

**Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee**  
**November 19, 2008** **Erie County Training Academy**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Voting members in attendance: J. Takats, R. Elman, J. Teuscher, D. Notebart, J. Myers, C. Cooley, M. Kenyon, R. Martin**

**In attendance at SWREMESC remote site: M. Forness, W. Reisner, C. Peters, J. Kibbe, D. Parr**

**In attendance at Buffalo DOH site: C. McCloud**

**Approval of previous minutes September 17, 2008: Motion #08-30**

**Correspondence:**

- 9/5/08 Email from S.Wander to J.Takats concerning qualification of individuals providing in-service for our protocols to new AEMTs. This topic was covered and voted upon at September 17, 2008 WREMAC meeting.
- 9/16/08 Email from G. Young to J. Adolph – specialty transport clarification
- 9/18/08 Enforcement Notifications:
- Michael Conradis #182988 Surrendered effective 8/20/08
  - Manuel Villegas #189657 Suspended for 1 yr. Effective 9/2/08
  - David Wardlaw #354710 Suspended 1 yr. Effective 9/2/08 (stayed)  
Probation 3 yrs. Effective 9/2/08, Civil Penalty of \$1,000
- 9/23/08 Email from E.Mager to J.Takats sending illustration of Monroe Livingston County Hospitals 24/7 capabilities survey and inquiring whether WREMAC has ever undertaken a similar survey (see new business)
- 9/24/08 Email from J. Adolph – training announcement of MMRS and MH subcommittee meeting scheduled for 11/7/08
- 9/29/08 Email from W. Reisner stating Gov. Paterson vetoed Bill S8294 which would have had no fault pay medical expenses incurred for injuries sustained in an MVA where alcohol was involved.
- 10/3/08 Email from A. Billitier DOH prescribing recommendation for gonorrhea using 400 mg. of Vantin instead of 200 mg.
- 10/28/08 Email from S. Wander to J. Takats with completed document for most FAQ regarding implementation of waveform capnography effective 1/1/09.
- 11/3/08 Email from J. Myers to S.Wander and WREMAC members stating the readiness of protocol changes for display on the website and inquiring about in-service for providers.
- 11/4/08 Email from C.Peters regarding notification of completion of rollout protocol changes and the exam and copies of each.
- 11/6/08 Letter from G. Gill to WREMAC stating current WREMAC membership was approved by WEREMS as is.

- 11/6/08 Letter from G. Gill stating WEREMS had provisionally approved WREMAC operating guidelines 11/2/05 and wished inclusion of recommended changes. The Chair responded by stating that ratification of WREMAC operating guidelines is not a requirement of them becoming official. The Chair requested a reiteration of the requested changes and once in hand will obtain consensus of WREMAC members.
- 11/10/08 Email from B. Wright from WCA Hospital asking that WREMAC and the Southwestern Council accept Dr. Leonard Franco as their WCA representative retroactive to 12/06, concurrent with his appointment as Chair at WCA.
- 11/11/08 Email from J. Myers to W. Reisner thanking test developers for protocol rollout.
- 11/11/08 Email from W. Reisner to J. Takats and J. Myers regarding the new protocol changes and test.

Regarding Enforcement Notifications, in the future location of individual / agency will be included.

### **SEMAC/SEMSCO REPORT – no meeting - J. Takats**

#### **REMAC Chairman Report - J. Takats**

Year end report – Due to the economy, and the condition of New York State’s economy, Dr. Takats commenting on a statement from Mr. Wronski would not be surprised if in the forthcoming year, there are substantial budget cuts everywhere.

In the spirit of volunteerism, even without a Program Agency, the Committee still moved ahead very well. Would like to encourage all those that attend these meetings and works Pro Bono with Volunteer Fire Departments, to keep on doing more for less.

#### **Nurse Advisory Committee Report - Chairperson Vacant**

N/R

#### **Pre-Hospital Advisory Committee - G. Gill**

No meeting, no report.

#### **Subcommittee Reports:**

##### **Disaster - J. Teuscher**

N/R

##### **ALS Protocol - S. Lakomy (J.Myers)**

J. Myers referred to the Southwestern Region regarding the Protocol test. W. Reisner stated that they did make the recommended changes, and if there is nothing further, then they will post it on the website.

Dr. Myers requested the updated test, so that he can review it for a final time. Walt will forward the test to Drs. Myers, Takats, and Cooley.

Changes in the updated Protocol book will be in yellow, for easier recognition.

In order to get credit, a provider must complete the test. Dr. Myers will be recording the presentation that he did for the Office of Prehospital Care Provider Update and will send it to W. Reisner, for inclusion on the website for individuals who prefer to view the presentation. They will still need to take the test.

W. Reisner asked where the committee is in regards to the teaching and credentialing for instructors of CPAP machines. It was noted that at the September meeting of the WREMAC, they determined that it would be the Service Medical Director's responsibility, and based upon his approval.

#### **QI - R. Martin/M.Kenyon/C.Cooley**

Members of the QI Committee met on November 14 at Kenmore Mercy Hospital. No specific issues were reviewed. They decided that the current QI Book / Plan will be reviewed and they will work from there.

Additionally, Waveform Capnography was discussed as a possible issue for review by the committee in the future.

