

MEDICAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

STATE BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL, FIRE AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

MEETING MINUTES

April 17, 2018

Committee Meeting Date and Location: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at the ODPS Shipley Building, Conference Room 1102, 1970 W. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43223

Committee Members Present:

Geoffrey Dutton, Dr. Thomas Charlton, Dr. Eric Cortez, Martin Fuller, Rob Martin, Brent Parquette, Eric Wiedlebacher, Tami Wires, Allen Young, Dr. Paul Zeeb.

Committee Members Absent: James Davis, Dr. Deanna Dahl Grove, Mark Marchetta.

DPS and EMS Staff Members Present: Dr. Carol Cunningham, Melvin House, Robert Wagoner, John Molnar, Jayn Mayton.

Public Present: Michael Snyder, CARES Coordinator

Welcome and Introduction

The meeting began at 9:40 a.m. Chair Dutton welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the December 12, 2017 meeting were reviewed and approved with no changes.

ACTION: Motion to approve the Medical Oversight Committee meeting minutes from December 12, 2017 was made. Dr. Zeeb - First. Mr. Martin - Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

Old Business

Agenda Item: Scope of practice – medical direction in hospitals

Dr. Cunningham introduced a survey which she created with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), designed to see how EMS providers are being used, who is doing the training, what type of protocols there are, as well as some scope of practice issues. The survey is still open, and at this point there are fifteen respondents. The results of the survey will be forwarded by email to the committee members before the next meeting.

Action Item: Distribute results of survey by email before the June MOC meeting.

Agenda Item: Strategic plan update

Executive Director House presented the finalized five pillars document, the foundational goals, objectives and tactics of the EMFTS Board's strategic plan (Attachment #1). The Board has chosen to concentrate on these projects for the strategic plan, and convened a work group to review the pillars, identify projects and assign them to the committees who will be responsible for their coordination, development, execution and ultimately completion (Attachment #2). As he pointed out, the MOC projects are all under the Improved Quality of Patient Care pillar. The four projects for the MOC are: 1) evaluate and provide recommendations on pain management for EMS, 2) strengthen medical director, 3) comprehensive review of the Scope of Practice, and 4) identify evidence-based research to improve patient care. Deputy Director Wagoner pointed out to the committee that more than one committee could be working on the same project. A number of them might overlap. Research and expertise can be combined across the committees. A discussion ensued regarding the amount time possibly required to complete the projects, which will probably be approximately three years, and how to initially approach the projects. It was agreed that the first order of business is to develop a plan of attack. This could be done in the committee or a work group. The committee chair requested that the strategic plan projects be continued as an item on the agenda, with regular progress reports presented to the Board.

Action Item: Determine first steps for each initiative: (1) evaluate and provide recommendations on pain management for EMS, 2) strengthen medical director, 3) comprehensive review of the Scope of Practice, and 4) identify evidence-based research to improve patient care.

Action Item: Present a regular progress report to EMFTS Board.

Agenda Item: State of Ohio Adult EMS Guidelines and Procedures Manual update

During the February retreat, the Board approved the Guidelines and Procedures Manual, which is now posted. (The link is http://www.publicsafety.ohio.gov/links/ems_Guidelines-Procedures-Manual.pdf). Additionally, Dr. Cunningham explained that the Board requested a pain management guideline be added to the manual. She provided a handout of her proposed additions (Attachment #3). As a result of the pain management guideline, some medications also need to be proposed to be added to the manual (see Attachment #4). Upon review, members of the Committee expressed concern about the lack of clarity in the scope of practice as to at which level medication can be given intravenously, AEMT or Paramedic. According to Executive Director House, there is no contradiction between the Rule and the scope of practice document, but it was agreed that more clarity is required. In order to address this lack of clarity while keeping this decision in the hands of the medical directors as much as possible, several alterations to the Pain Management guideline were agreed upon and will be presented to the Board on April 20th by Dr. Cunningham.

Action Item: Make alterations to Pain Management guideline and paramedic section; present to Board in April.

Agenda Item: Medical director's conference update – Results of survey

Dr. Zeeb handed out the results of the EMS Medical Director Conference survey, based on the preferences of the 53 respondents (see Attachment #5). The schedule for the conference is beginning to take shape, with enough course topics for a full day. The Ohio chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (Ohio ACEP) is willing to provide CE credits, support and marketing for a nominal fee. It was agreed that the conference will be held at the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) auditorium on November 14th, 16th or 9th, in that order of preference. THE EMS staff will coordinate the scheduling with ODOT. Many other details still need to be firmed up. Speakers were discussed, how to identify them, and whether a keynote speaker is desirable, either from within Ohio or out of state. A motion was passed to recommend to the Board that they approve holding a medical directors conference.

Action Item: Schedule ODOT auditorium for Nov 14th, 16th or 9th.

Action Item: Identify speakers for conference and obtain their biographical information.

