# NYC Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (REMAC) Meeting Minutes January 23, 2024

The REMAC Meeting was on January 23, 2024, at 475 Riverside Drive, New York, New York. The meeting was simultaneously broadcast on YouTube, and a full recording can be viewed at <a href="https://www.nycremsco.org">www.nycremsco.org</a>.

REMAC Member	Present
Fire Department, City of New York (10)	Treserie
Commissioner or Non-Physician Designee (1)	
Grace Cacciola, EMTP ( <u>Grace.Cacciola@fdny.nyc.gov</u> )	
Medical Directors (5)	
Glenn Asaeda, MD ( <u>asaedag@fdny.nyc.gov</u> )	Х
Bradley Kaufman, MD, 2nd Vice Chair (kaufmab@fdny.nyc.gov)	Х
Dario Gonzalez, MD (gonzald1@fdny.nyc.gov)	
Nathan Reisman, MD (nathan.reisman@fdny.nyc.gov)	Х
Pamela Lai, MD (pamela.lai@fdny.nyc.gov)	Х
Alternate: Sophia Gorgens (Sophia.gorgens@fdny.nyc.gov)	
On-Line Medical Control Physicians (2)	
Nikolaos Alexandrou (Nikolaos.Alexandrou@fdny.nyc.gov)	Х
Doug Isaacs, MD (isaacsd@fdny.nyc.gov)	
Alternate: William Haussner, MD (william.haussner@fdny.nyc.gov)	X
Emergency Medical Technicians (Basic/Paramedic) (2)	
Kevin Ward, EMTP (Kevin.Ward@fdny.nyc.gov)	Х
Annemarie Girgenti, EMT-P (Annemarie.Girgenti@fdny.nyc.gov)	
Greater New York Hospital Association	
President or Non-Physician Designee (1)	
Andrew Dahl ( <u>ADahl@GNYHA.org</u> )	
Alternate: Alison Burke (aburke@gnyha.org)	
Emergency Department Physician (1)	
Jeffrey Rabrich, MD, 1st Vice Chair ( <u>jrabrich@chpnet.org</u> )	X
Alternate: Lauryn Kosturko, MD (lauryn.kosturko@gmail.com)	
Ambulance Service Medical Director (1)	
Reed Caldwell, MD (Reed.Caldwell@nyulangone.org)	X
Alternate: Jonathan Berkowitz, MD (jberkowitz3@northwell.edu)	
On-Line Medical Control Physicians (2)	
Lewis Marshall, MD, J.D. ( <a href="mailto:lmarshmdjd58@gmail.com">lmarshmdjd58@gmail.com</a> )	
Michael Redlener, MD ( <u>mredlener@mountsinai.org</u> )	Х
Emergency Medical Technicians (Basic/Paramedic) (2)	
Dominick Battinelli, EMTP ( <u>dbattinelli@northwell.edu</u> )	
Efrain Rendon, EMT ( <u>erendon@jhmc.org</u> )	
Downstate New York Ambulance Association (DNYAA)	
Ambulance Service Medical Director (1)	
Josef Schenker, MD, Chair ( <u>ids9005@nyp.org</u> )	X
Emergency Medical Technicians (Basic/Paramedic) (2)	
Michael Vatch, EMTP ( <u>mvatch@seniorcareems.net</u> )	
Robert Ackerman, EMTP ( <u>rackerman@seniorcareems.net</u> )	
NYS Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Association/District 4 & 18	
Ambulance Service Medical Director (1)	

