



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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JON S. CORZINE
Governor

HEATHER HOWARD
Commissioner

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
February 19, 2008

Members Present: Ms. Linda Curtis, Dr. Alfred Sacchetti, Mr. Daniel Sullivan

Members Excused: Ms. Debra Bell, Dr. Frank Briglia, Ms. Mary Ellen Brock, Dr. Frank Cunningham, Dr. Martin Diamond, Ms. Carolyn Ferolito, Dr. Mary Kamienski, Dr. Ernest Leva, Dr. Elisabeth Spector

Guests: Dr. Steve Vetrano, Dr. Thomas Bojko, Ms. Nancy Coppola

Department of Health and Senior Services Ms. Karen Halupke, Mr. Eric Hicken, Dr. Jennifer Waxler
Ms. Linda Woolverton, Ms. Kathy Lutz

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Al Sacchetti at 10:30 a.m.

Minutes reviewed and approved for November 1, 2007

Chairperson's Report

NFL protocol for acute spinal cord injuries

- American Board of Sport Physicians has numerous studies on spinal cord injuries. One in every one hundred thousand high school and college players suffers a catastrophic spinal cord injury.
- Although it isn't a common occurrence in New Jersey, there are up to four cases a year of catastrophic spinal cord injuries.
- It was suggested that it may be beneficial to meet with the Trauma Council or trauma personnel to discuss establishing a protocol for high school and college students if there is a suspected injury. This protocol could be established across the State on how to manage these types of injuries.
- The Brain Injury Association, Emergency Nurses Association, etc. should also be included in the development of a statewide protocol.

- The Trauma Director of Hackensack University Medical Center may have a relationship with the NFL and be familiar with the protocol due to the proximity of Giants Stadium to the hospital. (Dr. Sacchetti to investigate this for our next meeting.)

New Jersey Academy of Pediatrics and American College of Emergency Physicians will be meeting and discussing staffing patterns in Children's Hospital Emergency Departments.

- There has been discussion about a proposed bill in New Jersey that will mandate staffing in children's hospitals.
- There was significant discussion about the merits of such a bill and the basis upon which the standard would be developed.
- This bill should be reviewed by the EMSC Advisory Council and a position statement sent.

New Business

Mandatory BLS training for sport coaches.

- Should CPR be mandated for sports coaches?
- Should all sport coaches be trained in basic life support?
- Should all sports coaches be trained or just school coaches?
- What are the current standards in place with the NJ DOE for school coaches?
- Kathy Lutz to speak with DOE to determine the current standard.

OEMS Report

Karen Halupke reporting

- OEMS is now located in the Health and Agriculture Building.
- Kathy Lutz is now part of OEMS and EMSC.
- Jeff Egnatovich has resigned.
- Rob Clawson's OEMS Education position still needs to be filled and has been vacant for a year.

Eric Hicken reporting

- Grant – EMSC non-competing continuation application has been submitted.
- Notice of Grant Award is expected in March 2008 for year three of the grant.
- The National Resource Center is excited about the idea of bringing simulators into the ED's to evaluate their performance and response to treating a pediatric patient. At least one test run should be accomplished by June 2008.
- The next EMSC Newsletter will be published in March.
- There are approximately 50 schools that have requested emergency kits.
- One Baby Sim and two Pedi Sims arrived in December at the Burlington County College SIMS Center.

- A waiver is being completed to purchase 4 additional Baby Sims. Delivery should be early summer.

Old Business

New Jersey Statewide EMS Conference, October 2nd – 4th 2008

- There is still a need for speakers and topics.
- Attendance at the 2007 conference was excellent, and the facility was at capacity.
- If in 2008 the facility is at capacity again we may have to move to the educational sessions to the Convention Center next to the hotel.
- There will be no meetings conducted during the conference, such as; MICU Council, EMSC Advisory Council, etc. It was too demanding on the staff with their responsibilities to the conference.

School Nurse Life Support (SNLS)

- 50% of the chapters are assigned to volunteer authors.
- Steve Cohen and Dr. Steve Vetrano are organizing and planning the workshops.
- School Nurses Association has been contacted to help with the development of the program, but we are waiting for a response.
- Can grant funds, which are allocated for this project, be carried over to the next fiscal year? Yes, a request can be made to carry over the funds to the next year.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 pm

2008 Meeting Schedule

May 20th, August 19th, November 18th

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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