

Incident Emergency Medical Task Group Conference Call Notes

July 9, 2008

Core Member Participants: Mary Jo Lommen, Dean Ross, Dia Gainor,

Chair: Jan Peterson

Executive Secretary: Jon Thomas

Technical Representative: Wayne Denny, Twani Newton

Guest:

Absent: Bob Ashworth, Mike Brown, Fergus Laughridge, Gene Madden and Larry Sutton

This meeting was held via conference call and through the web based program “Go To Meeting”.

AGENDA ITEMS: see attached

OLD BUSINESS: Web Site Design

NEW ITEMS:

Jan

- Reviewed the web site and discussed its current status. The latest updates include: Hot Topics & Medical Alerts. Jan will continue to post new items as they come in. The overall plan is to continue to update this site as much as possible.

Dean

- Discussed with the group the possibility of creating a section on the website relating to current medical issues, occupational health items, CDC issues etc. Additionally, this section could serve as an information segment relating to current hazards, incidents or non-typical issues like hurricane Katrina.

Dia

- A far amount of work has been completed on the SOPs by using the national scope of practice as a model. Dia is looking for the groups' input on what needs to added or changed for the wildland fire application.

Dia-

Dia participated in a Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services (FICEMS) meeting a few weeks ago. At the meeting the chairman, Dr. Rungue, who is the Chief Medical Officer; in the Office of Health Affairs for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and an emergency room physician spoke to the group. Dr. Rungue stated that the DHS has around 3000 employees who are certified as an EMT or above and are deployed on a day to day basis through their various jobs.

Dia was under the impression that the DHS personnel who perform EMS duties in the field, function in the same manner as the EMTs on wildland fires. Both perform

EMS in remote areas, with little or no back up, and have delayed transportation. Dia believes there are many agencies (BIA, NPS, etc) and groups like the IEMTG that should be working with the DHS in coming up with a joint program that addresses and provides EMS in non-traditional settings.

* It was noted that FICEMS is made up of federal agencies, but there is no representation from the DOA or DOI. Dean said he was going to be meeting with Drew Dawson about how the NPS could participate in this new group.

Jan –

Jan mentioned that she too had heard of the DHS group and also discussed a similar group known as Firescope. The point of contact for the Firescope group is Dan Lubman's (Orange County Fire Dept/Firescope. Dean discussed how the NPS in California has worked with Firescope on EMS issues and plans to contact Dan on behalf of the IEMTG to try and open channels of communication between the groups.

Group -

Discussed California's current incidents and the letter put out by the Emergency Medical Services Authority regarding EMTs entering into the state to support the current wild fires. Dia identified the need to work with the state EMS offices to come up with a standard guideline for states to follow when using out of state EMTs for wildland fires and/or other types of incidents.

See attachment #2

Jan -

Discussed fire line EMTs and the need to get a national position in the red card & ROSS systems. MJ noted that Larry & Gene are working on a USFS position for line qualified EMTs. It was noted that a "Fire line EMT" position was put forward through the channels to NWCG and turned down in the last few years. Dean said that the DOI is reviewing these types of positions for EMTs in all risk incidents and the Medical Standards requirements. Additionally, Human Resources will need to write up new PDs for these jobs.

Jan -

The group identified that the scope of practice needs to be the first action completed before other action items can be addressed. The group agreed that having a meeting would be the best way to complete the Scope of Practice. This would allow input from a cross section of experts. Dia will compile a list of experts that could potentially work on the scope of practice. Additionally, the group will not post a draft scope of practice or standing orders on the IEMTG web site, unless they are interrupted as working guidelines by an EMT.

Dean -

In Jan/Feb/March 2009, the NPS will have their national EMS meeting

All -

Agreed to have conference calls every other week for the next few months

All -

Web site for current Global disease alerts: www.healthmap.org/en

NEW ACTION ITEMS:

Action Item	Assigned to	Due Date	Action Taken
Status report from sub-committees	All	7/9/08	In progress
Contact DHS on joint EMS standards	Dean & Dia		
List of SME for Scope of Practice	Dia	7/23	
EMS calendar info Everyone email Jan info	All		On Going
Contact Firescope Rep on their EMS projects	Jan & Dean		

OLD ACTION ITEMS:

