SETRAC EMS Committees



Friday, March 13, 2020 SETRAC Conference Center, 1111 N. Loop West, Suite 160, Houston, TX 77008

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CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Cameron Decker called the meeting to order and welcomed the meeting attendees.

INTRODUCTIONS

No introductions were made.

Department of State Health Services (DSHS) EMS Compliance 6/5s Update

No updates provided.

CEO Update

Darrell Pile reported that 8 to 10 cases of N95 have been ordered and will be available within a couple weeks. This may be expanded based on needs.

Constant contact with DSHS is made on a daily basis.

A conference call with all hospitals was held to discuss the COVID-19 progression. The TMC hospitals have a plan to open testing centers. More details regarding the policy for assisting patients who test positive at these sites will be announced to the committee once available.

The mayor and county judge have made emergency declarations. SETRAC is working with the Marriott Marquis to get a refund for the SETRAC Awards Luncheon that has been cancelled.

EMS can greatly assist hospitals by getting advanced directives from nursing home patients in case hospitals become inundated and need to triage patients. Some facilities have recently closed but it is not known at this time if those building still contain equipment or if they can be used if needed.

CMOC, which is currently operational, will be ensuring patients loads for hospitals are balanced so no one hospital becomes overwhelmed. All hospitals have systems in place and have been planning for disasters.

DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
COVID-19 – EMS Response		
Due to the progression of COVID-19, the EMS Committee meeting originally scheduled for March 20 th was moved to today (March 13 th).	The feedback provided during the meeting will be incorporated into the document over the weekend and may be	Closed.
Earlier in the week, a small group of providers met to start drafting a	ready for review as early as Sunday.	



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DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
regional plan for EMS. This plan will set minimum standards for agencies and give additional guidance. The majority of the meeting was dedicated to reviewing current guidelines and discussing the development of a regional EMS plan on managing COVID-19. The plan consists of three phases: - Enhanced Operations (current phase) - Contingency Operations (next step) - Crisis Operations – worst case scenario (staff not available to work, not enough units to transport patients, no where to take patients, etc.)	To avoid confusion as to which version of the document is the most current, the document will be posted on the SETRAC website with a direct link provided to the committee. Chris Collier will reach out to peers in Washington to see what best practices they are implementing.	
ADJOURN The meeting was adjourned after discussion was completed. The next meeting will take place on May 15 th .	The committee was reminded to be sure they are subscribed to the prehospital and/or corridor list serves to ensure current information is received.	Closed.