



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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www.nj.gov/health

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

KAITLAN BASTON, MD, MSc, DFASAM
Acting Commissioner

The Mobile Intensive Care Advisory Council (MAC)
MINUTES of July 24, 2023

Medical Directors Present:

Dr. Kimberly Baldino (St. Joseph's Health), Dr. Joshua Bucher (RWJBarnabas Health), Dr. Gerard Carroll (Cooper University Health Care), Dr. Howard Felderman (Hackensack Meridian Health – JFK), Dr. Brett Greenfield (AtlantiCare), Dr. Ronald Klebacher (Virtua Health), Dr. Stephanie Ortega (Saint Clare's Health), Dr. Shaun Patterson (Hackensack Meridian Health – HUMC), Dr. Timothy Satty (University Hospital), Dr. Barbara Schreibman (Englewood Health), Dr. Jay Stiefel (Inspira Health), Dr. Cheng Wang (Robert Wood Johnson – Jersey City)

Mobile Intensive Care Unit Directors Present:

Mr. Mark Bober (Hackensack Meridian Health – JFK), Mr. John Cronin (Saint Clare's Health), Mr. James Fox (Holy Name), Ms. Michelle Kobayashi (Hackensack Meridian Health – HUMC), Mr. Thomas Lavagna (Virtua Health), Mr. Alexander Lewinsky (Capital Health), Mr. Stephen Napoli (AtlantiCare), Ms. Ingrid Santucci (The Valley Hospital), Mr. John Sharo (Valley Health System), Mr. Richard Sposa (Englewood Health), Mr. Anthony Raffino (RWJ Barnabas Health), Mr. Christopher Ryan (Hunterdon Health)

Mobile Intensive Care Unit EMS Educators Present:

Mr. Keith Elmer (Capital Health), Mr. Michael Geisler (Englewood Health), Mr. Bruce Graham (Virtua Health), Mr. Mark Jeffries (AtlantiCare), Ms. Patricia Lutz (Inspira Health), Mr. Ronald Murphy (Cooper University Health Care), Ms. Deborah Paglianite (Saint Clare's Health), Mr. Alex Rosario (Hackensack Meridian Health – HUMC), Ms. Ingrid Santucci (The Valley Hospital), Mr. Richard Schlosser (Hackensack Meridian Health – JFK), Mr. David Stangreciak (University Hospital), Mr. Neil Thorn (RWJ Barnabas Health and Robert Wood Johnson – Jersey City), Kevin Webb (Saint Joseph's Health)

Medical Directors Absent:

Dr. Andreia Marques-Baptista (Capital Health System), Dr. Marc Dreier (The Valley Hospital), Dr. Michael Prendergast (Hunterdon Health), Dr. Albert Ritter (Atlantic Ambulance and CentraState Healthcare System)

Mobile Intensive Care Unit Directors Absent:

Mr. Jason Brady (University Hospital), Mr. Kenneth Bullwinkle (Inspira Health), Mr. Joshua Otero (Robert Wood Johnson – Jersey City), Mr. Art Samaras (Atlantic Ambulance and CentraState Healthcare System), Mr. Rick Robrbach (Cooper University Health Care)

Mobile Intensive Care Unit EMS Educators Absent:

Mr. Robert Bertollo (Saint Joseph's Health), Mr. Steven Cohen (RWJ Barnabas Health), Mr. Thomas Hoffman (Hunterdon Health), Mr. Dave Peterson (Atlantic Ambulance and CentraState Healthcare System), Mr. Kevin Pohlman (Holy Name)

New Jersey Department of Health:

Ms. Dina Antinoro, Ms. Candace Gardner, Mr. Paul Jakuboski, Ms. Dana Johnson, Mr. Eric Hicken, Mr. Robert Karch, Mr. Daniel Kazar, Ms. Fatima Manzoor, Ms. Kirsten Posselt, Mr. Zachary Raab, Mr. Logan Rafferty

Guests/Public Attendees:

Dr. Navin Ariyaprakai, Mr. Les Barta, Ms. Brittany Bell, Dr. Michael Berenbush, Mr. Matthew Bremy, Mr. Ben Dafilou, Dr. Lisa Drago, Mr. Raymond Dwyer III, Ms. Dionne Huggins, Ms. Margaret Keavney, Ms. Deeann Keene, Dr. Alexander Kuc, Mr. Andy Lovell, Mr. Joseph Lutz, Dr. Kevin McElroy, Dr. Rachit Patel, Mr. Nick Pastore, Dr. Mr. Todd Rapczynski, Yuan Tung-Lin, Mr. Scot Phelps, Mr. Corry Van Elsland, Mr. Kyle Wilson, Dr. Marc Wheaton, Mr. Michael Zucker

