

THE REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY, INC.

Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee

Minutes

January 22, 2019

The Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (REMAC) of New York City met on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at the Offices of the Regional EMS Council, 475 Riverside Drive, New York City. This meeting can be viewed via webcast at www.nycremsco.org.

<i>Members</i>		<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Burn Surgeon (1)	Robert J. Winchell, MD		√
Downstate New York Ambulance Association			
Ambulance Service Medical Director (1)	Josef Schenker, MD, Chair	√	
Emergency Medical Technicians (Basic/Paramedic) (2)	Michael Vatch, EMTP Robert Ackerman, Alt		√
	Vacant vacant, alt		
EMS Community Emergency Department			
Medical Directors (3)	Nikolaos Alexandrou, MD		√
	Christopher Graziano, MD	√	
	Vacant		
Nurses (2)	Eric Cohen, RN		√
	Mimi Langsam, RN		√
Administrators (2)	Kevin Munjal, MD	√	
	Cindy Baseluos, MD	√	
FDNY EMS			
Commissioner or Non- Physician Designee	Vacant		
Medical Director (3)	Dario Gonzalez, MD	√	
	Glenn Asaeda, MD		√

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	Bradley Kaufman, MD, 2 nd Vice Chair	√	
Online Medical Control Physicians (2)	Doug Isaacs, MD	√	
	Nathan Reisman, MD		√
Emergency Medical Technicians (Basic/Paramedic) (2)	Barbara Aziz, EMTP		√
	Joshua Bucklan, RN, EMTP		√
Greater New York Hospital Association			
President or Non- Physician Designee (1)	Alison Burke		√
Emergency Physician (1)	Jeffrey Rabrich, MD, 1 st Vice Chair		√
Ambulance Service Medical Director (1)	Vacant		√
	Vacant, alternate		
On Line Medical Control Physicians (2)	Lewis Marshall, JD, MD	√	
	Michael Redlener, MD	√	
	Michael Hilton, MD, alternate		
Emergency Department Administrator (2)	Laura Iavicoli, MD	√	
	Stuart Kessler, MD, alternate		
	Pamela Lai, MD	√	
Emergency Medical Technicians (Basic/Paramedic) (2)	Dominick Battinelli, EMTP	√	
	Scott Chiang, EMTP	√	
Medical Society of New York Physician (1)	Peter Wyer, MD	√	
Medical Standards Committee			
ALS Physician (1)	Paul Barbara, MD	√	
BLS Physician (1)	David Ben-Eli, MD	√	

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New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene- Emergency Preparedness Program Physician (1)	Celia Quinn, MD, MPH Timothy Styles, MD, MPH, alternate	√	
New York City Health & Hospitals Corporation Physician (1)	Marc Kanter, MD Cherisse Berry, MD, alternate	√	
New York City Police Department Physician (1)	Charles Martinez, MD		√
NYS Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Association/District 4 & 18			
Ambulance Service Medical Director (1)	Joseph Bove, MD		√
Emergency Medical Technicians (Basic/Paramedic) (2)	Martin Grillo, EMTP		√
	Vacant		
Pediatric Emergency Medicine Physician (1)	Vacant		√
Psychiatric Emergency Medicine Physician (1)	William Fisher, MD	√	
Regional EMS Council NYC Physician (1)	Robert Crupi, MD	√	
Training & Education Committee Physician (1)	Jessica van Voorhees, MD	√	
Trauma Surgeon (1)	Arthur Cooper, MD	√	
Non-Voting Members			
At Large	Yedidyah Langsam, PhD, EMTP		√

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At Large	Anthony Shallash, MD		√
Public	Christopher Sorrentino, RN		√

STAFF: Marie Diglio, Executive Director Operations
Joseph Raneri, Disaster Preparedness Coordinator
Mary Ann Sallas, REMSCO Staff

GUESTS: Mordy Lax, REMSCO T&E
Matt Friedman, MMC
Laurny Kosturko, FDNY OMA
Robert Goldstein, NYPD ESU
Jason Zimmerman, Hatzolah VAC
Pesach Zirkind, Maimonides Medical Center

Dr. Joseph Schenker, Chair, called the meeting to order. For the purposes of web casting, a roll call was performed. A quorum was present.