Joseph Bove, MD ( <u>bovejoseph933@gmail.com</u> )	
Emergency Medical Technicians (Basic/Paramedic) (2)	
Sean Graves, EMT Vacant EMT/EMTP Seat	
auma Surgeon	
Arthur Cooper, MD (ac38@columbia.edu)	Х
diatric Trauma Surgeon	
Vacant	
rn Surgeon	
Robert J. Winchell, MD ( <u>row9057@med.cornell.edu</u> )	
w York City Police Department Physician	
Edward Jarvis, MD (jarvise@me.com)	X
Alternate: Nicholas Vaccari, MD ( <u>nv104md@gmail.com</u> ) w York City Health & Hospitals Physician	
Marc Kanter, MD (marckanter@gmail.com)	X
Alternate: Cherisse Berry, MD (Cherisse.Berry@nyumc.org)	^
gional EMS Council of New York City Physician	
Robert Crupi, MD ( <u>roc9149@nyp.org</u> )	
w York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene-Emergency Preparedness Program Physician	
Mary Foote, MD, MPH ( <u>cguinnmd@health.nyc.gov</u> )	
Alternate Vacant	
S Community Emergency Department	
Emergency Department Medical Directors (2)	
Laura lavicoli, MD ( <u>iavicoll@nychhc.org</u> )	v
Alternate: Stuart Kessler, MD ( <u>kesslers@nychhc.org</u> )  Matthew Fink MD (mfink@med.cornell.edu)	Х
Alternate: Wallace Carter, MD (wac9010@nyp.org)	
Emergency Department Nurses* (2)	
Eric Cohen, RN (traumamanager@gmail.com)	
Vacant R.N. Seat	
Emergency Department Administrators*/Physicians (2)	
Kevin Munjal, MD ( <u>kevin.munjal@gmail.com</u> )	X
Cindy Baseluos, MD ( <u>cbaseluos@rumcsi.org</u> )	Х
chiatric Emergency Medicine Physician	
Vacant Physician Seat	
diatric Emergency Medicine Physician  Matthew Harris MD (MHarris 13@porthwell edu)	V
Matthew Harris, MD ( <u>MHarris13@northwell.edu</u> ) amedic Program Medical Director	Х
Non-Municipal (1)	
Jessica van Voorhees, MD (jbvanvoorhees@me.com)	
Municipal/FDNY EMS (1)	
Benjamin Zabar, MD ( <u>Benjamin.Zabar@fdny.nyc.gov</u> )	Х
dical Standards Committee	
Non-Municipal (1)	
Paul Barbara, MD ( <u>pjbarbara@me.com</u> )	Х
Alternate: Jonathan Berkowitz, MD ( <u>jberkowitz3@northwell.edu</u> )	
Municipal/FDNY EMS (1)	
David Ben-Eli, MD ( <u>benelid@fdny.nyc.gov</u> )	Х

Peter Wyer, MD ( <u>pwyer1@gmail.com</u> ) Alternate: Erik Blutinger ( <u>erik.blutinger@mountsinai.org</u> )	
At Large (2) (non-voting)	
Yedidyah Langsam, PhD, EMTP ( <u>langsam@sci.brooklyn.cuny.edu</u> )	
Anthony Shallash, MD (tony.shallash@gmail.com)	
Public (consumer) (1)	
Vacant	

STAFF: Marie Diglio, Executive Director

Scott Chiang, CTC Coordinator/Emergency Preparedness

Charles Ung, CTC Assistant

Joseph Raneri, Information System Data Coordinator

Michelle S. Klemm, Operations Assistant

GUESTS: Frank Cheng, FDNY OMA

Kahlia Graham, Deputy Chief, FDNY EMS

Mark Hanna, MD, EMS Physician Columbia NYP

Wanda Luciano, FDNY EMS

John Vega, MD, Jamaica Hospital

Michelle Safferman, MD, NYU Langone

Maria Mulligan-Buckmiller, MD, NYU Langone

The following is an <u>ABRIDGED</u> version of the meeting minutes. A full meeting recording is available at <u>www.nycremsco.org.</u>

Dr. Josef Schenker (Chair, REMAC) called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. Michelle Klemm conducted a roll call attendance and announced that Sophia Gorgens, MD, will act as the alternate for Dario Gonzalez, MD, during the meeting. A quorum was present.

The committee approved the Minutes of the November 28, 2023 meeting.

During the meeting, Dr. Josef Schenker announced that the agenda would be revised to accommodate the presentation and Q&A session of the Q.I. Committee, which would take place at the beginning of the meeting. Silvia Verdugo, who represented FirstWatch, delivered a presentation on the FirstWatch NYC AHA Regional Dashboard. This tool enables the

region to monitor Mission Lifeline measures for STEMI and stroke. It also facilitates data analysis across EMS agencies and helps identify areas requiring quality improvement.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE REPORT**

#### The Offices of the Council received the following correspondence:

- Membership:
  - A resume was received from Kelly A. Gorman, FNP-BC, MBA, MSN, PHRN, NRP, to fill the vacant EMS
     Community R.N. Seat.
    - A vote was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously. The resume will be forwarded to REMSCO for approval.
  - The following members requested to be excused: Kevin Munjal, MD; Robert Crupi, MD; Grace Cacciola, EMTP; Mordechai Lax, EMTP; and Laura Iavicoli, MD.

