

Western Regional Emergency Medical System, Inc.

Medical Advisory Committee

Minutes – November 16, 2005

The WREMAC met Wednesday, November 16, 2005 at 3:00pm in the Chef's Restaurant, Buffalo, NY.

Attendance: See enclosure

The first item of business was the approval of the September 28, 2005 minutes. J. Teuscher made a motion to approve with a second by M. Ferguson. Minutes approved.

WREMS Report: R. Crist – COO

- The WREMS staff conducted an EMS Officer workshop for Erie County with 35 attendees. In 2006, similar workshops will be conducted in all eight counties.

Correspondence: J. Takats

- Received copies of letters dated 10/10/05 from R. Patel to two of his agencies that are not attending Medical Director meetings, with warnings of sanctions. All agency Medical Directors should remind their prehospital providers of the requirement to attend CME and mandated inservices
- Received a copy of a letter from G. Young to P. Wagner, Orleans County regarding questions of helicopters using hospital landing areas, but not bring patients into the hospital. The take home message was that patients brought to a hospital facility parking lot or helipad strictly for the purpose of transfer to another predetermined hospital does not constitute an EMTALA violation. An additional issue was regarding the NYSDOH stroke protocol. NYSDOH mandated transport to a designated Stroke Center for patients who meet stroke criteria is in effect.
- Letter dated 11/10/05 from L. Burns, DOH to J. Takats in response to South Line Fire District's upgrade and CON. South Line is in the process of complying.
- Letter received from ECMC to Town of Tonawanda stating a great job they did on a recent cardiac call.
- Letter received from E. Wronski, DOH regarding endorsement for use of a traction splint (sager splint) for mid shaft femur fractures

SEMAC/SEMSCO: No report

Nurse Advisory Committee/Pre-hospital Committee: A. Hedges

- Issues of late are concerns that EMTs are no longer able to conduct clinical observation in a hospital unless they are enrolled in an original or recert class.

- How are providers to maintain their skills? The chair was requested to send a letter to DOH regarding this issue.
- The PHAC met this date and had a presentation by the Millard Fillmore Gates Stroke Task Force.

Sub-committee Reports

Disaster Committee: B. Dice for J. Teuscher

- A presentation was give on the US Postal Service bio-detection system.

ALS Protocol Committee: S. Lakomy

- Changes requested by the SEMAC have been made and will be presented to the SEMAC at their December meeting

QI Committee: R. Martin No report

Equipment Committee: J. Borton

- With the assistance from the Research and Education Committee, information on chest decompression kits, and simple LMA's will be researched and reported on at the January meeting.
- Equipment lists for all prehospital providers must be updated and implemented.

Specialty Care Transport Ad Hoc Committee: J. Teuscher

- This committee will no longer be active until the DOH has come up with statewide protocols/guidelines.

Selective Spinal Immobilization Ad Hoc Committee: J. Teuscher

- The committee recommends that if no formal protocol comes out from the DOH by January 2006, this REMAC will start training our providers.

12 Lead Committee Ad Hoc Committee: J. Teuscher

- The draft 12 Lead ECG Policy 05-01 was reviewed and J. Teuscher made a motion that this be tabled. Issues of education and costs will be investigated further. Second by J. Blum. Approved.

Cardiac Bridge Course: J. Teuscher No report

Unfinished Business: J. Takats

- **WREMAC Bylaws** – Wyoming Erie REMSCO wanted a few changes. More discussion to follow.

New Business: J. Takats

- The chair asked for a motion to approve Amity Rescue's upgrade from EMT-I level to EMT-CC level. Motion by J. Teuscher, second by S. Lakomy. Motion approved

The next WREMAC meeting will be January 18, 2006 from 3:00pm to 3:45pm. Following will be a combine meeting of the WREAMC/NAC/PHAC. Representatives from Millard Fillmore Gates Hospital will give a presentation on their stroke center and how this affects the region. Both meetings will be at Chef's Restaurant.

Motion to adjourn was made by S. Lakomy, second by J. Blum. Meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Takats, DO
WREMAC Chairman