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Ph.D., M.D.
Chief Medical
Officer

MEETING MINUTES Emergency Medical Services Children's Advisory Committee

January 15, 2025, at: 1:00 PM

Meeting Locations:

This meeting was held virtually via Microsoft Teams, by phone, and at physical locations.

Online Meetings Link:

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Phone Number:

+1 775- 321- 6111 Phone Conference ID: 293 674 465 503#

Physical Meeting Locations:

Division of Public and Behavioral Health
4150 Technology Way, Room 301
Carson City, NV 89706

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call – Dr. Sandra Horning, Chair

Board Members Present:

Dr. Sandra Horning- Chair
Michael Bologlu – Vice Chair
Dr. David Slattery
Dr. Lloyd Jensen
Bobbie Sullivan
Jeremy Sonenshein
Christine Forsberg
Zebulon Nomura

Ex- Officio Members Present:

Irene Navis

John Mittelman

Kevin Haywood

Dr. Sandra Horning called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM

Roll Call was taken, and it was determined that a quorum of the Nevada Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee was present.

2. Public Comment: Bobby Sullivan provided an update regarding the Nevada Heel Program, a state initiative offering financial assistance for healthcare providers, including EMTs and paramedics, for tuition and other expenses. Funding amounts range from \$15,000 and up, and applications are currently open. The committee discussed how best to disseminate this information to ensure all eligible personnel can apply.

Michael Bologlu announced that Susie Kochever has retired and resigned from the committee. Tiffany Collins will be stepping in as her replacement as an RN with pediatric emergency care experience. The committee acknowledged Susie's contributions and expressed gratitude for her service. Additionally, John Mittelman has been employed as a state EMS representative and will be transitioning into a new committee position. Discussion followed on the process of filling open positions and maintaining continuity in expertise among members.

3. For possible Action: Review and approval of the minutes from November 6, 2024, meeting.

- Zebulon Nomura motioned to approve
- Llyod Jensen seconded
- Approved unanimously

4. Informational Only: Discussion and update of possible State of Nevada EMS-C initiatives – Sandra Horning, Chair

- a. Handtevy training, funding and implementation- Michael Bologlu provided an update on the Handtevy pilot program for fire departments in Las Vegas. A subgrant was secured after encountering initial obstacles. The subgrant has been approved by Bobby Sullivan, the program's fiscal team, and the contracts unit, with execution expected by the end of next week. The program aims to enhance pediatric emergency medical care, and Clark County is expected to begin implementation soon.

Discussion ensued regarding the specific barriers encountered, including delays in subgrant approvals and identifying an appropriate nonprofit partner for fund allocation. Dr. Sandra Horning commended the team for their persistence and suggested developing a streamlined approval process for future funding opportunities.

- b. Safe transport for children initiative. – Dr. Lloyd Jensen presented findings from a study at UMC regarding hypothermia challenges in NICU in-field deliveries and transports. The committee finalized the decision to purchase Aegis wrap systems for in-field neonatal deliveries statewide using HRSA carryover funds.

Committee members discussed logistical considerations, such as the best strategy for ensuring all ground transport ambulances receive the appropriate equipment. The committee also explored how best to monitor outcomes and compliance with the new system. Training will be developed through Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC), ensuring accessibility for providers and offering CAPCE-approved CEUs. Equipment distribution and training will occur over the next 6-8 weeks.

- c. Pediatric pre-hospital education resources to include development of Pediatric Resource Panel - The committee discussed the upcoming National Pediatric Readiness Initiative for Pre-Hospital and EMS providers. Dr. Sandra Horning emphasized the importance of

developing a framework similar to the Pediatric Emergency Department (ED) Readiness Program. Michael Bologlu confirmed that no formal PEC coordinators exist within Nevada EMS agencies and suggested bringing this up at the next EMS Advisory Committee meeting on February 24, 2025.

Discussion followed regarding the role of PECs (Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators) and how to encourage EMS agencies to integrate these positions. Several members emphasized the need for ongoing training and education initiatives to ensure improved pediatric pre-hospital care statewide.

- d. Pediatric Disaster Preparedness WRAP-EM. – Irene Navis provided an update on WRAP-EM initiatives and new disaster preparedness resources, including guidance documents, mental health toolkits, burn resources, and wildfire preparedness materials.

The committee discussed pediatric burn care strategies, including UMC's participation in national burn consortiums. Dr. David Slattery inquired about the integration of Nevada's burn center into WRAP-EM resources, to which Irene Navis confirmed strong existing collaborations.

The state now has access to the Disaster Seconds Pediatric Training Kit, which can be loaned out to EMS agencies. Emily Gould-Monaghan explained the details of the training kit and how agencies can access it.

- e. EMS newsletter. – Dr. Sandra Horning is finalizing the EMS newsletter, which will include updates on Handtevy and pediatric initiatives. Distribution is expected within the next few weeks, pending final Handtevy program approvals. Committee members suggested including success stories and testimonials from field providers who have benefited from pediatric EMS programs.

5. Discussion and suggestions relating to recruitment of and voting on a new Pediatric Emergency fellow committee member. The committee reviewed applications for two new members. Andrea Esp, the Northern Nevada Public Health Preparedness and EMS Program Manager, was nominated by Zebulon Nomura and seconded by Irene Navis. The committee unanimously approved her appointment, recognizing her expertise in emergency planning and her ability to enhance coordination between public health and EMS agencies, particularly in disaster preparedness and pediatric response. Andrea Esp, Northern Nevada Public Health Preparedness and EMS Program Manager, was nominated by Zebulon Nomura and seconded by Irene Navis. Approved unanimously.

