

**Tidewater Emergency Medical Services Council, Inc.**  
**Stroke Performance Improvement Committee**  
**August 11, 2016 at 16:00**  
**MINUTES**

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Member's Name</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Alternate's Name</u>	<u>Present</u>
Eastern Shore	Mary Fitchett			
Chesapeake	Thom Schwalenberg	X	Forest Winslow	X
Franklin	Vince Holt			
Norfolk	Greg DeYoung		Dan Norville	
Portsmouth	Jeff Myer		Amy Ward	X
Suffolk	Ray Willet			
Virginia Beach	Debbie Brennaman			
Isle of Wight	Amanda Pulley			
Isle of Wight (Volunteer)	Katrina Geoff			
Southampton	Annie Griffin			
Shore Memorial	Bonnie Enoch			
Portsmouth Naval	Jason Dougherty			
Chesapeake Regional	Chris Robertson			
Bon Secours	Katharyn Funk		Travis Mitchell	X
Depaul				
Harborview				
OBICI				
Maryview	Terrica Norman			
Sentara Systems	Shannon Fergerson		Jocelyn Danci	
Norfolk General	John Agola			
Sentara Leigh	Amy Smith Peard	X		
Sentara Princess Anne	Tracy Flooa			
Bell Harbor	Alicia Petrukus			
Beach General	Chris Roberts	X	Bill Sloan	
Chesapeake Regional	Chris Robertson			
Commercial EMS (MTI)	Daniel Green			
Dispatch	Liz Beatty			
OMD	Joel Micheal (Chair)	X		
Fed Fire/Navy EMS	Anthony Sickell		Paul Roszko	
Nightingale	Denise Baylous		Skip Hall	
CHKD Transport Team	Lisa Hawkins			
TEMS Staff	Jay Porter			
VA OEMS	Wayne Berry			
<u>Guests</u>				
<u>Jurisdiction / Agency</u>	<u>Guest's Name</u>		<u>Guest's Name</u>	

- Welcome/Introductions were made and the group approved the minutes as written with attendance being marked.
- **EMS Stroke Case Presentation:**  
Chris Robertson shared Chesapeake's vision for future Stroke TPA calls. Presenting a case to highlight the importance of getting a good history from a reliable source prehospital. One of the biggest problems hypertension and getting an accurate blood pressure if the reading is greater than 180/105. Unfortunately there isn't any medications to bring the blood pressure down in the field, so perhaps in the Ed's solely focusing on the stroke aspect, to get the physician engages to look at the blood pressure to make sure the patient is a TPA candidate. Based on the MIH Stroke scale if the patient is not determined a 6 then the patient is ineligible for TPA.  
Education for the hospital ED's will roll out in October.

- Some discussion regarding starting 2 large bore IVs in the field for the hospital process in order to obtain a CTA on the patient as well as the hospital process of getting the patients registered ASAP upon arrival in order to start the treatment quicker for stroke patients. Talk about the possibility of calling in on a landline to give information about the patient; however it was acknowledged that it would be difficult because of the difficulties in monitoring phone lines etc. at the hospital.
- **Old Business**

Dr. Michael apologized for not being able to review data

  - Data Review Update
- Short discussion about the possibility of choosing the stroke scale to pursue in the region whether BFAST or the MEND or one of the other scales that are out there and being taught in reference to Stroke evaluations.
- **New Business**
  - Forrest addressed the group about the restructuring and improvements in the role of the stroke committees within the hierarchy of the TEMS organization etc.
  - Forrest recommended that the group start trending the data on various differing data points etc. so that the group can begin to put the new ideas into process.
  - Discussion about what would happen if the pre-hospital provider were to call a “Stroke Alert” prior to arrival at the hospital and the possible misinterpretation and the differing understanding of what a Stroke Alert is and how it is interpreted by all of the parties involved. In the hospital the patient should be evaluated by the physician in the ED before a stroke alert is called due to the response personnel in the hospital. Soft stroke or suspected stroke may be a better terminology to use when contacting the hospitals. Maybe time to bring the hospital and EMS providers together and restructure the terminology so that there is collaboration with the terminology in the evaluation of the Stroke patient.
- Dates to remember located at [www.tidewaterems.org](http://www.tidewaterems.org)

**The next meeting of the Stroke Triage Performance Improvement Committee will be:**

**October 13, 2016 @ 1630**