

**MINUTES
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 4, 2004 – 3:30P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeff Davidson, M.D., Chairman, Valley Hospital
Chief Steve Hanson, Clark County Fire Department
E. P. Homansky, M.D., ED Physician at Large
Frank Pape, D.O., Summerlin Hospital
David Daitch, D.O., Boulder City Hospital
William Z. Harrington, M.D., UMC
Donald Reisch, M.D., Desert Springs Hospital
Kevin Slaughter, D.O., Spring Valley Hospital
John J. Fildes, M.D., University Medical Center

Virginia DeLeon, R.N., Nurse Manager
Allen Marino, M.D., St. Rose Dominican/Siena
Philis Beilfuss, R.N., North Las Vegas Fire Department
Chief Randy Howell, Henderson Fire Department
Chief Mike Myers, Las Vegas Fire & Rescue
Kurt Williams, American Medical Response
David Rosin, M.D., Mental Health Representative
Malinda Whipple, EMT-P, Mesquite Fire & Rescue
Richard Henderson, M.D., St. Rose Dominican/Rose de Lima

ALTERNATES

Joseph Heck, D.O., Clark County Health District
John Ruffner, FAB Representative

Julian Genilla, Southwest Ambulance
Dana Trippi, Southern Hills Hospital

MEMBERS ABSENT

Michael Zbiegien, M.D., Pediatric Representative
Jon Kingma, EMT-P, Boulder City Fire Department
David L. Watson, M.D., Sunrise Hospital
Wade Sears, M.D., Southern Hills Hospital
Donald Kwalick, M.D., Chief Health Officer, CCHD

William Elsaesser, M.D., Lake Mead Hospital
Darrin Houston, D.O., Mesa View Regional Hospital
Sam Kaufman, FAB Representative
Pete Carlo, EMT-P, Southwest Ambulance

CCHD STAFF PRESENT

Rory Chetelat, EMS Manager
Trish Beckwith, Field Representative
Eddie Tajima, Administrative Asst.

Mary Ellen Britt, R.N., Quality Improvement Coordinator
Moana Hanawahine-Yamamoto, Recording Sec.

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE

Melinda Hursh, R.N., Sunrise Hospital
Roy Carroll, American Medical Response
Scott Johnson, EMT-P, Las Vegas Fire & Rescue
Russ Cameron, EMT-P, Clark County Fire Department
Cheryl Limer, EMT-P, CCSN
Jay Craddock, EMT-P, North Las Vegas Fire Department
Natalie Seaber, R.N., MountainView Hospital
Kathy Kopka, R.N., Sunrise Hospital
David Nehrbass, EMT-I, AMR

Scott Vivier, EMT-P, Henderson Fire Department
Brian Rogers, EMT-P, Southwest Ambulance
Gerry Hart, American Medical Response
Brent Hall, EMT-P, Clark County Fire Department
Sandy Young, R.N., Las Vegas Fire & Rescue
Tim Wilcox, R.N., Sunrise Hospital
JoAnn Lujan, WestCare
Katherine Cylke, R.N., North Vista Hospital

CALL TO ORDER - NOTICE OF POSTING OF AGENDA

The Medical Advisory Board convened in the Clemens Room at the Ravenholt Public Health Center at 3:33 p.m. on Wednesday, August 4, 2004. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeff Davidson, M.D. He stated that the Affidavit of Posting, Mailing of Agenda, and Public Notice of the Meeting Agenda were executed in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law. Chairman Davidson noted that a quorum was present.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Davidson stated the Consent Agenda consisted of matters to be considered by the Medical Advisory Board that can be enacted by one motion. Any item may be discussed separately per Board member request. Any exceptions to the Consent Agenda must be stated prior to approval. A motion for Board approval of the following item on the Consent Agenda was made, seconded, and carried unanimously.

Minutes Medical Advisory Board Meeting June 2, 2004

II. REPORT/DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Education Committee Report

Report from Focus Group on EMT-P Training Curriculum

Rory Chetelat reported that the focus group is recommending not to change the District Procedure for EMT-Paramedic Training.

Report from Focus Group on Critical Care Transport Curriculum

The committee approved the draft District Procedure for EMS-RN Training. It will be presented to the MAB for endorsement next month.

B. Procedure/Protocol Committee Report

Report from Focus Group on Pediatric Destination Protocol

The committee approved the draft Pediatric Destination Protocol. It will be presented to the MAB for endorsement next month.

III. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/DISCUSSION ONLY

A. Facilities Advisory Board Report

John Ruffner from Valley Hospital advised that the mental health issue was one of the main topics discussed at the FAB meeting. Two recommendations were presented to Dr. Rosin on behalf of the Southern Nevada hospitals. The first recommendation was that future budgeting considerations should include the performance of medical clearances at the mental health facility to avoid occupying emergency room beds. The second recommendation was that after medical clearance is given to patients who require medical screenings, the patients are to be transported to the mental health facility and held wherever space is available. The FAB asked the State to respond to these recommendations within 24 hours.