The Minutes of the November 13, 2018 REMAC Meeting were unanimously approved.

Voting Requirements. A quorum is based on the number of voting seats – whether they are filled or vacant. Currently, REMAC has 30 voting seats, so when voting, a majority of members must vote in the affirmative to pass any motion. That means, 16 votes in the affirmative are needed to pass any motion.

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

The Offices of the Council received the following correspondence:

➤ **Membership:**

- The following members are unable to attend this evening's meetings: Robert Ackerman, Charles Martinez.

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- Chevra Hatzolah VAC has appointed Dr. Jason Zimmerman as agency medical Director, replacing the late Dr. Friedman.
- Email and CV from Evan Mahl, MD, MA, Division of Pediatric EM, Maimonides Medical Center, expressing interest in the REMAC Pediatric Emergency Specialist seat.

➤ **From FDNY:**

- No report

➤ **From NYS DOH:**

- Prehospital Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC) information and application.
- Public Notice from New York State Department of Health, Bureau of EMS, Operations Unit, to be read into the REMAC Minutes of the following enforcement actions:

Provider /Agency Name	EMT / Agency #	Penalty	Violation	County of Residence
None				

➤ **Other:**

- Email from Peter Wyer announcing a one-day symposium at the NY Academy of Medicine on September 20, 2019. He is seeking stakeholder involvement with this project.
- Fordham University EMS Completed training and lab application for implementation of blood glucometry.
- The following agencies have completed training for implementation of 2019 Protocols:
 - NYU Langone Health
 - Assist Ambulance
 - RCA Ambulance
- The following agencies requested extensions for implementation of 2019 Protocols:
 - Priority One Ambulance

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- Midwood Ambulance
- InstaCare EMS
- Glen Oaks VAC
- Hunter Ambulance
- Email from Elizabeth Mellen, voicing concerns regarding hi-low sirens being used by Mount Sinai/St. Lukes.

The Office of the Council sent the following correspondence:

- The following were sent, at a minimum to Medical Standards and REMAC members:
 - Agendas, Minutes and associated attachments for the meeting.
- Letter of support for the Jacobi Hospital PCI Program.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee did not meet.

Medical Standards (David Ben-Eli, MD, Chair)

The following was discussed:

1. Certification and Credentialing:
 - a. Paramedic Exam results
 - b. Educational Provider Credentialing draft
 - c. The Training and Education Committee will now be responsible to review CME content and assign credits/category. T&E will develop criteria.
 - i. A T&E CME Tag was formed. Members include: M. Lax, Chair; J. Schenker; D. Isaacs; J. vanVoorhees; B. Kaufman; P. Barbara; J. Bucklan.
2. Protocols:
 - a. A documentation control process is being developed.
 - b. Protocol Agendas will be issued at least two weeks before the meeting.
 - c. Collaborative Protocols will be reviewed at the next Protocol Committee meeting.
 - i. NYC can adopt the collaborative protocols without joining the NYS collaborative group, this way maintaining freedom to revise regional ALS protocols as needed.

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d. Appendix O: was referred back to Protocol Committee.

REGIONAL COUNCIL UPDATE (*Robert Crupi, MD, Vice Chair*)

Dr. Robert Crupi reported that the Regional Emergency Medical Services Council of New York City met on November 27, 2018. The following is a meeting summary:

The following four (4) nominees were appointed as At Large members:

Robert Crupi, MD

Meaghan Farley, RN

Martina Bacarella, EMT

Robert Crupi, MD was appointed First Vice Chair.

