



Peninsulas EMS Council, Inc.

Performance Improvement

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Performance Improvement Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2007

1. Call to order

- a. Tom Schwalenberg called to order the regular meeting of the Performance Improvement Committee at 10:11 am on March 12, 2007 in the PEMS conference room.

2. Introductions

The following members were present:

1. Tom Schwalenberg – Co-Chairman/York County Fire and Life Safety
2. Mark Bohn – Life EVAC III
3. Ricky Kinser – Poquoson Fire and Rescue
4. Devin Basye – Mid-County Volunteer Rescue Squad
5. Ed Gotthardt – Mid-County Volunteer Rescue Squad
6. Wayne Berry – OEMS
7. Scott Hudson – Lancaster County EMS
8. Karen Jowers – Gloucester Volunteer Fire and Rescue
9. Ryan Larson – Abingdon Volunteer Fire and Rescue
10. Jason Monk – Hampton Fire and Rescue
11. Amy Whitaker (Green) – James City County Fire Department
12. Chris Cannon – Nightingale

3. Approval of minutes from 2/12/07 meeting

- a. Motion by Wayne Berry to approve the minutes of the last meeting as written. Second by Amy Whitaker (Green) and passed unanimously.

4. Old Business

- a. Gathering of the Eagles Conference – Jeff attended the conference which was two days of 15 minute power point presentations. Most of the presentations can be viewed at www.gatheringofeagles.us. The highlights were:
 - i. New medications in the field – nasal narcan and versed, plavix and nitrous oxide. Deleting from field usage – charcoal, lasix and cardizem.
 - ii. Diversion – Specialty Centers
 1. STEMI Centers are seeing a 42% decrease in mortality
 2. Trauma Centers are seeing a 15% decrease in mortality
 3. Stroke Centers are seeing a decrease in mortality with using tPA in the field.
 - iii. 12-Leads – About half of agencies in the Country are transmitting from the field.
 - iv. Airway Management –
 1. Fort Worth – Study on attempts for intubation and found a 42% decrease in O2 saturation. Now, providers only get one chance at endotracheal intubation and they are seeing a 27% increase in Combi-tube success and a decrease in failed endotracheal attempts.
 2. Lasix – Removing from the medication boxes due to dehydrating the patients when the problem is a pump issue and increasing nitrate usage.
 - v. BLS changes:
 1. CPAP – BLS providers are beginning in the field.

2. Use of nasal narcan and ASA
 3. LMA and King airway usage
 4. 12-lead placement and transmission to ER
 5. Tourniquet use
- vi. IO Access for adults – 90% of jurisdictions using EZ-IO.
 - vii. New York City - Study with all cardiac arrests using AED's.
 - viii. Seattle did a study on inducing hypothermia in cardiac arrest patients.
 - ix. Cyanide kits being used in field for smoke inhalation patients.
- b. PI report – Jeff reviewed the current report
- i. Trauma Triage Project Update
 1. Jeff will email agencies patients who fit into categories for over triage – He would like reports to be sent back one week before next meeting.
 2. Over triage – with comparison each agency sits about equally – Newport News sits right at the control limit.
 3. Under triage – we still need more information from the out lying hospitals. The only ones reporting now are the trauma centers.
 4. The under triage rate significantly dropped in June 06, which was when the new trauma triage protocol went into effect.
 5. On scene times for trauma patients are improving, average is 17 minutes for the region.
 - ii. Jeff will have the individual agency reports by the end of the month.
 - 1.
 - iii. Stat Box
 1. A discrepancy form needs to be put in the STAT box for when the box is opened and the appropriate meds are not there.
 2. Average time for stat box medication administration is 15 minutes.
 3. Out of 503 times the stat box was opened, the red box also had to be opened 18 times.
- c. Data Collection
- i. Hospital Diversion – Peninsula hospitals are having the diversion issues. York County, James City County and Hampton still having difficulty getting the time it takes to transfer the patients in the ER. All are still working on the use.
 - ii. Jan 06 to March 06 medication administration times - Jeff is still looking for “door to drug administration” for Jan 06 – March 06 to be able to compare numbers and submit to the MAC.
- d. STAT Box Study Results
- i. New Survey – The new survey has been distributed to the pharmacies but Jeff has not received back any yet.
- e. PPCR Cards
- i. Jeff notified that the funding was pulled from PEMS to pay for the cards.
 - ii. Chris Cannon asked how many cards would be needed, Jeff stated about 100 for each of the two helicopter agencies, Chris (Nightingale) agree to pay for them.
- f. PI E-Newsletter
- i. Will be posted on the website once a quarter. First edition is ready to be approved and posted, motion to approve unanimous. Next issue will be in June.
 - ii. Suggestions for next newsletter:
 1. Defensive Driving – Wayne Berry

2. Controversy over giving Nitro without IV established – Jason Monk
3. CPAP – Jason Monk
4. Documentation issues – Tom Schwalenberg
5. On scene times – Wayne Berry
6. Upcoming CE events – PEMS
7. Review of trauma criteria – Tucker (Nightingale)

5. New Business

- a. Performance Improvement Plan Review – Current plan was reviewed, motion by S. Hudson with a second by A. Whitaker (Green) to accept the plan with spelling and grammatical changes. Unanimous vote.

6. Medical Incident Reviews

- a. Three cases were reviewed with unanimous decisions.

7. Adjournment

- a. Tom Schwalenberg adjourned the meeting at 12:14. The next meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2007 @ 10 am in the PEMS conference room.