Dr. Rosin reported the new mental health facility should be completed within the next two years and has the ability to have up to 190 beds. In the interim, an additional 28 beds can be created as long as the IFC approves the funding. The hospitals have done a good job of absorbing the problem by housing these mental health patients, however this cannot continue. Dr. Davidson added that the emergency departments should not be looked at as having an endless capacity. Dr. Homansky feels that the FAB needs to continue to push this issue with the state because the ER's just cannot go on for another two years with the status quo. It has to be made clear that an interim answer needs to be made. If it is not pushed, then the mental health patients are the ones that will suffer the most.

Dr. Rosin confirmed that SNAMHS (So. NV Adult Mental Health Svcs.) obtained permission from the State to work on a proposal to have a full-service facility to include medical clearances. Dr. Rosin did mention that funding and licensing are two of the pieces that continue to slow the process. He stated that their budgets have been submitted to the State.

Dr. Davidson also asked Dr. Rosin to clarify the procedure of performing medical clearances on patients because many emergency departments are doing them differently. Dr. Rosin advised that this issue was addressed in 2001 and a protocol was created by UMC, tested and approved. His office did recommend that all emergency departments adopt this protocol but not many hospitals participated. A copy of this protocol was distributed to all of the members to take back to their respective facilities.

Other items discussed at the FAB meeting:

- Reviewed the data submitted for the 90-day trial of eliminating ED closure
- Discussed the issue of CTC (Community Triage Center) and continuing the hospital's cooperation with funding
- An internal disaster review committee procedure that was drafted by Rory Chetelat was adopted

B. E.D. Nurse Managers Report

Virginia DeLeon reported that a facilitator provided training for the nurse managers and EMS supervisors on improving communication. Pam Turner from Valley Hospital encouraged more of the EMS providers to attend these meetings to help bridge the gap that is occurring between prehospital and hospital staff.

C. QI Committee Report

Mary Ellen Britt commented on the outstanding presentation given by the Henderson Fire Department on Airway Data Collection. Randy Howell explained how they are looking at oxygen desaturation during intubation and how they are implementing a crew management approach. Henderson Fire Department agreed to give a preliminary report to the MAB next month.

Ms. Britt also advised that AMR and Las Vegas Fire & Rescue are hoping to have their ROAM IT pen-based system rolled out by September. This program will allow for electronic patient care record documentation.

The QI Committee is conducting a prehospital death determination study to determine protocol compliance. All of the providers will be submitting their reports to the Health District on a monthly basis from June 1-December 31, 2004. Ms. Britt also commented on the number of QI cases that were presented to the Health District from January-June of 2004. There were a total of 22 cases. In half of those cases, problems were identified and handled. Another quarter of those cases were not found to be legitimate concerns and the last quarter of those cases were non-EMS related issues.

D. Update on Community Triage Center

JoAnn Lujan reported that during the mental health state of emergency, there were ninety-four admissions in the twenty days that the temporary WestCare facility was open. Of those, ten were transferred to the state and the rest were discharged with follow-up services. Ms. Lujan explained that it was a phenomenal community effort. She also mentioned that the CTC met with the FAB regarding funding strategies and to ask the hospitals to continue their support.

Dr. David Rosin remarked on the great job WestCare did and he explained that when the state of emergency was declared, within 18 hours, they had an operational unit of 30 beds. Dr. Davidson complimented everyone on their efforts but added that the state of emergency only provided a temporary relief to an ongoing problem. At this time, Dr. Rosin reported that there were seventy people waiting to enter Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (SNAMHS).

E. E.D. Divert/Trial Update

Rory Chetelat from the Health District advised that the elimination of E.D. diversion has had a positive impact on the EMS community and he is looking forward to continuing this policy. Dr. Reisch voiced his concern because he has come across paramedics who are unaware of the hospital's EMS Offload Advisory status/color and does not feel comfortable voting on a system that he feels is not working. Dr. Heck mentioned that at this time, the EMS providers are given this information through the dispatch center but that eventually all of the EMS providers will be able to view the EMS system screen in their units and will be able to see the hospital's status/color in real time. Mr. Chetelat added that there have been failures on both sides to

use the system accurately and efficiently. Dr. Heck stated that the Health District will reinforce the fact that the dispatch centers should notify the EMS providers of the hospital status/color. However, hospital personnel need to be aware that even if the hospital is on black status, if a patient insists on going to that facility, the EMS providers are allowed to transport that patient to the requested facility. Dr. Davidson advised that this issue will be placed on next month's agenda as an action item.

Mr. Chetelat related that one of the recommendations from the ACS on their trauma study was that a task force be created to work on the long offload and diversion times. A task force will be formed within the next few weeks with the mission to increase patient access to emergency care.

IV. PUBLIC APPEARANCE/CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Dr. Davidson introduced Malinda Whipple, EMS Coordinator for Mesquite Fire & Rescue. Ms. Whipple will be representing Mesquite Fire & Rescue on the MAB. Dr. Davidson also mentioned that Darrin Houston, D.O., will be the MAB representative for Mesa View Regional Hospital in Mesquite.

Dr. Davidson also added that the renovation at the Valley Hospital Emergency Department should be completed in September and will add approximately 18-20 beds.

V. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, Chairman Davidson called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously to adjourn at 4:20 p.m.