REMSCO activities include:

- NYC REMSCO is again taking part in the NYC SurgeEx exercise planning workgroup. The 2019 SurgeEx will again focus on the ability of hospitals to rapidly identify patients for discharge and evacuation.
- Territory mapping for ambulance agencies. REMSCO staff work with NYCEM to push out instructions to agencies to submit their territory maps.
- NYC RxStat council on overdose prevention, providing monthly reports to NYC DOHMH on Naloxone usage throughout the city.
- Distribution of Naloxone for agencies.
- Distribution of Naloxone Leave Behind Kits.
- Assisting with NYS DOH migration of ePCR data to NEMSIS 3.4. Any agency beginning the transition process must submit a DOH 5136 form to REMSCO for regional endorsement.
- The Council has approved the following e-PCR Applications:
 - NYU Langone Hospital upgrading to NEMSIS 3.4 data.
 - SeniorCare EMS changing e-PCR vendors
- REMSCO is completing transition to a new emergency notification system. Once the transition is complete staff will send out notices to agencies advising of the new system and how the differences in future notifications.
- It was reported that the Program Agency is having issues with timely payment of vouchers submitted. This has to do with new staff at DOH offices and should be resolved shortly.
- No New Applications for Transfer of Operating Authority or Determinations of Public Need were received.

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- No New Applications for Determination of Public Need were received.

The next meeting of the Regional EMS Council will be held January 29, 2019.

TRAINING & EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE (*MORDY LAX, CHAIR*)

The Training & Education Committee met on January 8, 2010. The following is a summary:

- An educational package for the recent protocol update was developed. Thank you to Paul Barbara for assisting with the development of accompanying rationales.
- The REMSCO LMS had problems, but they are hopefully resolved. We may need to invest in a more robust LMS since it's use is increasing.
- Stoke protocol training will be posted to the REMSCO LMS. Thank you for the collaboration of FDNY and T and E Committee.
- T&E is now responsible for approving CME.

Future meetings will be alternating in-person and conference call. The Next T&E Meeting will be held via conference call on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 12 noon.

JOINT REMSCO/REMAC QA COMMITTEE UPDATE (*MICHAEL REDLENER, MD, CHAIR*)

The Joint Regional Emergency Medical Services Council/Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (REMAC) Quality Improvement Committee did not met.

Stroke:

- A map identifying the location of facilities able to participate in the Thrombectomy initiative were distributed and discussed.
- The FDNY's 30-minute transport time requirement appears to have been met in all five boroughs.
- The planned implementation date is April 1, 2019.
- An announcement letter will be written by T&E Chair, Mordy Lax.
- FDNY will provide stroke pocket cards and posters.

STATE EMS COUNCIL/SEMAC UPDATE (*Yedidyah Langsam, PhD*)

The State EMS Council (SEMSCO) and State Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (SEMAC) met on January 15 & 16, 2019. The following is a meeting summary:

STAFF REPORT: (Ryan Greenberg, Director)

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1. New SEMSCO officers elected.
2. New hires:
 - a. Steven Dziura, deputy director
 - b. Lynn Ferrugia, deputy administration – finance
3. Staff re-assignments:
 - a. Jean Taylor – Education (replaces A. Johnson)
 - b. Valerie Ozga – EMS coordinator
4. DOH is trying to go electronic:
 - a. Electronic Forms will be placed on webpage.
 - b. DOH staff (regional reps) will be using electronic forms for onsite inspections.
 - c. Newsletter should come out in 6 weeks. Email list being developed.
 - d. Facebook NYS health department ems community.
5. Mutual Aid
 - a. Policy is being reviewed.
 - b. REMSCO's must require and review updated MAA's.
6. Trauma Report should be posted before January 2019 STAC.
 - a. EMS is encouraged to interact with Trauma.
 - b. MIST should be taught.
 - i. How to improve EMS patient handoffs at emergency department.
Agencies adopt a "time out" for transferring EMS patients to nurses and physicians.
7. Grants:
 - a. PECC
 - b. EMS recognition program
 - c. Leadership Grant – info by June 2019
 - d. Opioid Grant
 - i. Interns will be dealing with different projects.
8. Vital Signs October 2019
9. EMS Week 2019:

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- a. There will be a statewide initiative on Sunday May 19, from noon to 4pm. EMS Agencies will be asked to go out into their communities and educate the public about EMS.
- b. EMS memorial, Tuesday, May 21, 2019. All 7 names are 911 deaths from NYC.