#### **Equipment**

#### **C. Cooley/M.Kenyon**

- The required medications / formulary was reviewed by the committee, and made to be consistent with current protocols. These are the minimum amount required. Additional changes were made. A copy was distributed to the full WREMAC during the meeting, as well as faxed down to the Southwestern Site. Additional changes and updates were found. These will be amended and distributed at the January meeting.
- Several presentations were given through the course of the past year, and with the exception of one, all were determined to be an acceptable device. Acceptable CPAP devices will be based upon FDA approval. CPAP guidelines will be based upon manufacturer's guidelines and service medical director's approval.

W. Reisner asked about the waveform device and whether it is necessary that they print out? There is a squad that has purchased a device, but it does not include a print out capability. Since no issue has come out from the State officially, regarding Capnography, what is going to happen with the agencies which purchase a non-approved device? The Committee reiterated SEMACs contention that an acceptable device must display continuous waveform, have alarms, have memory, and must either print out or be able to be downloaded. The Committee does NOT want agencies to just go out and purchase these machines and then need to come back and ask to be grandfathered. Agencies should NOT be purchasing ANY equipment WITHOUT their medical director's approval.

S. Wander has developed a memo of FAQs regarding Waveform Capnography. It has only been dispersed to a select few, including E. Wronski, who did have some suggested changes. In prior discussion, it was determined that once completed and approved by the necessary individuals, it will be distributed on a regional level. This was confirmed.

#### **Research & Education**

#### **J. Myers/M.Kenyon**

W. Reisner questioned the PALS / PEPP course. Requested that the PEPP course be approved as a Pediatric Mobility. It was referred to in the WREMAC Policies &

Procedures, #2000-1, and was revised in 5/04. The Committee confirmed that the previous policy still stands.

The Education Committee will review the policies and procedures manual to see which ones need to be updated.

**Ad Hoc – SSI**

**J. Teuscher**

The SSI Protocol was reviewed with the updates that S. Wander had organized. It continues to be one the best resources for instructing SSI. It is readily available and very clear. The State mandates that training be completed by 1/1/09, and the Power Point program is available on the NYS DOH web site.

**Ad Hoc – 12 Lead Program**

**J. Teuscher**

No report

**PCI Subcommittee**

**J. Borton**

At the September SEMAC meeting, it was discussed that there were many ALS agencies now referring STEMI patients directly to PCI centers and they have agreements with those Hospitals. The DOH and BEMS has softened their position on these relationships. The State-wide STEMI program will be implemented in 2009.

**Unfinished business**

**1. Jones Memorial request for PAs to provide online medical direction – J. Myers**

At the last WREMAC meeting, it was discussed that Jones Memorial frequently has PA coverage only. Dr. Myers was tasked to review this policy – which it turns out, there is no policy pertaining to this.

The WREMAC has the legislative authority to say who is authorized to provide on line medical direction. In NYS, PAs work within the scope of practice of their supervising physician.

Jones Memorial needs to be dealt with and given an answer directly, either yes or no. The WREMAC has legislative authority to say whether a PA can give medical control. Dr. Young gave his opinion based on past recollection, that only physicians can provide medical direction, and only those physicians who have completed the Base Station Course. Based on legal viewpoint, it is POSSIBLE for PAs to give direction. In our region, we have stood by Physicians only being permitted to give MD.

More discussion followed. It was reiterated that ED Physicians MUST attend and complete a Base Station Course and the Education Committee will explore the feasibility of making the course available on-line.

**MOTION # 08-31**

**2. QI / Credentialing book – S. Wander**

UEMS has put together a document of statewide credentialing. Such questions remain such as: Who is authorized to teach and credential? Should the WREMAC be included? Who ultimately is responsible?

The document is 2/3 the way through. The final report should be available at the January meeting.

### 3. Elections were held:

**Chairman:** Dr. Craig Cooley

**Vice Chairman:** Dr. Jeffrey Myers

### New Business

1. 9/17/08 Change of Medical Director for Wendelville Fire Dept. from Jason Borton to Joseph Takats
2. 10/27/08 Adams Fire Company – notification of Atropine use
3. So. Lockport Fire – notice of intent to use Atropine

#### **MOTION #08-32**

#### **4. Hospital 24/7 capability survey – J. Takats**

Stated that it is a good idea to publish a synopsis of the service hospitals in the area with 24/7 capabilities.

A report was given by Dr. Young on the STEMI / PCI center committee & review. **All PCI center MUST have 24/7 capabilities.** More discussion continued.

#### **5. Specialty Care Transport (SCT) Committee – Dr. Teuscher**

Dr. Teuscher would like to update the Interfacility Transfer Protocols, and would like to make the new ones arranged by category. An issue seems to be what additional training is necessary to transfer specific patients under the new protocol.

### Issues from the floor

**All**

*The Committee would like to Thank Dr. Takats for his many years of service to this Committee! It has been appreciated.*

Dr. Cooley stated that due to both him and Dr. Myers attending the NAEMSP meeting on January 21, 2009 it will be necessary to move **the date of the next WREMAC meeting to January 28, 2009.** This information will be dispersed to all.

M. Forness stated that a different configuration will be needed for the next meeting, as it was very difficult for them to hear on the video conferencing.

### **Motion to adjourn - Motion # 08-32**

**Happy Holidays to all! See you next year.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Joseph R. Takats III, D.O., Chair**