Action Item	Assigned to	Due Date	Action Taken
Add a physician as a member to the IEMTG charter- will talk to SHWT	Jan		In progress
Wording for new physician section in the charter -forward to Jan	Fergus		On hold for other Charter suggested changes
Maintain list of potential technical representative & subject matter experts & their skills -forward lists to Jon	Jan	on going	Group to forward suggestion to Jan
Announcement letter to be published under SHWT banner about this new group and its function /sources- forward to SHWT	Gene & Jan	3/27/08	COMPLETE
Communication plan & talking points-forward to Jan	All	On going	COMPLETE
provide web site suggestions	Group	3/4/08	On Going
Web site update/upgrade	Jan		In progress
Funding for NASF Rep	Jan/Bob	3/27/08	Bob working on
Prioritize objectives and forward to group	Jan & Jon	3/18/08	COMPLETE
Program of work (budget) for SHWT	Jan		In progress

Integrate old EMSG records with IEMTG group	Mary Jo & Jon	3/31/08	Jan looking at Records
NASF representation in IEMTG	Gene/Bob	Done	COMPLETE Rep Is Mike Brown
Tactical Plan write up	All	5/29	COMPLETE
NWCG Memo Minimum Standards of Incident Emergency Medical Standards Draft (AED)	Group		On hold until Tactical Plan is completed
Incident Medical Minimum Levels	Group		On hold until Tactical Plan is completed

Next conference call dates:
July 23, 2008, at 0900 MDT
August 6, 2008, at 0900 MDT
August 20, 2008, at 0900 MDT
September 3, 2008, at 0900 MDT

Attachments: #1 Conference call agenda for July 9, 2008
Attachments: #2 California Emergency Medical Services Authority

Incident Emergency Medical Task Team Conference Call Agenda 7/9/08

✚ Welcome

✚ Fire Season ~ Task Group Efforts

✚ Subcommittee Updates:

- Tactical Plan ~ circle back/pulse check
- Scope of Practice Strategies
- Standards of Care Strategies
- Communication
 - Webpage – Status
 - Process for adding information

✚ Rhabdomyolysis

✚ Set dates for the next conference calls

✚ Next call July 23 at 0900 MDT

Attachment #2

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, *Governor*

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

1930 9th STREET

SACRAMENTO, CA 95811-7043

(916) 322-4336 FAX (916) 324-2875

DATE: June 27, 2008

TO: Local EMS Agency Administrators
Local EMS Agency Medical Directors
Other Interested Parties

FROM: R. Steve Tharratt, MD, MPVM
Director

In support of the large number of wildfires currently burning in California, the California Emergency Medical Services Authority is providing this information to non-California certified and/or licensed EMT-I and paramedics regarding requirements for practice within California. EMSA encourages LEMSA's to support and appropriately integrate these resources as needed into the local EMS system to provide for necessary EMS services within their communities. EMSA is prepared to support any requests by LEMSA's that are not covered by the procedures below to allow for maintenance of EMS services.

- Firefighter EMTs and Paramedics responding to California from another state to provide aid in fighting wild land fires should check in with the Medical Unit Leader of the fire camp to which they are assigned. The Medical Unit Leader should then notify the respective local EMS agency medical director that the out-of-state firefighter EMTs and Paramedics are in the jurisdiction of the local EMS agency medical director.
- In the event that any non-California certified/licensed EMT or Paramedic provides medical care for which they have been trained and licensed or certified, ancillary to their firefighting responsibilities, the EMT or Paramedic should complete a patient care report and submit the report to the medical director of the local EMS agency which has jurisdiction where the patient care was provided. In the event the EMT or Paramedic does not have the information on the respective local EMS agency medical director, the patient care report should be submitted to the Director of the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority, who will then route the patient care report to the appropriate local EMS agency medical director.
- If an non-California firefighter EMT or Paramedic is assigned to a fire station to backfill for California firefighters deployed to fight fires or participate in other emergency responses, the out-of-state firefighter EMT or Paramedic shall notify, and receive authorization from, the local EMS agency medical director who has jurisdiction over the area in which the firefighter EMT or Paramedic is providing services. This may be done by the Strike Team Leader or Area Medical Unit Leader as appropriate.
- A list of the 31 local EMS agencies in California and the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority contact information will be available through the Office of Emergency Services' Emergency Operations Center and the EMS Authority's website at www.emsa.ca.gov