The Mobile Intensive Care Advisory Council convened on July 24, 2023, virtually via a teleconference with a call to order at 10:00 AM by Dr. Gerard Carroll

PUBLIC NOTICE

“This is a formal meeting of the Mobile Intensive Care Advisory Council. Adequate notice of this meeting has been published in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, c-10:4.10 of New Jersey entitled, “Open Public Meetings Act.” Notices were sent to the Secretary of State, who posted the notice in a public place. Notices were forwarded to 12 New Jersey newspapers, two New York newspapers, two wire services, and two Philadelphia newspapers.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the March 2023 meeting were distributed to the members of the MAC via email prior to this meeting

*Motion to approve the March 2023 (Dr. Schreibman) minutes Seconded (Dr. Klebacher)
Approved (Unanimous)*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

New Jersey EMS Advisory Council – Mr. Lovell

- Thanked everyone who honored Mickey McCabe
- The Medical Transportation Association (MTA) of New Jersey continues to express concerns with the expiration of the one (1) Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and one (1) Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) crewmember requirement, which is set to expire at the end of 2023
- The members of the council are seeking funding through the American Rescue Plan to create scholarship and recruitment ideas, to bolster the EMS industry

New Jersey Association of Paramedic Programs (NJAPP) – Mr. Bober

- Leading Edge 2023 was held on May 19, 2023

- A quiz was created for all ALS providers utilizing the new protocols

Basic Life Support (BLS) Sub-Committee – Dr. Satty

- Discussed the difficulty and confusion with EMT reciprocity in New Jersey
- Agencies continue to be unclear about the various types of trauma alerts at different hospitals

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Training Fund – Mr. Cohen

No Report

Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) – Dr. Drago

- Conducted a free education class during EMS Week
- A voluntary program, titled “Always Ready for Children – EMS”, was announced during EMS Week
- EMS for Children recently met with the Commissioner of Health
- Every EMS agency should have received a Pediatric Readiness Survey
- Discussion regarding the increasing accidental exposure to cannabis in pediatrics
- Participating in a new Culture of Safety Committee focusing on the safe transportation of children in ambulances, pediatric references for EMS providers, and ways to increase pediatric education

Education Committee – Mr. Cohen

No Report

NJ Air Medical Program – Dr. Kuc

- Discussed experiences and best practices with transporting patients who require an Impella® Heart Pump
- Concerns with the landing zone at the Cape May County National Guard Armory are being addressed

New Jersey EMS Task Force (Task Force) - Mr. Lovell

- 835,000 COVID-19 vaccinations were transferred while assisting the Department of Health in their operation
- Continuing to work on updating various statewide response plans

- Communication with the Governor's Office and the Legislature is ongoing, to obtain funds for asset replacement

OEMS – Ms. Gardner

- Thank you for a wonderful and successful EMS Week
- Welcomed Paul Jakubowski to OEMS, as a Public Health Representative.
 - There will be additional positions for Mobile Integrated Health and a State EMS Medical Director posted in the near future
- Welcomed new Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Sejal Hathi
- Commissioner Judith Persichilli will be retiring in August of 2023
- The National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) will now refer to the ALS Cognitive and Psychomotor examination as the ALS Performance Exam
- The Committee on Accreditation for the EMS Professions (CoAEMSP) will be launching a voluntary Initial Advanced EMT Program accreditation on January 1, 2025
- Requests for Narcan Leave Behind supplies can be placed through the New Jersey Department of Human Services website
- When documenting the use of resources in electronic Patient Care Reports (ePCRs), ensure you are spelling REACH NJ as one word (REACHNJ). The Five Minutes to Health Program was developed to support EMS in understanding substance use disorder and provide recovery resources. If you need additional information, please contact Eva Nelson from the Office of EMS
- NEMSIS 3.5 is live, and all agencies should be compliant. This includes all fire departments providing first responder patient care in New Jersey
- The National Conference on EMS committee has finalized its selection of presenters. All selected presenters have been notified
- The SIM Competition for the National Conference on EMS is nearly full
- Nominations for the National Conference on EMS awards are open and scheduled to close on August 22, 2023
- Registration for the National Conference on EMS will open next month
- Dr. Drago has been appointed as the Interim Chair of the EMSC
- EMSC has been awarded a \$190,000 grant.
- The Department's Clinical Corner, the first series of pediatric educational videos is in the final stages of approval

