

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

Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee

Minutes

March 19, 2019

The Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (REMAC) of New York City met on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at the EMS Division of Training, Fort Totten, Bayside, 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	√ c/c	

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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
Mary Ann Sallas, Executive Director Administration
Joseph Raneri, Disaster Preparedness Coordinator

GUESTS: David Prezant, MD, FDNY
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 January 22, 2019 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:**

- GNYHA appoints the following:
 - Non-physician designee: Samia McEachin (Alison Burke, Alt)
 - Ambulance Service Medical Director: Reed Caldwell, MD (Jonathan Berkowitz, MD, Alt)
 - ED Administrator: Matthew Fink, MD (Wallace Carter, MD, Alt.

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- EMT: Efrain Rendon
 - Clarification: According to REMAC Bylaws: “Among these organizations providing representatives, those that provide physician representatives shall provide physicians who are active in emergency medical services. **Others nominated by their constituent organizations are members of this group either ex-officio or are appointed due to their professional affiliations.**”

REMAC supported the appointments. These will be forwarded to REMSCO for final approval.

➤ **From FDNY:**

- PCR Monthly Inventory Control Report January 2019
- Non-compliant PCR form submission for August 2018: (June listed below)

Bedford Stuyvesant Volunteer Ambulance	Glen Oaks VAC
Bensonhurst VAC	Glendale VAC
Broad Channel VFD	Middle Village VAC
College Point VAC	NYRA, Inc.
East Midwood VAC	Roxbury VFD
Flushing VAC	Throggs Neck VAC
Forest Hills VAC	West Hamilton Beach VFD
Fordham University VAC	

➤ **From NYS DOH:**

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- 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: NONE.
- NYS DOH has requested reappointment of Lewis Marshall, MD, to SEMAC.

REMAC unanimously supported this appointment. This will be forwarded to REMSCO for final approval.

- Approval for SIUH EMS to operate as an Ambulance Transfusion Service.

➤ **Other:**

- Request for extension to implement Stroke Protocol:
 - Citywide Ambulance
 - Hunter Ambulance
 - NYU Ambulance
 - NYPH Ambulance
 - Assist Ambulance
- Letter from Danny Burstein requesting investigation of alleged legionella outbreak at SUNY Downstate, since it is an ambulance destination hospital.
- Copy of article on 911 reimbursement and alternative destinations.

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.
 - Physio-Control LIFEPAK 15 recall notice.
 - The following REMAC Advisories were distributed:
 - 2019-01A REMAC Advisory Updated Stroke Protocol - Appendix R

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- 2019-01 REMAC Advisory Updated Stroke Protocol

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee did not meet.

Medical Standards (Paul Barbara, MD, Vice-Chair)

The following revised documents are forwarded from the Medical Standards Committee in the form of seconded motions for consideration and vote:

1. Unified (Reformatted) Protocols

Use unified protocols as basis for regional protocols and incorporate collaborative protocols as needed. Must be completed and approved by September 2019, for implementation by January 1, 2020.

Roll-call and written votes were conducted. The motion carried.

2. Medical Control at the Scene – revised: *Roll-call and written votes were conducted. The motion carried.*

3. Appendix O Tension Pneumothorax – revised version 6: *Roll-call and written votes were conducted. The motion carried.*

4. Rescue Task Force (RTF) Medical Protocols – revised:

These protocols were previously approved. What is being discussed are revisions focused on triage and how to move patients from warm to cold zones. It was discovered that using modified START triage did not work well in a tactical environment. The RTF team is made of EMS and NYPD, which does not allow EMS members into Hot zone. This limited triage is restricted to warm zone operations. Once patient is in a safer environment a better assessment can be accomplished.

Roll-call and written votes were conducted. The motion carried.

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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 February 26, 2019. The following is a meeting summary:

- **A request to reappoint Lewis Marshall, MD, as representative to SEMAC was received from NYS DOH. This must be approved by REMAC and REMSCO.**
- One new Applications for Transfer of Operating Authority or Determinations of Public Need were received: Middle Village VAC to Ridgewood VAC. To be voted on at March 26, 2019 meeting.
- No New Applications for Determination of Public Need were received.
- A process to clarify operating territory is being developed.
- The following agencies have applied for and been approved for Pediatric Emergency Care Coordination (PECC): NYU Langone, SeniorCare EMS, Assist Ambulance, Wyckoff Heights Medical Center, Jamaica Hospital and Maimonides, Medical Center.
- NYC REMSCO participated in the 2019 NYC SurgeEx evacuation exercise (March 6, 2019). It was a no short notice regional evacuation scenario. The primary EMS players in the exercise were private ambulance services with REMSCO operating as controller in an InfoCell.
- NYC REMSCO continues to participate in the NYC RxStat council on overdose prevention, providing monthly reports to NYC DOHMH on Naloxone usage throughout the city.
- REMSCO continues to distribute Naloxone for agencies. Agencies needing naloxone only need to contact the REMSCO office to set-up a date and time to pick-up the medication.
- In addition to using the medication on scene, agencies may also participate in the NYCDOHMH Leaver Behind Kit program. REMSCO shall provide agencies with Leave Behind Kits that they may distribute to OD patients who are revived but refuse

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transportation. Agencies participating in this program will be required to provide a monthly report of the calls where they left a kit behind.

