



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

General Meeting Minutes - May 18, 2008

Date: May 18, 2009
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. Karlene Chin
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

Excused
Excused
Present
Present
Present
Present
Absent
Present
Present
Present
Present

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

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

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

VACANT
Present
Absent
Present
Present
Absent

GUESTS

Robert Demondo
Joseph Bilotto
Beth Sanger
Robert Prianti
Kevin Gage
Richard Robinson
Jeff Casas
Dr. Michael Guttenberg
Dr. Michael Canter
Gilbert Styles
Malcolm Dixon
Dan Blum
Dr. David Stuhlmiller

White Plains Police Department
Harrison EMS
North Salem VAC
NYPH
NYSDOH BEMS / MARO
NYSDOH BEMS / MARO
Port Chester Rye Rye Brook EMS
St. Joseph's Medical Center
Greenwich Hospital
Hudson Valley Paramedics
TransCare
Westchester REMSCO
WMC / LNNY

Michael Volk
Anthony Sutton
Phyllis Smalley

WCDES
WCDES
WCDES

MEETING

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM by Chair Dr. Nicholas DeRobertis. Initially it was determined that a quorum was not present.

The minutes from the April meeting were disseminated to the members electronically and approved after a quorum was present.

SEMAC

The next meeting is June 9th so no report was available at this time.



DIVERSION REPORT

Copies of the report were distributed electronically.

SUBCOMMITTEES/TAG Reports

PARAMEDIC PROTOCOLS – In Dr. Cordi's absence, Dr. DeRobertis reported the new protocols are near completion. Two dates have been scheduled for their presentation – May 27th at 7:00pm and May 29th at 10:00am. The EMS Agencies will send representatives to one of these dates and then will update the paramedics affiliated with their agency. Medical Directors are encouraged to attend these presentations in case there are any questions from their agencies.

STEMI TAG – Dr. Goldwag mentioned that there's been a lot of discussion in regards to bringing changes to the proposed procedures under development by the committee, and several issues were discussed in regards to how to do this. Trying to fit the sort of standard of care into the reality of our system especially since our system is unique and has its own characteristics. These proposed changes will allow the Westchester Region to move forward to have the option to bypass local hospitals for the STEMI Centers.

Lengthy discussion ensued on the proposed STEMI process and how it would be implemented in the Westchester Region. This discussion also included how the diagnosis of STEMI would be determined and by who. The members agreed on the concept and to move forward to formalize an agreement. However, additional discussion is needed to proceed. The Education and Training Committee will be encouraged to offer an EKG course.

INTERFACILITY TRANSPORT TAG – no report

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT – no report – a meeting is being planned

EVALUATION – Dr. Haydock – two incidents - an appeal which was in reference to a case that appeared before the Evaluation Committee. That party was referred to the SEMAC.

And there was a request to retract a letter written about one of the paramedics by the Evaluation Committee. Again, there was a determination that the letter, the opinion of the Evaluation Committee will stand and the paramedic was told if he wanted to appeal that he could also go to the SEMAC.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

HUDSON VALLEY / WESTCHESTER HELICOPTER COMMITTEE – meeting on May 28th at the Westchester County Department of Emergency Services.

HUDSON VALLEY REGIONAL TRAUMA ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RTAC) – no report

NOTICES OF INTENT

PAD - Two applications - Chapel Hill Lifestyle Center in Peekskill and the Tarrytown Hall Care Center in Tarrytown.



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APPLICATIONS FOR SPECIAL PERMISSIONS (I.e. Albuterol, Mark I, EMTD)

No applications for special permissions were received.

OLD BUSINESS

CPAP – Jeff Casas of Port Chester, Rye, Rye Brook VAC requested that the committee review the material that he has presented and requested to be added to the agenda of the next REMAC meeting. A discussion was held on CPAP and how it is not indicated for COPD patients. Also discussed was CPAP versus BiPAP, pre-hospital use and transferring to hospital staff.

NEW BUSINESS

WHITE PLAINS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – presented information to the members to review and asked to be added to the agenda for the next REMAC meeting. Recently received a federal grant to update their ESU to an ALS service. At a MCI drill in 2008 discovered that the EMS service could not enter an unsafe scene.

ATTENDANCE – A discussion on the attendance at the REMAC meetings and what can be done to improve it. A reminder that the schedule is posted on the website a year in advance, but it is still difficult to plan since the ER schedule is not posted that far in advance .

QA/QI - a couple of issues that are being voted on the State level that relate to the emergency departments, our requirement on behalf of the hospital to collaborate with the local EMS system related to quality assurance.

INTERFACILITY TRANSPORTS - a new requirement to have a written agreement in place, with a local EMS provider related to transporting of patients out of the hospital who are transfers to another facility. There are some requirements for certain case types that require consideration by the hospital transfer for presumably a higher level of care. The list proposed from the State include patients that are STEMI like. In June they're going to be published in the State Register for comment.

NEXT MEETING – Session was adjourned at 10:25am. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 15, 2009 at 9:00am.