Tabatha Hart, the Nevada Trauma Data Manager, was nominated by Dr. David Slattery and seconded by Dr. Lloyd Jensen. The committee unanimously approved her appointment, acknowledging her experience in trauma data collection and analysis as a valuable asset for data-driven decision-making to improve pediatric EMS outcomes. Tabatha Hart, Nevada Trauma Data Manager, was nominated by Dr. David Slattery and seconded by Dr. Lloyd Jensen. Approved unanimously.

Members emphasized the need for diverse representation, particularly from rural EMS agencies and pediatric hospital networks, to enhance collaboration. Discussions also included strategies for better member engagement and integration into ongoing projects.

6. Emergency Department Hospital Recognition Program presentation: The committee discussed finalizing applications and outreach for the Emergency Department Pediatric Readiness Recognition Program to ensure hospitals statewide are informed about the initiative. Dr. Sandra Horning outlined the four-tiered recognition system designed to categorize EDs based on their pediatric readiness and adherence to established protocols. The Pediatric Fellows at UMC will assist in reviewing applications to verify compliance with readiness criteria.

A discussion followed on the timeline for implementation, with members suggesting outreach efforts, including webinars, direct hospital engagement, and state EMS advisories to increase

awareness. Additionally, the committee explored the development of a resource hub to provide best practice guidelines, training resources, and equipment recommendations for EDs seeking recognition.

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7. Informational Only: Supraglottic airways for pediatric patients, training and assessment survey. – Dr. David Slattery provided an update on the statewide EMS airway management survey, which will assess pediatric airway training levels, current practices, and the availability of pediatric-specific supraglottic airway devices across EMS agencies. The survey, to be distributed via SurveyMonkey, will include specific questions on neonatal airway management and positive pressure ventilation techniques.

Committee members discussed the importance of standardizing airway management protocols statewide to ensure all pediatric patients receive optimal care. Dr. Lloyd Jensen emphasized the need to differentiate between airway management and ventilation techniques in survey responses to better tailor training programs. The committee also agreed to analyze survey results in conjunction with out-of-hospital birth data to identify potential gaps in airway management training.

Dr. David Slattery provided an update on the statewide EMS airway management survey, which will assess pediatric airway training levels and equipment availability. The survey will be distributed via SurveyMonkey.

8. Informational Only: Update on the in-field deliveries and airway management program for EMS. – Dr. Lloyd Jensen- Dr. Jensen provided an informational comment, emphasizing the importance of improving data collection methods to identify regional disparities in neonatal care. He noted that while urban EMS providers have greater access to neonatal transport resources, rural providers face challenges in securing specialized equipment and timely hospital transfers. He also proposed standardizing protocols across EMS agencies to improve neonatal stabilization efforts before hospital arrival. The committee agreed to review potential grant opportunities to support rural EMS providers in acquiring necessary neonatal care equipment.

Dr. Lloyd Jensen presented findings on 115 out-of-hospital births transported to Sunrise Hospital, highlighting trends in prematurity, respiratory distress, and hypothermia among neonates. EMS data, compiled from statewide EPCR submissions, indicated that a higher-than-expected percentage of these deliveries involved unanticipated preterm labor.

Committee members discussed strategies for enhancing pre-hospital neonatal care, including targeted training modules for EMS providers on newborn resuscitation, thermoregulation techniques, and transport best practices. Michael Bologlu confirmed that additional EMS data reports could be extracted to track trends in field deliveries over time. The committee will collaborate with state EMS administrators to assess how out-of-hospital birth data can inform future pediatric training requirements and equipment allocations.

Dr. Lloyd Jensen shared data on 115 out-of-hospital births transported to Sunrise Hospital, highlighting prematurity, respiratory distress, and hypothermia concerns. EMS data will be further analyzed.

9. Informational Only: EMSC support for Peds urgent care facilities- The committee discussed the critical role pediatric urgent care centers play in emergency medical services and disaster preparedness. Dr. Sandra Horning reported ongoing discussions with UMC Urgent Care leadership to assess their pediatric readiness and resource needs. Members emphasized that urgent care centers frequently serve as the first point of contact for acutely ill children, making it imperative to standardize their training protocols, equipment availability, and integration with EMS systems.

Suggestions included developing pediatric emergency toolkits, implementing telemedicine

consultation pathways, and ensuring urgent care staff receive ongoing pediatric-focused EMS training. The committee also discussed collaborating with urgent care administrators statewide to establish a network for sharing best practices and improving overall readiness for pediatric emergencies.

The committee explored strategies for supporting pediatric urgent care centers statewide and ensuring they have proper pediatric resources and training.

10. Informational Only: Proposed meeting dates for the remaining project period. – The committee confirmed the next meeting for March 5, 2025, in Las Vegas, and discussed future quarterly meeting schedules. Members expressed a preference for maintaining the first Wednesday of the month format for consistency. Michael Bologlu will send out an updated calendar invitation to all committee members.

Additionally, the committee explored the potential for hybrid meeting formats to enhance participation, particularly for members from rural areas. Dr. Sandra Horning suggested scheduling topic-specific working sessions outside regular meetings to address key pediatric EMS issues in greater detail. Future meeting dates and agenda items will be confirmed via email communications. The committee confirmed the next meeting for March 5, 2025, in Las Vegas, and discussed future quarterly meeting schedules.

11. Public Comment: No public comment

12. Adjournment:

- David Slattery motioned to adjourn
- Lloyd Jensen Seconded
- Approved unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 PM.