

***Tidewater EMS Council, Inc.***  
**EMS MEDICAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**October 13, 2021 12:00 pm**  
**TEMS Office and Virtual**

**MINUTES**

- **Welcome/Introductions** – Tom Green, Chair; James Ryenolds, Vice-Chair
  - Attendees were David Coulling, Valerie Vagts, Carolyn Malloy, Chris Smith, Tom Green, Ed Leonard, Jason Kinlaw, James Reynolds, Greg DeYoung, Brian Phillips, Matt Owens, Amy Ward
  
- **Approval of Minutes** – Tom Green
  - Motion to approved by Greg DeYoung, seconded by JR. All motions in this meeting were unanimous with no negative votes or abstention received.
  
- **OMD Committee Report** – Valerie
  - OMD's are continuing on the path of the whole blood program, Portsmouth is rolling along with the nitrous oxide initiative but waiting on a few supplies, Chesapeake is completing airway training this month and rolling out the use of iGel
  - Dr. Joe Lang is getting a group together for a Clarius ultrasound demo; VBEMS is using Sonosite in the physician response cars, Chesapeake purchased butterfly ultrasounds and is working out a plan to roll it out
  - CPAP, Cric and Capno: TEMS is going to work with regional EDs to have capno and CPAP restocked at the hospitals. Cric have 14 guage, but no support equipment; therefore OMDs endorse the use of a surgical or commercial kit over the needle. They will discuss types of cric kits at their next meeting on December 7th (Portsmouth and Navy are switching to H&H)
  - Hospital diversions have been occurring too frequently, but is a statewide issue
  - OMDs discussed expanding RSI to agencies not currently offering it and decided to leave it up to each OMD over each agency due to the intensive training and low frequency
  
- **Performance Improvement** – Valerie
  - Piloted Microsoft TEAMS for the Stroke meeting, there were people at desktops with no microphone leaving them unable to comment during the call. Sticking to the Big Blue Button as our platform at this time.
  - Data is able to be pulled from June 24, 2021 to present, but cannot pull data prior to that date, so year-over-year comparisons are not possible at this time
  
- **Education and Training Committee** – Matt Owens
  - OMDs approve Ketamine changes: 1. Can use narcotics as a first line pain medication even for extremities. 2. Can give a repeat dose of ketamine (checking on if the repeat dose needs to be 5 mins apart). 3. Can give narcotic and ketamine to same patient as long as there are 5 mins between). Stewart Martin is still looking into whether they can increase dosing when dealing with behavioral emergencies, currently the dosing is not sufficient to make an impact and should not be considered.
  
- **Commercial EMS Agencies** – Next meeting 10.21.21 and there will be upcoming changes depending on the rumor going around. More to come in the December meeting.
  
- **Pharmacies** – David Coulling stated there is a wrong size and non-safety needles in the boxes. Talking about the box exchange, doesn't like community exchange. Changes should be fast-tracked
  
- **Nurse Managers** – David Coulling stated they met earlier today.
  - Expo is in May – call for presentations going out soon
  - Review for Appendix B, F, and G will go out soon and have to be voted on in February – are looking into recommended exchange items. (CPAP, ETCO2, and inline filters)

- **Public Health** – John couldn't make it. Valerie to get COVID numbers from John. Carolyn from EVHC stated there is a downward trend of COVID patients but hospital rooms are limited due to staffing, there are plenty of beds. Morale is going down due to mental health concerns with the newer nurses and staffing is down due to travel nurses getting over \$100 an hour to work at hot spots. 3<sup>rd</sup> shot is for anyone over 65, medical worker or first responder. Military Circle Mall is still set up to give shots.
- **OEMS** – David Coulling reported RSAF grant meeting was last week. Only 3 people showed to the meeting. Will notify with results.
- **Unfinished Business** – send out job description for review and table the conversation for the next meeting.
- **MCI/MMRS** –
  - Valerie stated DMAT training was held 10.13.21 at the warehouse.
- **New Business**
  - Protocol updates are uploaded to the app along with a change log as changes are made. State skills delineation sheet was assessed vs what the state allows and noticed some inconsistencies. Looking into adding more skills for AEMT's to use. Would require OMD approval and a training component, so the rollout wouldn't be until July 1.
  - State training committee is looking into sun setting CTS test sites
  - Triage turnover suggestion that is currently working well for VB. Have the charge desk register and take turnover, then take pt to triage area and the crew can clear up
  - Mental Health calls are on the rise and they are taking up beds in the ED when they don't need medical care. Chesapeake is testing out a program called CIBH (Chesapeake Integrated Behavioral Health) that would allow transport directly to a mental health facility
- **Jurisdiction Reports**
  - Chesapeake going through budget cuts, rolling out airway training to include iGel
  - VB looking into offering Advanced classes and will publish classes offered so anyone in the region can participate. Have an increased focus on regional collaboration. Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> are dedicating VB HQ training center as the Bruce Edwards Training Center, please feel free to join. Feel free to book out rooms for meetings in the future
  - IOW – looking to hire 3 fire medic 2s; starting 24-hour supervisor car starting Wednesday
  - Portsmouth went live with EMD last week, working through minor kinks but otherwise going well
  - Norfolk received the MCI bus and will set up MCI training. VB would like to attend. Leigh had public hearing for increasing bed space, which they are in favor of
  - No other reports
- **Announcements / Dates to Remember on the TEMS Web Site**
- **Adjourned – 13:50 pm**

**The next Medical Operations Committee Meeting will be held on December 8, 2021 at 12 noon in-person with virtual availability.**