Medical Standards:

1. New statewide BLS protocols were approved.
 - a. August 1st last date to implement BLS protocols, but agencies can implement as soon as published by NYSDOH.
 - b. These are mandatory protocols.
 - c. EMTs/CFRs cannot do weight-based dosing. Out of their scope of practice.
2. The Medical Standards Committee will review QA collectable data elements and select 5-6 issues that can be measured using ePCR data.
3. ATS
 - a. No changes, but there is a provision for transport in a non ATS vehicle of an emergency patient. Lab contacts Wadsworth labs, not EMS agency
4. Syringe Epi policy has not changed.
 - a. Pediatric use of .5mg epi is standard. The issue is that NYSDOH includes an off-label dose that has been in our protocols for many years. As far as NYSDOH is concerned, even though .5mg/kg dose for peds is high, it is not unacceptable and is good patient care.
 - b. DOH is developing training graphics for ambulance personnel.
 - c. Administering weight-based medications is not in scope of practice of EMT basics.
5. Stroke
 - a. Regulations being approved
 - b. Three levels: Primary, Thrombectomy, Comprehensive
 - c. By March agreements with 4 credentialing agencies will be in place
 - d. Hospitals have up to 3 years to be credentialed and then designated by State.
6. Collaborative Protocols were approved
 - a. Revisions made to be consistent with BLS protocols

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- b. New Fever Protocol being created for transfusion reaction patients
 - c. Nick Alexandrou reviewed and compared with NYC protocols
 - d. No Lasix
 - e. No dopamine – removed from collaborative formulary
 - i. Both should be MCO
 - ii. This will be taken back for additional discussion
 - f. Trauma protocol should state that hemostatic dressings can be used by CFRs also.
7. Transfer of Care Protocol
- a. During a 2011 call a pediatric patient was transferred from ground ambulance to air ambulance. Problems occurred with air ambulance ventilation equipment. Concerns are focused on handoff before confirming appropriate equipment/staff were present.
 - b. Currently, there are no licenses for fixed wing transports – should they be approved by DOH? Also, there was not enough insurance to cover malpractice.
 - c. There is a patient transfer protocol in the new statewide BLS protocols
 - d. MIST program may be helpful. Other programs and credentialing agencies are being investigated.
 - e. Recommend developing a policy or best practices and create an education module on how to do patient handoff.

Education

1. EMT new minimum age is 17. Effective immediately.
2. CICs will have two designations, ALS and BLS. ALS level providers can opt to be BLS instructors. Can upgrade to ALS level latter by doing additional audits in an ALS program.
3. Course Sponsor renewals should be out by April 1st, 2019. EMT CC bridge being run at Northwell
4. End of course paperwork are still having issues. CICs must be more careful.
5. Instructors whose certification expires during a course, will have course rejected.
6. T&E projects:
 - a. ACS spine paper will be reviewed and current NYS policy updated

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- b. Compare NAEMSI skill list to NYS actual practice to identify which skills are being used.
- c. Regional faculty resumes are being reviewed by Liz Donnelly and Jean Taylor. They will also create selection criteria and educational roll-out.

Finance:

1. Working to increase funding and eliminate financial ceiling – allowing BEMS to spend all money allocated

Systems:

1. Equipment lists beginning updated
2. FirstNet ATT
3. EMS is in crisis. Reimbursement has decreased.

EMSC

1. Need a PICU nurse.
2. Next meeting May 12
3. Pediatric Restraint: Children not to be held by parent
4. 'Hospital Hub' being piloted. This is another program to share information electronically.
5. Letter stating hospitals can share outcome information with REMACs is posted on DOH hospital side.

The next meetings of the SEMAC and SEMSCO will be held on:

- **May 7 & 8, 2019**
- **September 24 & 25, 2019**
- **January 14 & 15, 2019**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Bylaws Committee report is not yet completed.

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Kevin Munjal spoke about the Community Paramedicine initiative. The TAG will meet to review the legal framework for CP, what is correct paramedic training, and the QA/Oversight needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Peter Wyer announced a future event being scheduled: “Stop The Dying – A collaborative Community Based Symposium on the Opioid Crisis. This will be a one-day symposium at the NY Academy of Medicine on September 20, 2019, “. He is seeking stakeholder involvement with this project. He asked to list REMAC s a supporter and requested one REMAC member to serve on the organizing committee. Anyone wanting to reach him can email him at pwyre1@gmail.com.

No further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm. **The next meeting of the REMAC is scheduled for February 12, 2019.**