lifepak 12, 15, and 20's in AED mode will only shock in adult mode. The Multi-Function Cardiac Monitors in AED mode will not be able to shock a patient 8 years and younger at the appropriate electric shock. Everyone is being advised to have a plan until a long term solution is put in place. Consistent with AHA guidelines state it is okay to administer an adult amount of electricity to a pediatric patient if that is all you have. It has not been proven to be harmful.
- c) Newborn Transport - Not yet released: NASEMSO released a non-approved list of products available for pediatric transport. Hypothermia is a huge risk for both individuals, therefore, once the bulletin is released, the best practice for transporting a pediatric newborn and mother will state the request for a second ambulance unless you have new commercially available devices.
Clarification on a new bulletin; stating whether providers may choose to utilize or choose not to utilize commercially available devices on the NASEMSO list with a transport of a stable newborn with a stable mother.
- d) E911 Updates in August: MPDS v 13.2 and Protocol 37 Revisions: 13.2 change; any poisoning or overdosing that is occurring will now be a 23 echo. All dispatchers will receive an update on this information from Derek.
Protocol 37; Adding a bravo level for trauma if it does not have a priority symptom and adding an alpha level. Using determinants for urgent cares, emergency rooms, doctor's offices and dialysis.

VII. Finishing up

- 2019 Trauma Conference vendors needed; please contact Gerry Christian.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion Made (Suozzi/Hubbell) - to adjourn the meeting at 11:30AM; passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: September 19, 2019

Voting members should let Hayley O'Brien know ASAP whether or not they can attend to ensure a quorum will be present.

(Minutes written by Hayley O'Brien, Administrative Assistant I)