#### FDNY EMS:

- o The FDNY Search & Rescue Field Medicine Symposium will be on May 2-5, 2024. A flyer with additional information and a registration link has been distributed.
- NYS DOH Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems:
  - A letter from Alda Osinaga, MD, MPH, Medical Director, informed REMAC that NYC Health +
     Hospitals/Harlem has met the criteria for designation as a Primary New York State Stroke Center pursuant to 10 NYCRR 405.34. The application was approved on January 17, 2024.
  - o An email from Drew Chesney informed the Council that the NYS DOH Bureau of EMS and Trauma Systems and the State EMS Council (SEMSCO) Training and Education Committee are moving forward with the sunset of the NYS EMT-Critical Care (EMT-CC). They request feedback from providers at <a href="https://apps.health.ny.gov/pubpal/builder/survey/critical-care-technician-sunset-">https://apps.health.ny.gov/pubpal/builder/survey/critical-care-technician-sunset-</a>
  - o NYS DOH Enforcements:
  - o Christopher Langevin, New Milford, CT, EMT 153229, is suspended for one (1) year effective 11/8/23, for violations of 10 NYCRR Part 800.3 (am), 800.15 (a) (1), 800.15 (a)(2), and 800.16 (a) (3). The suspension is stayed pending no further violations for three (3) years. Assessed a civil penalty of \$1,000.
  - Enforcement Actions (for both providers and agencies) can be viewed on the NYS DOH BEMS&TS EMS
     Disciplinary Actions-Enforcement Actions page at
     <a href="https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/ems/sanctions.htm">https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/ems/sanctions.htm</a>.

- Ambulance Agencies:
  - o None

#### CME/Training:

The following events were received and distributed:

- o Northwell Health held an "EMS Stroke Lecture Series" on November 29, 2023, and December 20, 2023.
- The Borough of Manhattan Community College held a Healthcare, Education, and EMS Expo on December 17, 2023, to view the latest equipment for patient care, education, simulation, and mental health resources.

#### • Other:

- o A save-the-date was received for the next NYC RTAC meeting on February 5, 2024.
- A copy of the December 6, 2023 edition of the New York State Register was received detailing new NYS EMS Education regulations posted for public comment. The regulations concern the Educational Requirements for Certified Emergency Medical Services Providers and Hospital Cybersecurity Requirements.
- O Lewis Marshall, MD, sent a research paper from the November 2023 edition of the *Annals of Emergency Medicine* titled "Acute Severe Behavioral Disturbance Requiring Parenteral Sedation in Pediatric Mental Health Presentations to Emergency Medical Services: A Retrospective Chart Review" for distribution to the Medical Standards and REMAC Committees.

#### The Office of the Council sent the following correspondence:

- Agendas, Minutes, and associated attachments for the meeting.
- Marie Diglio sent a letter to David Prezant, MD, who is the Chief Medical Officer of the Fire Department of the City of New York. The letter confirms that on October 17, 2023, the New York City Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (REMAC) reviewed and approved the revised General Operating Procedures (GOP) and Appendix P. The protocols will be used by multiple agencies participating in treat-in-place (formerly known as ET3), which include FDNY, NYC Health + Hospitals, Medisys, Montefiore, Mount Sinai, Northwell, and New York Presbyterian.
- The MTA Congestion Pricing Public Comment Period will be held from December 27, 2023 to March 11, 2024.
  Public members may submit written or audio comments or attend a hybrid virtual/in-person hearing. The hearings will be accessible online at the project website mta.info/CBDTP and live streamed on the MTA YouTube channel youtube.com/@mta-live on the following dates:

- Thursday, February 29, at 6:00 p.m.
- Friday, March 1, at 10:00 a.m.
- Monday, March 4, at 10:00 a.m.
- Monday, March 4, at 6:00 p.m.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Josef Schenker, MD, reported that the Executive Committee did not meet. However, the committee will review attendance records to determine the membership status of REMAC committee members.

After a brief discussion about virtual meetings, Arthur Cooper, MD, motioned to write a letter to public officials to support changing the public meeting law to allow virtual meetings. David Ben-Eli, MD, seconded the motion.

A hand vote was conducted, and the motion passed.

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

Certification & Credentialing Committee (Paul Barbara, MD, Chair)

Paul Barbara, MD, reported that the Certification & Credentialing Committee met on January 5, 2024. The following is a summary:

• The Certification & Credentialing Committee brought forward a seconded motion through Medical Standards to REMAC to move the OLMC Physician Credentialing to the LMS with a start date of March 1, 2024, and extend OLMC physician expiration dates until September 1.

Joseph Raneri presented the new OLMC Physician Credentialing pathway, which simplifies the administrative process for original certifications and recertifications while aligning physicians and EMS providers on the protocols.

Marie Diglio conducted a roll call vote, and the results were 20 approved, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions. The motion carried.

