

Medical Direction Committee Meeting
FINAL Minutes
May 8, 2009

Members Present: Dr. Jack Potter, Dr. Joel Grant, Julie Miller, Pat Pope, Eddie McClellan, Tracey McLaurin, & Wayne Dodson. Others in attendance: Heather Phillips, Karen Wagner, & Charles Evick.

Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Eddie McClellan to accept as written, seconded by Julie Miller, motion passed.

Item #9 on the agenda was moved up in the agenda. The revisions to the Administrative Policies & Procedures were discussed. The Authorization to Practice was changed to reflect the change to “Guidelines” from Protocols. A recommendation was made by Dr. Potter to require an original signature by the agency’s OMD on the Authorization. A change to #3 adds that the “technician must be released by their primary agency and any other agency that they will be practicing EMS skills”. **A motion was made by Dr. Grant to approve the Administrative Policies and Procedures with new changes, seconded by Julie Miller, motion carried.**

The Guidelines were reviewed. The pediatric dosage for Versed was verified. An addition was made to contact medical control if Versed is given to a child under 6 months.

Another item discussed was cardioversion and pacing Versed. It was decided to give 2.5 mg IV as IM doesn’t have any advantages. It was also decided to leave at 2.5 and not change to 5mg.

The STEMI Guidelines were discussed. It was decided to delete “or an ACUTE statement”. **A motion was made by Dr. Potter that all agencies must utilize the automatic reading on the 12 lead, seconded by Eddie McClellan, motion passed.** A letter will go out to all agencies from Dr. Potter stating this. A change was also made to the bullet stating that “If the ground transport time to the cardiac catheterization facility is greater than 45 minutes, consider rendezvous with air medical support and medical control input”.

The dosage for Solu-Medrol was verified. Julie Miller recommended adding a recommended site of thigh or hip for IM and not the deltoid.

A motion was made by Dr. Grant to accept the revised Guidelines with noted changes, seconded by Eddie McClellan, motion passed. A recommendation was made by Pat Pope to withhold the rollout until the one-for-one exchange was underway so that both can be addressed.

The EMT Optional skills were discussed. There’s some concern that follow thru after Optional skills have been performed isn’t being done. Dr. Potter stated that anytime an

optional skill has been performed, either ALS or medical control support needs to be called for. He recommended that the agencies submit QA for all calls where optional skills have been performed to validate that the proper steps have been taken. Pat said that there's some concern that some of the instructors teach Optional skills during the class and some teach them after the class has completed their state testing. Eddie felt that should be addressed by the Instructor Network.

An addition was discussed to add to the Administrative Policies concerning Optional skills. Julie Miller made a recommendation to add number 16 stating that "Whenever an EMT-Basic or an EMT-Optional administer a medication or perform an optional skill, ALS must be requested and Medical Control must be contacted".

An update was given on the One-for-One exchange. Dr. Potter said that the hospital pharmacy is very willing to develop protocols for exchange. They have made it clear that the controlled substances will need to be in a separate sealed container. The meeting to discuss the next steps will be held next Wed. at 10am. Dr. Potter would like for someone from the Council to be in attendance. Julie Miller stated that with current staffing at Page Memorial they would not be able to participate. Dr. Potter discussed a quick check form that could be used for the one-for-one exchange with a signature that could be given to the pharmacy for verification. Eddie has verified with OEMS that as long as there's a valid signature, with the meds given and the chief complaint of the patient as the identifier, that would satisfy the pharmacy's requirement. What needs to be worked out is if an agency that typically transports to one hospital has to go to another hospital and how those drugs will be exchanged.

Helicopter utilization was discussed. Dr. Potter feels that helicopters are being utilized too much and for inappropriate reasons. Dr. Potter made the recommendation that all calls utilizing air medical transport be submitted to the appropriate OMD for review.

The certification level of ALS Coordinators was discussed. Tracey stated that some questions had been raised about this recently. Heather stated that currently OEMS does not recognize Intermediate providers precepting or teaching Paramedics. With the coming of the new regs, she stated that in order to be an Education Coordinator, the provider will have to be a Paramedic in order to give a Paramedic any CE hours. This could meet opposition at the state level before implementation. **Dr. Grant made a motion that Intermediate providers will need a letter of recommendation from their OMD attached with their application for ALS Coordinator, seconded by Eddie McClellan, motion passed.** The Training Committee will also make a recommendation to the Medical Direction Board for final approval. Dr. Potter stated that he feels because of the regulation regarding Intermediates not precepting Paramedics, we should use due diligence in requesting formal recommendation from the OMD for the provider to become ALS Coordinator.

The spreadsheet for Performance Improvement was discussed. One additional agency (Shen. Rescue Squad) submitted their data yesterday so the total number that participated is 19. That's the largest number of any quarter since the program began. Discussion was

held about the agency requirement of participating with a QA/QI program. **Dr. Potter made a motion that all OMDs will attend a meeting of their associations or chief's meeting within their agency or jurisdiction to discuss the Council's program and to explain to them that it does fulfill their state requirement.** Then at the next meeting, we can discuss any concerns from the agencies.

The Chairman of Medical Direction was discussed. Dr. Potter suggested that a recommendation be sent to the Board of Directors changing the Bylaw that states that the Regional Medical Director and chairman of Medical Direction be two separate positions. This could also be changed to add "or designated appointee" after Chairman of Medical Direction.

New Business:

Tracey presented two new Physician Endorsement Applications that need to be voted on today so that the application can be submitted to OEMS.

The first was for Dr. Thomas Kuhlmann, current OMD for Page County. Dr. Potter would like to mandate better participation by the OMDs within this committee. This Council should initiate a policy to require a minimum level of participation.

The second application is from Dr. Eric Kramer for Shenandoah Rescue Squad. An e-mail was read from Dr. Kramer regarding his application. Discussion revolved around OMDs that haven't been participating within the region in the past. Dr. Potter recommended that the OMDs be requested to attend 3 of 4 Medical Direction meetings either in person or by conference call per year. A letter will be drafted from Dr. Potter requesting this.

Medical Direction for Shenandoah County was discussed. Unfortunately no one from Shenandoah County is in attendance to help us discuss this issue. Dr. Adam has stated according to Dr. Potter that if Shenandoah County were to move to CSEMS, he would be willing to continue as their OMD and as a result, they have officially requested to move Council regions. Dr. Lee Harvey has offered to be the OMD for the volunteer agencies but will not work with the Fire & Rescue Dept. at this time. Dr. Potter has offered to take the career agency if Dr. Harvey takes the volunteer agencies. The county feels strongly that there only be one OMD for the entire county. A meeting will be held next week with Shenandoah County to discuss their needs and what our Council can do to work with them.

A Preceptor application was discussed for Heather Lam. After discussion it was decided to send it back to the Training Committee for discussion and recommendation of approval.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:40pm.