

Alabama Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Board
Minutes
August 27, 2008
Conference Call

Members Present:

Ann Klasner, M.D., M.P.H., University of Alabama at Birmingham (chairperson, Principal Investigator)
Verla Thomas, Office of EMS and Trauma (Alabama EMSC Program Manager and State Trauma Registry Manager)
Jim Alosi (for Dale Alosi), Alabama Head Injury Foundation (Family Representative)
Choon Lang, RN, BSN, MHA, Nurse Administrator, Office of EMS and Trauma (State Trauma Manager)
Russell Crowley, Office of EMS and Trauma (Alabama EMS Deputy Director)
Mark Baker, MD, Pediatric Emergency Medicine (Disaster Preparedness Representative)
Terry Henderson, State Coordinator, Alabama Office of Highway Safety, Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety Division (Highway Traffic Safety Administration)
Daniel Strickland (EMS-Paramedic)

Members Absent:

Steven Baldwin, M.D., University of Alabama at Birmingham (A.C.E.P)
Valerie Cochran, Office of Professional Support and Services (Emergency Nurse)
Sandy Powell, Bureau of Family Health Services (Alabama Injury and Health Coordinator)
Krissy Blake, University of South Alabama Women & Children's Administrator (State Hospital Association)
David Garmon, University of South Alabama EMS Instructor (National Reg. of EMT's)
William Crawford, M.D. Office of EMS and Trauma (Assistant State EMS Medical Director)
Jerry McQueen, Major, Commander Juvenile Division (Police Representative)
Richard Burleson, ADPH, Bureau of Family Health Services (Child Death Review Representative)
Chris Mullins, Captain (Fire-based EMS Representative)
Steve Simpson (EMS Training Coordinator)
Christopher Rutherford (Tribal EMS)
Nakia Thomas (Parent Teacher Association Representative)
Alice Floyd (Bioterrorism Representative)
Jon Howell (Ambulance Association Representative)
Nathan Springer (firefighter/Paramedic)

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. by Ann Klasner, M.D., M.P.H., Chairperson.

II. Introductions: Everyone present and on conference introduced themselves.

III. Vote to pass minutes: Minutes from May 27, 2008 were passed.

IV. NEMSIS: Mr. Russell Crowley gave NEMSIS update.

A. Reporting

1. Approximately 175,000 ePcr reports have been received since January 2008, which will soon be reported to the National Data Set.
2. Currently 12% are not reporting, due to 3rd party software issues.
3. There is 168 hour minimum reporting/lag time; the goal is 24 hour lag time by January 2009.
4. There was 0% ePcr reporting in December 2007.
5. Reporting was 50-55% under the old EMSIS system in December.
6. January 2008, there was a complete change over to the NEMSIS compliant reporting.

V. Old Business

A. EMSC Conference

1. EMSC conference will be October 15 & 16, 2008 at the Renaissance located in downtown Montgomery.
2. Day one will be training for prehospital and emergency personnel; pediatric basic trauma life support (PTLS).
3. Day two will be conference for pediatric issues, airway management, cultural issues in providing emergency care Hispanic and Indian populations, communication barriers.
4. CEUs will be offered both days.
5. Steve Simpson will be working with us to assist in getting instructors for PTLS course.
6. Will contact David Garmon for a possible speaker from the Gulf region.

B. Pediatric Equipment

1. Inflatable carseats for the ground transport emergency vehicles was issued to four regions.
2. One region had some concerns about the installation and stability of the carseats.
3. Mr. Henderson provided contact information for Mr. Mike James, Child Safety Passenger Coordinator for the state (256) 509-3674.

C. Grant Update

1. Carry over funds were approved.
2. We are at 66% for survey returns, the goal is 80%.
3. Surveys will be sent to any new providers as well as to those that did not return the surveys, until an 80% return status has been reached. NEDARC will assisted with the online surveys.

D. Trauma System Update

1. There has been four town hall meetings, the last was in the Gulf region, in which there was positive reception for the Trauma System.
2. The plan for the Trauma System for this calendar year was:
 - a. North region up and running, which it has since February of 2008
 - b. Gulf and East regions up and running by the end of this calendar year
3. Plan for Southeast and West regions to be up in 2009.
4. There has been several subgroups formed, which is inclusive of a pediatric workgroup.
5. The pediatric workgroup has met three times. Information was presented in the first two meetings to assist with developing structure and focus that would serve the pediatric population.
6. Focus was narrowed at the third meeting:
 - a. identification of educational needs
 - b. type of training to be developed versus what is already available
 - c. develop pediatric criteria that is simple enough to be followed by everyone
 - d. need to identify resources currently available in emergency departments and for prehospital providers
 - e. ability of prehospital providers to restock pediatric supplies that were used or has expired

7. QI workgroup is developing benchmarks for Alabama that is in accordance with national standards.

VI. New Business

A. New Grant Manager

1. Katherine Hert, with the Office of EMS & Trauma will be the new grant manager, starting September 2008. She was not available to attend this conference call.
2. Mrs. Thomas will serve on the advisory board as representative for the Alabama Trauma Registry and will be available to assist with Mrs. Hert with current projects as well new plans.

B. Pediatric Surge Equipment

1. Through monies received from Center Emergency Preparedness, the EMS regions were able to purchase pediatric surge equipment.
2. Each region was able to purchase equipment that would best serve their pediatric population in their region from an approved list of equipment.

C. Plans for Next Grant Cycle

1. PM 66a – on and offline medical direction: provide each emergency transport vehicle with card or small book with offline pediatric protocols.
2. PM 66b – the equipment list will be updated.
3. PM 66c – hospital recognition: the pediatric workgroup is working on identification on resources to care for pediatric, however it may be unrealistic to assign specific designation to each facility that is able to care for pediatrics – recognition of resources would be most beneficial at this time.
4. PM 68c- full time EMSC manager: the new program manager will be 0.5 FTE; possibly Mrs. Thomas serve as 0.25FTE for the new grant cycle, and assist with integration of priorities into statutes, rules and regulations which would be PM 68d.

VII. Meeting Poll

1. Next meeting to be in November or depending on schedules incorporate next meeting into EMSC conference date. Will need to poll all of members.

VIII. Adjournment

1. Dr. Klasner adjourned meeting at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Approved:

Ann Klasner, M.D., M.P.H., Chairperson

Date