- The OLMC physician credentialing process through the Learning Management System (LMS) will simplify
  paperwork, enable direct payment, and send automated expiration notifications.
- The candidate's initial certification process will remain the same, but paperwork will be submitted online. For recertification, the entire process will be conducted online.
- Joseph Raneri will conduct a meeting to introduce the Regional Faculty to the new process.
- In the future, OLMC instructors will provide training, quality assurance, and feedback to providers. Additionally, REMAC (Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee) will have to address a virtual component of telemetry observation, such as simulated scenarios with questions or other elements that can be uploaded to the LMS.

The next Certification & Credentialing Committee meeting is on February 2, 2024, at 10 a.m. via Microsoft Teams.

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

David Ben-Eli, MD, reported that Medical Standards met on January 9, 2024. He said the Protocol Committee is reviewing and discussing items to present at the next REMAC meeting, but there were no actionable items.

The next Medical Standards Committee meeting is on February 6, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom.

#### Protocol Committee (Pamela Lai, MD, Chair)

Pamela Lai, MD, reported that the Protocol Committee met on December 15, 2023.

The Protocol Committee brought forward a seconded motion to REMAC to have the date of protocol implementation on July 1, 2024, mirroring the NYS SEMAC protocol process. Training materials will be available by April 1, 2024.

A vote was conducted, and the results were 20 approved, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions. The motion carried.

The next Protocol Committee meeting is on January 26, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.

#### QI Report (Michael Redlener, MD, Chair)

Michael Redlener, MD, reported that the Q.I. Committee met on January 3, 2024. The following is a summary:

• First Watch: The committee received the latest updates regarding the FirstWatch Dashboard.

- New York State Cares Program: The Mount Sinai Health System, which includes the hospital and EMS, has joined
  the NYS CARES program. Preliminary data has already been submitted, and representatives from the NYS CARES
  Program will present further information at the next REMAC meeting.
- Regional Restriction Case: The committee has reviewed and decided on CIC remediation for a Paramedic.
- SIEMT Course Sponsor Upgrade: The committee reviewed the application, deemed it complete, and approved the course sponsor upgrade to ALS Refresher.

The next Q.I. Committee meeting is on February 7, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom.

#### Training & Education (Mordy Lax, Chair)

There was no report, but according to Dr. Schenker, Mordy Lax reported that he could complete the training materials by April.

The next Training & Education Committee meeting is on January 26, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

#### **TAGs**

#### Interfacility TAG

Dr. Berkowitz reported that the first draft of the document is complete and being reviewed. If members of the REMAC Committee are interested in reviewing the document, contact Michelle Klemm.

The next meeting is on February 1, 2024.

Regional Trauma Center Advisory Committee (RTAC) (Arthur Cooper, MD)

There was no report.

#### REMSCO Update (Yedidyah Langsam, Chair REMSCO)

Marie Diglio reported that the Regional Emergency Medical Services Council of New York City met on November 28, 2023. The following is a summary:

#### Approved Motions:

- The Regional Council approved the Expansion of Bedford-Stuyvesant Volunteer Ambulance Service to include the following new territory, 'In New York City, the confines of the NYPD 73rd, 75th and 77th Precincts and Kings County Community Boards #5, #8 and #16."
- o Complete applications for CFR, EMT, and Paramedic course renewals were received from several course sponsors and were approved. The approved course sponsors are FDNY; NYPD Emergency Service Unit; Modern Health Resources; Gerrittsen Beach Fire Department; B&H Emergency Medical Training; Emergency Care Programs; Montefiore Institute for Emergency Care Training; NYU Langone Hospitals; Emergency Aid Training, Inc.; Queensborough Community College; Kingsborough Community College; Center for Allied Health Education; and RTI Training.
- Scott Chiang provided an update on Emergency Preparedness. During the meeting, he said that the final FEMA
  DR4480 Covid-related funds were under review and would soon be disbursed to the agencies that had
  participated in the Covid activation. At the REMAC meeting, Marie Diglio reported the review was completed, and
  the agencies will receive the disbursements.
- Intranasal Narcan is available. Agencies that need Narcan, please contact REMSCO to arrange pick up.
- During the Regional Council Meeting, it was reported that the Council had submitted the first quarter Program Agency and Regional Council vouchers and was awaiting the Program Agency's funds. Marie Diglio reported the Council received the money and submitted the second quarter Program Agency and Regional Council vouchers.
- SEMAC/SEMSCO Subcommittees meet virtually, and non-SEMAC and SEMSCO members can join. Names and email addresses of committee members were shared with NYS DOH, and emails are now sent through Boardable. Please let the Office of the Regional EMS Council know if you are not receiving them.
- The Ambulance Security Sticker TAG reported that a new decal and quote were requested from the vendor. A request was made for the new decal, but it was not received.
- In New York City, vehicles entering or traveling within the central business district of Manhattan will be charged due to a congestion pricing proposal. A Technical Advisory Group (TAG) sent a letter to the Metropolitan Transportation Board (MTA) to request an exemption for EMS. The committee will follow up with them and arrange a meeting to discuss the issues.
- Mordechai Lax was not in attendance to provide the report. Marie Diglio reported that the committee is working
  on the Learning Management System. In addition, Meghan Williams is leading the Regional Faculty and
  collaborating with the New York State Department of Health to host regional Certified Lab Instructor and Certified
  Instructor courses.
- Marie Diglio reported that there was a discussion at SEMAC/SEMSCO about the regional credentialing of Paramedics. In June, the New York State Department Bureau of EMS informed members that they support regionally credentialing paramedics. However, in September, they redacted that statement and said that after