ACTION: Motion to recommend to Board that they approve holding a medical directors conference. Dr. Charlton – First. Ms. Wires – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

Agenda Item: Pharmacy Board update

It was requested that the Pharmacy Board be approached about the fact that the medical director's name is printed on Narcan boxes.

Action Item: Dr. Cunningham to Request Board to not require the medical director's name on Narcan boxes.

An additional concern is the increasingly aggressive activity by Pharmacy Board inspectors, who are sometimes breaking in by force into EMS agencies when they are inspecting the secure storage of narcotics. It was agreed in the committee that the concern be brought to the attention of the Board.

Action Item: Bring to the Board's attention that Pharmacy Board inspectors are causing concern in EMS agencies by their aggressive inspection techniques, such as breaking into agencies.

It was also requested that the recent satellite fee increase be brought to the attention of the Board. It will create a heavy burden on the operating budget of area agencies.

Action Item: In Wednesday's EMFTS Board meeting, raise the concern of the steep increase in satellite fees, and explore ways to stop the increase. In particular, is legislative change required?

Agenda Item: Behavioral health update

Concerns were raised about the availability of treatment for EMS providers with substance abuse issues. It would be appropriate for them to have the same counseling and rehabilitation treatment options as physicians and other professionals. There was general agreement and offers of support to spearhead an initiative for legislative change, if need be.

Executive Director House explained that the issue would fall under the Enhance Human Resources pillar in the Strategic Plan five pillars document, under the Workforce Resilience tactic. The EMFTS Board is creating two ad hoc committees. Representation from the MOC committee on one of these ad hoc committees would be welcome.

ACTION: Motion to ask the Board to assign the mental health issue of suicide among EMS and firefighters to the workforce resilience ad hoc committee. Dr. Charlton – First. Mr. Martin – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

New Business

Agenda Item: EMS Medical Director’s Course/Ohio Resuscitation Academy

Mr. Mike Snyder introduced Ohio Cardiac Arrest Registry to enhance Survival (Ohio CARES) to the MOC meeting. Ohio CARES is a non-profit organization with the goal of providing life-saving cardiac arrest data and resources to Ohio communities. Mr. Snyder is organizing resuscitation academies, which will address heart rescue and resuscitation, in the major regions of Ohio. The current plans are that this two-day course will first be offered in the Cleveland-Akron area in August. Later in the fall the Dayton/Toledo area will be targeted. The focus initially is on areas that do not already have a CARES presence. Offering one in the Cincinnati area is also being planned, but the organization wants to first develop interest in areas which do not already have CARES participation. The committee members were encouraged to spread the word of Ohio CARES mission to their corners throughout Ohio.

Agenda Item: Search for medical identification adjuncts becoming a requirement for certified Ohio EMS providers

Dr. Cunningham informed the committee members of a petition being brought to EMS by the family of a chronically ill individual who wears a medical alert bracelet with a computer chip in it. They are petitioning the EMS to require their local EMS medics to search for the bracelet, access the instructions through their computer, and follow the instructions. A discussion ensued regarding the effect this could have on the EMS providers’ ability to follow their standard protocol, as well as other considerations. The issue was discussed from the viewpoint of the burden of responsibility on the EMS medics to search for the bracelet, have computer connectivity in order to access the instructions during the emergency, and to incorporate the electronic instructions into the EMS protocol. Currently, the burden is on the patient or family. For example, in the situation of the Ohio Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) orders, the burden is on the family and patient, and in this case, also upon the merchant of the bracelet. There was agreement that compliance to this request could hinder treatment of patients by the medics not following EMS protocol.

ACTION: Motion to inform Board that MOC advises not to require EMS providers to search for and follow specialized medical identification adjuncts or patient specific medical ID

Agenda Item: House Bill 464:

The Committee's attention was brought to House Bill 464, which is in draft form right now. Its passage would require time-critical diagnoses to be made into law as opposed to in rule, as well as requirements of data collection. Dr. Cunningham, speaking for herself, felt that the demands were too onerous upon EMS personnel. Additionally, the legal process is not as responsive to change as rule is, running the risk of the law becoming antiquated. She encouraged the committee members to speak with their stakeholder organizations if they wished to make comments upon the draft bill.

Agenda Item: Pediatric burn patient triage algorithm.

The Ohio Hospital Association (OHA), through funding through the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), is creating a state burn surge plan. An algorithm for EMS for burns during a mass casualty event was written by Mr. Wagoner and Dr. Cunningham, which is now in the OHA plan. The algorithm provides clarity on determining if a patient goes to a palliative care center or a hospital. EMS should make this decision by observing three triggers: 1) age, which affects survivability; 2) percentage of total body surface area that has been burned, and 3) the existence of special involvement of circumferential burns, i.e. facial burns or other extremities. A flow chart was also completed.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Next meeting

Tuesday, June 19, 2018

**9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
1970 W. Broad Street
Conference Room 1102**