- The NYS DOH continues its migration over to NEMSIS 3.4 Data. Agencies should contact their E-PCR vendor regarding their schedule to transition over to NEMSIS 3.4 data. Any agency beginning the transition process must submit a DOH5136 form to REMSCO for regional endorsement.
- NYC REMSCO has completed the transition of its regional ePCR system from Zoll to ImageTrend. Thus far ten volunteer agencies have been built into the system and are live.
- The Council has received the following E-PCR Applications to upgrade to NEMSIS 3.4 Data:
 - Mount Sinai West EMS (1225) – Upgrading to NEMSIS 3.4
 - Columbia University EMS (7287) – Upgrading to NEMSIS 3.4
- The Council has received the following new applications for utilization of E-PCRs
 - Rapid EMS (0608) – Go Live on NEMSIS 2 using ESO Solutions
 - Citywide Mobile Response (7046) on NEMSIS 2 using ESO Solutions
 - All applications have been reviewed and deemed complete by staff
- NYC REMSCO has limited quantities glucometers, expired test strips, lancets and test solution if agencies or course sponsors would like to utilize these products for training purposes. Agencies should be aware that the glucometer test strips and control solutions that were distributed in 2017 have expired. They can contact any McKesson product distributor to order new supplies.
- REMSCO has completed its transition to the new RAVE notification system. FDNY has utilized this system in recent weeks to push out weather contingency alerts.
 - REMSCO plans to utilize the system for pushing out SurgeEx notifications
 - Agencies should check in with REMSCO to ensure their contact listings are up to date.

The next meeting of the Regional EMS Council will be held March 26, 2019.

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

The Training & Education Committee met on March 11, 2019. The following is a summary:

- Regional Faculty resumes are being reviewed by DOH staff (Liz Donnelly & Jean Taylor). They are developing selection and training criteria.
- CIU and CLI courses conducted were well received. 24 new CLIs will take state exam on April 18, 2019.
- Protocol Update Training Module was developed and implemented.
- T&E Members were asked to search for new LMS systems. Members also asked to help identify upper and lower limits for users on LMS.

Stroke:

- LMS challenge for this educational roll-out included its usability on different platforms and agency firewalls and other security barriers.
- Videos were posted on REMSCO YouTube page to increase availability.
- Current LMS does not have tools to force users to view entire training course before being allowed to take exam. This must be corrected.
- Over 1000 non-municipal providers have taken this course and exam.
- An FAQ list is being developed.

CME:

- CME requests will now go to T&E for approval. This should standardize CME approval and tracking.

Future meetings will be alternating in-person and conference call.

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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 met on Tuesday, February 19 and March 14, 2019. The following is a meeting summary:

Patient Care Restrictions

- Three (3) PCR appeals have been received. They are being held pending completion of NYS DOH BEMS investigations.
 - 1 case has been resolved by DOH and FDNY has lifted the PCR.

Stroke

- REMAC Stroke Advisory has been issued.
- A listing of Thrombectomy Centers has been developed and distributed.
- A tool for OLMC Facilities to collect data will be developed.

Regional QA for Program Agency Deliverables

- An abstract and timeline for associated Stroke QA project is being developed as a NYS DOH Program Agency deliverable.
 - a. Stroke deliverables to be added to PA deliverables
 - i. Pre-implementation (writing protocol, develop training, invite participating hospitals, implement protocol and training)
 - ii. Post implementation – data collection
 - b. SEMSCO/SEMAC Data Elements request

The SEMAC is developing regional and statewide QA initiatives, and asked for regional input. Below is the list of potential QA topics. The following 5 options are recommended to be included in the 2019 NYS EMS Quality Initiative:

1. CARDIAC ARREST: Percent of cardiac arrest patients with pre-hospital ROSC (BLS)
2. CHEST PAIN: Percent of patients with chest pain to receive a 12 lead ECG ~~within 10 minutes~~ of the patient contact. (BLS/ALS)

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3. CHEST PAIN: What percentage of patients with field 12 lead ECG indicated ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) was transported to a hospital with emergency interventional cardiac catheterization capabilities (System)
4. PEDIATRIC: Percentage of pediatric respiratory distress patients who received a respiratory assessment (RR & SPO2) (BLS)
5. STROKE: Percent of suspected CVA/TIA patients receiving a blood glucose (BG) check (BLS)

First Watch (Dr Michael Redlener gave a presentation)

- The QA Grant associated with this project was discussed.
- Additional information will be presented at the next REMAC meeting.
- Need to get this product into our EMS agencies. We cannot force anyone, but this is a great tool for individual and regional QA.
 - *The PPT used for this presentation is available upon request.*

Future QA Committee meetings are:

Thursday, March 14, 2019, 5p-6p

Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 3:30p-4:30p

Tuesday, May 14, 2019, 5p-6p

Tuesday, June 11, 2019, 3:30p-4:30p

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

The State EMS Council (SEMSCO) and State Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (SEMAC) will meet on May 7 & 8, 2019.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Kevin Munjal, MD, gave a presentation of the ET3 Project. This presentation is available upon request. This pilot will focus on the use of alternative destination for emergency (911) patients. There was a robust discussion and questions as to why this project would exclude a large portion

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of the EMS Community. Josef Schenker formed an ET3 Task Force to focus on this project. All interested persons should contact Marie Diglio to be added.

Bylaws:

There continues to be work on this. Input from full REMAC was requested. It was affirmed that REMAC is not a medical director committee, but a committee of stake-holders.

NEW BUSINESS

No report.

No further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm. **The next meeting of the REMAC is scheduled for April 16, 2019.**