- Always Ready for Children – EMS Program was launched during EMS week. EMS agencies may apply for this voluntary program through the agency licensure system
- The Pediatric Readiness Survey was completed for the Emergency Departments
- The EMS Task Force will be assisting with the development of a pediatric readiness and disaster preparedness plan
- The Culture of Safety Committee has resumed meetings
- OEMS is currently working with the Attorney General's office and the new Office of Community Violence intervention on workplace violence prevention, intervention mental health awareness, injury prevention and surveillance strategy, and collaboration to de-escalate situations for EMS providers.
- Agency Licensing and Inspections are configuring a new virtual inspection process.
- Agencies with Trade Name starting with *N* through *P* are due for regulatory inspection by December 31, 2023.
- Weekly inspections at the Burlington County Emergency Services Training Center will now be on Wednesday instead of Thursday.
- Make sure that your agency vehicle graphics are regulatory compliant.
- The Department has found numerous vehicles and agencies out of regulatory compliance posing safety concerns within the industry. Some of these concerns include:
 - Improper crew compliments
 - Unsecured vehicles with keys in the ignition,
 - Improper uniforms
 - Unkept uniforms
 - Open toe shoes
- Agencies found to be out of compliance will be issued a fine and all appropriate agencies notified
- Stretcher incidents continue to be a problem throughout the State
- The updated regulations are in the review process. Although the current regulations will be re-adopted for seven (7) years they will be repealed and replaced with new regulations once all approvals have been obtained
- If you are requesting anyone from the OEMS to attend an event, please make sure to submit a request at least 45 days prior to the date of the event
- The department issued a position statement on anti-choking devices which are currently not approved for use on any EMS vehicle within the State

OEMS Education – Mr. Kazar

- New Certification/License Update and Education Class Update since January 1, 2023

ALS Credentials	BLS Credentials	Education Classes
84	1,073	3,047

- The EMT Training Fund Committee is continuing to evaluate the EMT Refresher reimbursement
- The OEMS will be routinely updating the list of agencies eligible for EMT Training Fund Reimbursement, found on the Department’s website
- Funding for the new fiscal year started on July 1, 2023
- The OEMS continues to receive incomplete training fund vouchers or vouchers that are not submitted in a timely manner, which significantly delays the processing of payment vouchers
- The next EMT Instructor Screening Process will be announced in the next few weeks. Of the 27 candidates in the process, 20 are still awaiting the required successful completion of the NREMT assessment examination
- Initial EMT Programs in NJ currently have a collective first-time pass rate of 77%. Six (6) programs have a pass rate of greater than 80%
 - Safe-T EMS and Safety Training
 - RWJ Barnabas Health
 - Less Stress Instructional Services
 - Gloucester County EMS Training Academy
 - South Branch Emergency Services
 - Virtua Health
- Rowan College of Burlington County (RCBC) has been approved to conduct Initial EMT Education

New Business

Legislative Update

- Tabled by Dr. Carroll until the September 2023 Meeting

Trauma Response Criteria

- Tabled by Dr. Carroll until the September 2023 Meeting

Anti Choking Device – Dr. Carroll

- Discussion and support of the Department’s position statement on Anti-Chocking Devices

By-Laws – Dr. Carroll

- Pending Department Legal Review

New Jersey Protocols – Dr. Carroll

- Discussed the updates to the protocols

Motion made (Dr. Klebacher) to add 2mg/kg of Ketamine IM for sedation to the protocols. Not Seconded

Motion made (Dr. Schreibman) to approve the protocols dated April 2023, Seconded (Dr. Wang). Approved

Ya	Nah	Abstain	Absent
12	0	0	5

Old Business

None

Public Comment

None

Meeting Schedule

- Currently scheduled for September 11, 2023, at 10:00 AM @ Somerset County Emergency Services Training Academy, 402 Roycefield Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844
- Currently scheduled for December 11, 2023, at 10:00 AM @ Burlington County Emergency Services Training Center

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 AM