



County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL
SERVICES PROGRAM

PREHOSPITAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)

MINUTES

AUGUST 4, 2014

Celia Barry, Kent Benedict, Cortney McPhee, Marc Yellin, Sterling Lewis, Stephanie Zube, Patrick Winters, Brad Cramer, Tammy Spath, Kirk Schmitt, Marissa McLean, Brenda Brenner, Michael Baulch

Minutes from May OK.

1. NEW BUSINESS

- A. EMS Medical Director – almost 30 years, one of first with transmitted EKGs, Trauma triage, Kent gave special kudos to Scott Vahradian and Brad Cramer.
- B.

2. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Sepsis – Core Principles and protocols – developed by asking other systems for examples, Brad and Scott wrote the documents, now trying them out. In the field – diagnostic and fluids. Training is done for field, field is identifying potential sepsis patients. Request that hospitals let field know about sepsis patients – is this making a difference for patients? Can hospitals identify metrics to determine success? Hospitals 30cc per kilo for patients. Other EMS agencies say that they don't know if having field ID of septic patients makes any difference.
- B. Trauma – Dominican is still going to re-do trauma room and is continuing to do trauma activations. In Monterey Natividad continues to move forward to become a level II Trauma Center. EMS is planning to begin directing field patients to Natividad starting in October. Monterey EMS anticipates designation of Natividad as a Level II in early January. Monterey County EMS gave some information about the cost of the designation process:

Initial independent review panel (a year ago September for RFQ) – proposal fee of \$15k per proposal which paid for the review team. Second set of experts - \$5-6,000 for next set and then \$10-12,000 for final group in December. Plus

Natividad will have yearly fee of \$125,000 to cover EMS office staffing and purchase of full onset trauma registry. Trauma One is the registry will also provide a STEMI and Stroke registry for all 4 hospitals. Despite the fee for Natividad, there will still be expenses that will be charged to the local tax for EMS purposes. Designation will impact south Santa Cruz County trauma patients. Field triage criteria will follow CDC. Natividad brought on Boarded surgeons, all trauma surgeons, not general surgeons. Natividad spent about \$10 million to invest, plus approximately \$1.5 million for the specific Level II piece.

- C. Deployment – Experiment for over a year now for improving system without increasing costs. When down to zero ambulances, are holding Code 2 calls. Goals through the deployment changes are to speed care to critical patients, improve ALS responses to rural areas, reduce workload to crews. When calls are held, Dispatch calls the reporting party every 15 minutes to confirm that the patient is still OK. Calls can hold for up to 45 minutes. AMR supervisor or Fire can override pended call due to patient care. Will have elderly falls with hip pain a Code 3 call. Celia will send out link to the Alameda County MPDS data.

Roundtable –

Marc on medical leave, Brad Whaley will sit in for Marc.

Kirk – Monterey County EMS app for Monterey County protocols – free to download.

Cortney – CALSTAR 5 out of Salinas – EC-135 now but will get older airframe back.

Michael – Stanford has been full. Similar to December and January with hospital beds all full. Beds seem to empty towards the end of the week.

Stephanie – Pulse Point is live and activated. PP allows you to follow dispatches.

Sterling – potential for a nursing strike at WCH around August 12-16th. Impacts ER greatly because of inability to move patients from ED to floors. Also end up transferring patients out instead of moving them to floor beds.

Brad – October 1, 8 and 22nd for Emergency Preparedness at Boardwalk. SO and Santa Cruz PD are lead for law. AMR is hiring 12 people, 4 transfers and 8 new paramedics.

Brenda – Brad was selected out of the 19,000 employees to be one of 8 people in the nation to advise the leadership of AMR. What an honor for Brad!!

Next meeting is September 8th, Aptos/La Selva Fire