



# W e s t c h e s t e r R E M A C

## General Meeting Minutes - November 15, 2010

**Date:** November 15, 2010  
**Time:** 9:00 AM  
**Location:** Westchester County Department of Emergency Services  
**Chairman:** Dr. Nicholas DeRobertis, MD

**MEMBERS**

Dr. Mark Silberman  
 Dr. Ron Nutovits  
 Dr. Carlos Flores  
 Dr. Paul Koltovich  
 Dr. Robert Marcus  
 Dr. Emil Nigro  
 Dr. Joseph Ponticiello  
 Dr. Richard Marino  
 Dr. Nicholas DeRobertis  
 Dr. David Goldwag  
 Dr. Tim Haydock

**AFFILIATION:**

Dobbs Ferry Community Hospital  
 Hudson Valley Hospital Center  
 Lawrence Hospital  
 Mt. Vernon Hospital  
 Northern Westchester Hospital  
 Phelps Memorial Hospital Center  
 Sound Shore Medical Center  
 St. John's Riverside Hospital  
 St. Joseph's Medical Center  
 Westchester Medical Center  
 White Plains Medical Center

**ATTENDANCE**

Alternate (Dr. Cordi)  
 Present  
 Absent  
 Absent  
 Present  
 Absent  
 Present  
 Present  
 Excused  
 Excused  
 Present

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS**

VACANT  
 Dr. Joli Yuknek  
 Dr. Richard Gallager  
 Ray Cordi  
 Roland Faucher  
 Chief Anthony Chiarlitti  
 Eugene Kelly  
 VACANT

Medical Specialty (Trauma)  
 Medical Specialty (Pediatrics)/WPHC  
 Medical Specialty (Psychiatry) / WMC  
 EMS – Proprietary  
 EMS – Voluntary / MVFAVAC  
 Police / Pleasantville PD  
 Fire - Career  
 Fire - Volunteer

VACANT  
 Excused  
 Absent  
 Present  
 Absent  
 Present  
 Excused  
 VACANT

**GUESTS**

Dr. Erik Larsen  
 Jeff Casas  
 Antony Sutton  
 Donald Cottle  
 Michael Volk  
 Daniel Olmoz  
 Rich Robinson  
 Gary Kaplan

White Plains Hospital Center  
 Port Chester-Rye-Rye Brook EMS  
 WCDES  
 Westchester EMS  
 WCDES  
 WCDES  
 NYSDOH, Bureau of EMS  
 Bound Tree Medical

**MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 9:09 AM by Vice-Chair Dr. Haydock. It was determined that a quorum was not present. The minutes from the September meeting were disseminated to the members electronically. There were no corrections requested.

**SEMAG**

Dr. Haydock reported that SEMAG met on October 5th. Items discussed included:

- Nasal Narcan demonstration projects;
- NY City presented preliminary data from the Therapeutic Hypothermia program;
- Online Medical Control by non-Physicians;
- Ambulance patient compartment safety. Emergent procedures that may be performed when unrestrained;
- Standardizing ALS protocols or developing state-wide protocol standards;
- In the Nassau region, a hospital consortium was able to get its own protocols approved by REMAC altering the traditional regional protocol process. The move was challenged by the REMSCO and the protocols were not approved by SEMAG/SEMSCO;



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- V&T law has been amended to include AEMTs on the list of who may draw blood at the request of a police officer when DWI is suspected. There is concern that this bypasses medical control and since the AEMT may refuse to comply with the request, it may stress collaboration efforts on scene. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding sampling kit usage, training, and right of refusal by the patient.

### **SUBCOMMITTEES/TAG Reports**

**PROTOCOLS** – Dr. Cordi reported the 2010 AHA Guidelines have been released requiring modifications to the cardiac related protocols. Due to the State EMS meetings taking place after the Guidelines were released, no action was taken at the state level. It is anticipated that direction will be coming from SEMAC in this regard.

**EVALUATION** –Dr. Haydock reported that the Evaluation Committee met via conference call on October 18th to make a determination in the provider complaint where an EMT-basic was found to have practiced ALS skills while working with a REMAC credentialed Paramedic. The Committee determined that the Paramedic should be suspended for a six month period, and since the state is also reviewing the case, would consider adding to the suspension if necessary to comply with any state sanctions.

Also, it became apparent throughout the recent actions, that an update to the procedures used to process provider complaints is needed. The Committee has made some recommendations which hopefully can be approved by REMAC at the next meeting.

**QUALITY IMPROVEMENT** – Dr. Haydock requested that D. Olmoz provide an overview of the changes being proposed to the QI guidelines. Among the changes reported were a streamlining of reporting procedures, institution of a regional committee to meet with agency and hospital representatives, and a refocusing of regional data to help identify system performance. It was felt by the members present that additional time was needed to review the proposed revisions.

**STEMI TAG** – D. Olmoz reported that there have been no applications for STEMI program participation received by the Regional EMS Office. Dr. Goldwag asked that the REMAC be made aware that he had two STEMI cases with positive outcomes as a result of the new procedures and will be providing more details at the next meeting.

**INTERFACILITY TRANSPORT TAG** – No report. A chair is needed for the TAG as a result of Dr. Guttenberg's departure.

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**HUDSON VALLEY / WESTCHESTER HELICOPTER COMMITTEE** – Dr. Larsen reported that the Committee had completed the revision of the Regional Helicopter Utilization Guidelines. It is believed that Dr. Stuhlmeier will be available to present the committee's work at the next REMAC meeting in January. It was also noted that a few incidents were reported as a result of communication difficulties between regional dispatch and local dispatch centers. The Committee is reviewing the incidents and will be providing a report of their findings in the near future.

**HUDSON VALLEY REGIONAL TRAUMA ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RTAC)** – No report.

**DIVERSION REPORT** – Chief Volk reported that recent data indicates a few facilities with increases in diversion requests. Those items are being reviewed closely and will be followed up with shortly.

### **NOTICES OF INTENT**

**PAD** – Hawthorne Culbertson Company, Westledge ReHAB and Nursing Center

**APPLICATIONS FOR SPECIAL PERMISSIONS (i.e. Albuterol, Mark I, EMTD)** – None



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### OLD BUSINESS

There was a discussion about the proposed EMS Resource Utilization Guidelines. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding measuring response times and when patient contact is established. It was ultimately decided that additional time is needed to review the proposal further prior to conducting a vote.

A discussion ensued regarding the importance of committee chairs to present important information related to committee work so adequate explanation of the materials is made. It was reiterated that the Regional EMS office is willing to assist in any way it can to help get the appropriate information into the hands of the REMAC so timely votes can occur.

### NEW BUSINESS

A brief discussion was had regarding putting together a group to review and revise the REMAC By-laws to perhaps create additional opportunities for discussion and conduct of business. It was pointed out that with the decrease in meetings this year, it is critical that a quorum is present to address EMS system issues. It was suggested that additional effort be given to ensuring alternates are available when REMAC members are unable to attend meetings. REMAC members were asked to confirm their alternates with the regional EMS office.

**NEXT MEETING** –The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, January 24, 2011** at 9:00am.

Session was adjourned at 10:33am.

A webcast of this meeting is available at [www.wremasco.org](http://www.wremasco.org)

Respectfully submitted by D. Olmoz