

Northwest Association of Provider EMS Coordinators
MINUTES
August 28, 2014

| Topic | Discussion/Conclusions |
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| Call to Order Previous Minutes Review of Agenda | Call to order at 09:06 by Pete Dyer Minutes approved (motion Nosek, second Johnson) |
| Introductions | Greg Swiontek, PEMSC Schiller Park FD |
| Treasurer's Report | Ed McGarry reported a balance of \$8025.15 Invoices for membership dues (\$50) were sent out in April; second notices sent out mid-August. Several members requested a tax form. McGarry and Dyer reminded the group that the committee does not operate as a tax exempt entity. It keeps all money in an interest free account, and earns no income. |
| Committee Reports | <p><u>CARS Committee</u> Tamosaitis provided the report. The August meeting consisted primarily of a video presentation, "Brent Myers, M.D., M.P.H. - "Mobile Integrated Healthcare Practice, Data Exchange and You", emphasizing the critical role that data (documentation) will play in improving the care that patient's receive, and integrating EMS into healthcare systems in general.</p> <p>After the report by Tamosaitis, Kourtney Tomczuk relayed that she had been contacted by Imagetrend regarding a revised fee structure involving a prorated fee per agency in place of machine licenses. Dyer informed the group that he would investigate this matter, but was unaware of any planned change in NWCEMSS fee structure.</p> <p><u>Research and Development</u> Luke Walker reported that the glucometer screen identified that there are too many variables involved in the process for meaningful causal relationships to be identified. Diana Neubecker informed the group that the manufacturer of our glucometers requires frequent control solution testing to be performed in order to assure proper meter performance. Greg Fuchs agreed to share the Lake Zurich FRD meter check sheets with the group. The system is also considering moving to using the same meters that most (or all) hospitals use. System hospitals could potentially save a considerable amount of money by not having to order special test strips for EMS. A discussion regarding the system recommended test frequency was generally productive, with specific recommendations to be made soon. Neubecker recommended that meters be inscribed with in service dates and placed on a replacement program. Susan Wood informed the committee that Abbott Labs will replace the meters for free.</p> <p><u>Advisory Board</u> Did not meet</p> <p><u>Education</u> Did not meet</p> <p><u>PBPI</u> Susan Wood provided the report. The committee's last meeting was cancelled. The committee is examining the connection between quality of run documentation and the evaluation of quality of care. The pediatric arrest screening found that non-compliance with capnography use was occurring; defibrillation was also not being properly documented. The plan for next</p> |

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| | <p>year (2014-15) is to reduce the number of topics screened, in favor of increasing the depth of each screening. Agency participation in screenings typically averages 19-21 agencies out of 25. Wood reiterated that the committee is available to provide data on specific topics any agency that is interested.</p> |
| Emergency Preparedness | <p>A presentation at the Region 9 Emergency Preparedness Committee involved a demonstration of a real-time patient tally system that is available, and is based upon tracking triage tags. An increase in the number of tabletop exercises is planned; these exercises represent a good opportunity for participants to become familiar with one another's operations.</p> |
| System and State Updates | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A search for a new paramedic program instructor is currently underway; Connie Mattera will be the instructor until the position is filled. • A new liability agreement between NCH and agencies sponsoring paramedic program field internship students is nearing completion. • Dr. Ortinau updated the group on the "meet and greet" events between NCH and provider agency leaders; the meetings will continue into October. Dr. Ortinau is pleased with the commitment to EMS that both NCH and providers have exhibited. Several agency coordinators present at today's meeting expressed their pleasure with the meetings as well. • Scope of practice is out for comments to state medical directors. IDPH is seeking to minimize the number of waivers granted by developing a baseline set of standards that are acceptable to all medical directors. An Illinois EMS Forum meeting is scheduled for September (Dr. Ortinau, Chairman), and should provide valuable feedback on future direction. • Dyer commented that the new scope of practice for EMT-Bs will require considerable education on new practices, and that a migration to Emergency Medical Responder licensing may make sense for some providers. • Bloodborne Pathogens legislation has been approved and is currently in effect. • MIHC: Dyer recommended that discussions with our personnel begin immediately to emphasize the importance of patient satisfaction throughout the continuum of care; this metric allows us to improve service and will play a pivotal role in MIHC. The RPM group's MIHC proposal to IDPH is currently undergoing evaluation. • 12-lead transmission: A daily synchronization of time should be made on monitors and reporting software. Several agencies reported that they experienced connectivity problems with the PhysioControl Titan gateway when operating outside close proximity to a vehicle hotspot. • Tactical EMS: the system is currently developing guidelines regarding patient care. These guidelines will not address agency operational SOGs; those are the purview of individual agencies. |
| Correspondence | <p>None</p> |
| Old Business | <p>Narcan & police: Dr. Ortinau reminded the group that NWCEMSS will not oversee police department programs, but those programs must have some medical control none the less. NWCEMSS agencies should not participate in Narcan exchange with those programs.</p> |
| New Business | <p>None</p> |
| Next Meeting Adjournment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting – Sept. 25, 2014 @ 09:00 • Adjourned at 11:23 AM. Motion by Johnson, second by Walker |