



CALL TO ORDER

Allen Sims called the meeting to order and welcomed the meeting attendees. Anyone calling into the meeting will need to email Grace Farquhar to receive credit for attendance.

INTRODUCTIONS

No introductions were made.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES (DSHS) EMS COMPLIANCE 6/5S UPDATE

Chuck Rowe reported that the governor's mandate regarding no masks and business occupancies at 100% is in effect. This does not affect the governor's emergency declaration of a 90-day extension on certifications and licensing nor does it affect the variance waiver. EMS providers that do a variance are reminded that approval must be made by the medical director (whether or not the staff person is certified or if their certification has been extended), the role of the staff person is explained, and an expiration date. The expiration date can be renewed as long as the variance waiver remains in place.

CEO UPDATE

Donald Morrison provided an update on behalf of Darrell Pile.

Elections for committee leadership will be coming soon. Notifications will be sent to all committee members. Anyone interested in running for a leadership position are welcome to submit their names for nomination. Ballots will be sent electronically to all members in good standing who have been participating in the committee for which they are voting. Once election results are announced, the three elected leaders (an EMS representative, a hospital representative, and a physician) will meet to determine the chair for the committee. The schedule for the election process will be as follows:

- Tuesday, March 30th through Tuesday, April 6th – nominations accepted.
- Thursday, April 8th – ballots will be sent to committee attendees authorized by hospital and EMS agencies to vote on behalf of their organization.
- Thursday, April 8th – Tuesday, April 13th – ballots will be accepted by SETRAC.
- Friday, April 16th – election results will be announced.
- Monday, April 19th – the SETRAC board will affirm the election results during the quarterly board meeting.

Each winning candidate must receive at least 50% of the vote, with a run-off being held if needed. To be a member in good standing, members must have attended the committee meetings and be current on dues.



DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
<u>EMS CARE AND TRANSPORT</u> <u>Old Business</u> Local Project Grant Funding SETRAC will be updated in April/early May regarding the funding for this year's grant. EMS County Funding Reimbursement packages are due in 90 days. SETRAC will reach out to those providers who have not yet submitted their packets to date. EMS Run Affidavit Due to the pandemic, it is believed that DSHS will use the 2019 EMS runs to determine funding. More information will be available in May. <u>New Business</u> Legislative Update Legislation is now in session. Bills are being filed based on the COVID pandemic. GETAC Update GETAC meeting as be being held virtually. Registration information for the meetings can be found on the DSHS website.	No action items or recommendations. Those who have not received their packets or have not submitted their packets should contact Mr. Morrison. No action items or recommendations.	Standing report. Standing report. Standing report.
<u>EMS Systems Quality Improvement (SQI)</u> <u>Old Business</u> EMS Whole Blood Program No items to report.	No action items or recommendations.	Update to be provided at next meeting.

DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
Texas Cares Initiative Texas Cares met with stakeholders from hospital and EMS systems to identify what barriers might be encountered when the initiative is implemented in the Greater Houston area. Large scale implementation of the initiative will be postponed until the worst of COVID has passed, most likely in April. Advanced Directives (DNRs from Nursing Homes) See “Mobile Integrated Health Subcommittee Update.” <u>New Business</u> Trauma Committee Update On March 5th, an abstract entitled “The Effects of the Addition of Level II Trauma Centers in a Historically Level I dominated system” was submitted for publication. A poster project regarding tourniquet usage is planned for the 2021 TQIP conference. A workgroup is working with the Pediatric Committee to standardize the pediatric transport guidelines that is included in the regional trauma plan. Injury Prevention Committee Update See “Mobile Integrated Health Subcommittee Update” regarding the discussion of advanced directives. A falls prevention video for assisted living facilities will be broadcast on Tuesday, March 23rd. Information for the video was recently sent through the SETRAC list serves and to assisted living facilities. Pediatric Committee Update	No action items or recommendations. No action items or recommendations. No action items or recommendations. No action items or recommendations.	Update to be provided at next meeting. Update to be provided at next meeting. Update to be provided at next meeting. Standing report. Standing report.



DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
Filming will begin for the upcoming PECC workshop. The role and importance of having a pediatric emergency care coordinator will be included and break-out sessions will be available for hospital and EMS personnel. • Perinatal Committee Update The committee is focusing on data collection, reviewing quality metrics, and ensuring bed availability is accurately reported during an event. SETRAC is assisting in providing NRP training for EMS providers. • Stroke Committee Update The committee has begun collecting LVO data from comprehensive stroke centers and endovascular capable facilities to determine the effectiveness of SETRAC's prehospital stroke guidelines. • Cardiac Committee Update No items to report. • Mobile Integrated Health Subcommittee Update The subcommittee is reviewing the process/barriers, communication breakdowns, and legislation changes (i.e., electronic DNRs) that may affect receiving DNRs for patients needing to be transferred. Also discussed was proposing a transfer checklist to the special populations group to ensure that face sheets and DNRs are included with the patients for transfer. "Single use disposable systems" is a free community medicine disposal program organized by the State of Texas Opioid Response Team and the University of Houston College of Pharmacy. Boxes containing envelopes are placed outside of the EMS/fire station gates. The public can take an envelope, put their	No action items or recommendations. No action items or recommendations. No action items or recommendations. Meetings are held immediately before the EMS Committee meetings. Anyone who would like to participate in the subcommittee can reach out to Corey Naranjo.	Standing report. Standing report. Standing report. Standing report.



DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
old medication inside, and mail it free of charge to the address on the envelope. HB3161 is being proposed that establishes the creation of community paramedicine programs in Texas. • Level II Trauma Center Abstract Submission See "Trauma Committee Update". • Pediatric Trauma Protocol The protocols for pediatric trauma that is currently in the SETRAC regional trauma plan has not been adopted for use as the adult plan has been used. Therefore, the Trauma Committee has been reviewing the guidelines to determine how to combine the adult and pediatric protocols into one single protocol. At this time, the biggest change to the pediatric protocol has been to the recommendation regarding diverting to an adult trauma center if a pediatric level I or II trauma center is more than 45 minutes away. The suggested change directs EMS to transfer critically injured patients to a pediatric level I facility if able (no time restrictions) unless a patient is unlikely to survive the transport and needs an immediate surgery. If that is the case, the pediatric patient should be taken to the closest best trauma center in the hospital system. • COVID Path Forward Members of the committee shared changes their agencies have implemented or are considering now that COVID numbers seem to be decreasing and vaccinations are available. Included in the discussion were: • creation of a tiered system based on benchmarks for operational shifts • restarting in-person meetings and trainings	No action items or recommendations. No action times or recommendations. No action times or recommendations.	Closed. Update to be provided at next meeting. Closed.

DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
- relaxation of the use of masks for individuals who have been fully vaccinated in accordance with the CDC guidelines - reimplementing the use of nebulizers in ambulances. <u>EMS for Children</u> Autumn LeClair, administrative assistant for the Texas EMS for Children discussed the status of the program. A report based on last year's survey has been created and is ready to be distributed to EMS agencies. A link to a survey for this year was emailed to EMS agencies in January. Those who have not completed the survey have until the end of the day on March 19th to do so. The National Pediatric Readiness Program assessment will be sent by mail to hospitals on May 1st. The Voluntary Pediatric Readiness Program is a pilot program that was delayed due COVID. More information about the program will be provided in the future.	No action items or recommendations.	Closed.
<u>EMS DISASTER</u> <u>Old Business</u> No items to report. <u>New Business</u> Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) Update The EMTF has been assisting with missions around the state. A critical care ambulance strike team (AST) assisted in Laredo as well as Del Rio from December 2020 to February 2021. An AST was also mobilized for 911 support in Nacogdoches for 5 days.	No action items or recommendations. No action items or recommendations.	Standing report. Standing report.



DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
Several ambus missions were in used for evacuating patients and for emergency dialysis during the recent winter weather event. EMTF is currently working with TDEM on the coordination and planning of vaccine administration missions, mainly focusing on homebound seniors. • Regional Healthcare Preparedness Coalition Update No update provided. • COVID Update The SETRAC situation reports currently include a community lifeline status chart that gages where our region's resources lie. At this time, the patient movement categories are all listed as "stabilizing". The committee was asked if any of these items have stabilized, thus returning the colors from "yellow" to "green". Plans continue to move forward for working with hospital statuses in EMResource. Status updates for EMS providers in EMResource is being tested with an anticipation of going live in the next couple of weeks. PPE distribution is being moved to once a month as requests/pickups have been slow. However, emergency resupplies can be accommodated if requested. • Winter Storm Hot Wash Multiple challenges were encountered during the storm, including unavailability of additional resources in the state and overwhelming of the system. SETRAC is working on ways to be more self-resilient with water supplies for hospitals and dialysis centers and re-supplying the O2 system without having to depend on contractors and vendors.	No action items or recommendations. A survey will be sent to determine which of the community lifeline statuses for patient transport can be turned from yellow to green. Hospitals and agencies that no longer need to receive PPE or are unable to pick up their PPE requests are requested to notify SETRAC. No action items or recommendations.	Standing report. Standing report. Closed.



SETRAC EMS Committees

Friday, March 19, 2021
SETRAC Virtual Meeting

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DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
An after-action meeting will take place on May 22nd. SETRAC is also looking to develop a checklist for providers to use during events, such as weather-related issues. Members of the committee suggested having O2 concentrators brought with home oxygen bound patients as well as any form of wheelchairs and refining the hospital status selections in EMResource to provide a more descriptive status. SETRAC is requesting EMS providers to help staff CMOC to assist with transport issues during events.		
<u>AIR MEDICAL</u> <u>Old Business</u> No items to report. <u>New Business</u> Hospitals are encouraged to start thinking about scheduling annual landing zone training programs.	No action items or recommendations. No action items or recommendations.	Standing report. Standing report.
<u>ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION</u> No items for discussion.	. No action items or recommendations.	Closed.
<u>ADJOURN</u> There being no additional items for discussion, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will take place May 21, 2021.	No action items or recommendations.	Closed.