speaking with their legal department, they determined that regional councils had no authority to regionally credential. New York State created a Credentialing Committee to discuss the issues. Paul Barbara, MD, is the chair of this committee, and several members from New York City, including Marie Diglio, are members.

#### New York State Executive Budget

Marie Diglio reported in the correspondence that the New York State governor has released an Executive Budget that includes a significant section on EMS changes. Although she has yet to review it, the SEMAC/SEMSCO Subcommittees have approved reasonable changes. Marie Diglio will review it further for any additional changes and distribute the report to the REMAC Committee. The Council was contacted by Senator Rivera's office, the Senate Health Committee Chair, to obtain feedback from New York City.

#### SEMAC/SEMSCO (Lewis Marshall, MD, J.D.

Joseph Schenker, MD, reported that the SEMAC/SEMSCO did not meet.

#### New York State Credentialing Subcommittee

Dr. Josef Schenker reported that a New York State Credentialing Subcommittee was formed to discuss regional credentialing authority and the role of REMACs in credentialing. The subcommittee was established following a case upstate where a REMAC withdrew the credentials of an EMS provider. However, the provider legally challenged the decision and was informed that REMAC had no authority to revoke their credentials.

#### REMAC Meeting Discussion

- There was a lengthy discussion about the terminology used to define licensure, certification, and credentialing.
- There are concerns about REMAC facing legal challenges over credentialing authority in New York City.
- Paul Barbara, MD, reported that the National Scope of Practice has been the New York State Credentialing
   Subcommittee template.
- Josef Schenker, MD, reported that the New York City region does not certify EMTs or Paramedics in New York State. New York State issues an EMT or Paramedic certification. The REMAC does not have the authority to withdraw this certification. However, the REMAC can withdraw the Paramedic's REMAC certification.
- There are concerns that removing regional credentialing could disrupt our region.

The next SEMAC/SEMSCO meeting will be on February 6, 2024, and February 7, 2024, in Troy, New York.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Statewide iGel Basic Life Support Pilot Project

An application was received from Ridgewood Volunteer Ambulance to participate in the statewide iGel Basic Life Support (BLS) Pilot Project. The application is complete. The REMAC Committee approved the application.

#### Advanced Life Support Upgrade Application: Chasdei Devorah Ezras Nashim

Chasdei Devorah Ezras Nashim submitted an ALS upgrade application to provide Advanced Life Support Service in the region. The application is complete. Some committee members expressed concern about how the agency would respond to calls with only one Paramedic on duty. Marie Diglio, however, reported that volunteer agencies are allowed to operate with one Paramedic and respond to non-911 calls. The reason for filing this ALS upgrade application was to obtain reimbursement for sending their Paramedic members to a Paramedic class.

After a brief discussion, the committee approved the application with the contingency that the service does not respond to 9-1-1 designated calls without two paramedics on their units.

A hand vote was conducted, and the results were 20 approved, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions. The motion carried.

#### Regional Snake Bite Treatment

Paul Barbara, MD, reported that Staten Island University Hospital successfully treated a toxic snake bite.

#### EMS Week

Joseph Raneri reported that the Regional EMS Council of New York City will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in May. A celebration will occur during EMS Week at Russos on the Bay, located in Queens, New York. The office will send out savethe-date notices, registration links, and information on nominating someone for an award.

#### **Emergency Medical Services for Children**

Dr. Matt Harris has announced the 40th anniversary of Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC), nationally recognized in 1984. If any agency still needs to identify a pediatric emergency care coordinator, they should contact Dr. Matt Harris or Dr. Arthur Cooper.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. and seconded. The next REMAC meeting will be on February 13, 2024, at 5 p.m. at 475 Riverside Drive, New York, New York.