



SETRAC EMS Committee

Wednesday September 18, 2024
SETRAC Offices – 1111 N. Loop West #160 Houston, TX 77008

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CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Joseph Gill Called the meeting to order at 1303. Jason Gander welcomed guests and meeting began.

INTRODUCTIONS

Jason Gander welcomed guests and thanked them for attending in person.

DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
<u>EMS PERFORMANCE</u> <u>Old Business:</u> - No items to report. DSHS EMS Compliance 6/5s Update: It was mentioned again from the previous meeting that an amendment to the Texas Administrative Code 157.11 regarding dialysis transport for an EMS provider during disasters was sent out by DSHS. This amendment was distributed to the EMS Committee via the EMS listserv. The amendment states that EMS Providers must have a plan in place for dialysis patients to provide an alternate means of transport to an end stage renal disease facility during declared disasters when the patients normal and alternative modes of transportation cannot be utilized. It was encouraged by DSHS to work with your local dialysis centers to develop a plan. This will go into effect March 6th and public comment period is November 1 to December 2, 2024. Dr. Gill spoke about their response during Hurricane Beryl and stated at Ft. Bend Co. EMS they are developing a guideline to combat the influx of dialysis patients to utilize alternate transport means by evaluating the patient in the field. Dr. Gill stated he will share the new guideline once completed.	No action items or recommendations. Recommendation to review the amendment to Ch. 157.11 regarding dialysis patients during disasters.	Standing report Standing report



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DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
• GETAC Update: The GETAC meetings were held last month, and the next ones will be in November 23rd – 25th, alongside the EMS conference in Fort Worth. At the last GETAC meetings there was a GETAC Wall Times Task Force to take a deeper look at the impacts of EMS wall times across Texas. SETRAC will be a part of this task force, as we work to find ways to reduce wall times in our region.	No action items or recommendations.	Standing report
<u>JOINT COMMITTEE INITIATIVES</u> <u>Old Business:</u> • Texas CARES Initiative (Cardiac): No update at this time. • Safe Transfer of Balloon Pump Patients (Cardiac): No update at this time. • Safe Transfer of Thrombolytic Patients (Stroke): No update at this time <u>New Business:</u> • SETRAC Emergency Department Committee (ED) The EMS Committee chairs notified the committee members that the SETRAC Board has approved to reengage an old ED Committee that used to operate under the preparedness division of SETRAC. This committee will be operating under the SETRAC Emergency Health Services Division to address issues such as wall times, etc. in our region. SETRAC teams are working to engage hospital CEO's, ED directors and managers to develop the committee to ensure the committee is being appropriately led. More to come on this committee when dates get set.	No action items or recommendations. No action items or recommendations. No action items or recommendations. Recommendation to work with the newly formed SETRAC ED Committee to combat issues regarding hospital wall times for EMS partners.	Update to be provided at a future meeting Update to be provided at a future meeting Update to be provided at a future meeting Update to be provided at a future meeting



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DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
There was discussion around wall times and the issues the region faced during Hurricane Beryl. It was mentioned that there is support from the member(s) who are excited to see the work from this ED committee produces for the wall times and discussion encouraged each agency research their own wall times and solutions they have attempted to this issue. It was mentioned that getting everyone on the “same page” as a region would be beneficial. • Regional MCI Plan (RHPC): At our last meeting L. Spivey gave an update about this joint initiative to review the current MCI/MCE no notice event plan. More information to be sent out. The committee leadership encouraged members of the committee to join the workgroups if they are interested in assisting. • SETRAC Clinical Co-Chair Application 2025 It was mentioned that all the clinical committees have been sending out emails regarding the chairs and co-chair positions that are up for nominations. It was encouraged by EMS members to apply to different committees as a chair to assist on that service lines initiatives. • SETRAC Pediatric Update (Pediatric) Suzanne Curran with SETRAC was in attendance and shared a slide with the members in attendance and wanted to provide recognition to the EMS providers. Suzanne reported that in the 1st quarter data of the 2024 year the pediatric trauma patients were being transported from scene to the correct trauma level facility on the first transport. The slide shared broke down number of transports to each designation level with their ISS score. No further comment.	Recommendation to join the regional workgroup regarding the revision of MCI plan when invite is sent out. Recommendation to consider being apart of the EMS Committee or other SETRAC clinical committee service lines as an EMS Representative.	Update to be provided at a future meeting Closed



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<u>SUBCOMMITTEE / WORKGROUPS</u> • Mobile Integrated Health Subcommittee Update (EMS): The MIH Subcommittee met prior to this meeting and stated that a couple of agencies in the region have either started or reengaged their programs. Topics of discussion in this subcommittee is injury/fall prevention as well as DNR discussion. The subcommittee is working with the Injury Prevention committee at SETRAC to hold courses for fall prevention in different parts of the region. The DNR discussion is having the DNR available to the crews when they arrive on scene at a SNF, LTAC, etc to regionalize or standardize this process. • EMS Blood Products Subcommittee (EMS): There was no meeting today for the subcommittee as previously scheduled. The reason is due to this being voted by the SETRAC board to develop this subcommittee to a committee of SETRAC. This was approved at the last meeting and meeting dates and committee leadership is being established. Notice of the email distribution list for the blood products committee was mentioned to the committee. There was further discussion on blood products about having the blood banks get informed on the needs of the region. It was noted that CMS is currently examining the ability for EMS Providers the ability to bill private insurance for the administration of blood. It was mentioned that the GETAC Whole Blood Task Force is still maintaining their goal of trying to get blood in every county in Texas. There was discussion around different funding sources from grants, etc. to provide a startup support.	No action items or recommendations. Recommendation for EMS agencies and persons who are interested in prehospital whole blood to participate in the newly formed Blood Products Committee once dates have been set for meeting.	Standing Report Update to be provided at a future meeting



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<u>EMS SYSTEMS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (SQI)</u> Old Business: • EMResource CAD Interface Update: No update at this time. • Bariatric Transports: No update at this time. New Business: • Texas EMS Wristbands & Pulsara The Texas EMS Wristbands that were purchased by SETRAC as a one-time purchase were distributed. The form for agencies to request these wristbands was sent out prior to the meeting. It was mentioned that further education and training on the wristbands and Pulsara is still to come and we are working on getting that information out to our EMS and hospital partners. Currently it is encouraged by EMS to utilize day to day, however the expectation is for EMS to apply to all patients during an MCI and utilize the wristband in Pulsara platforms which is the regional patient tracking system. • Body Cameras The EMS Committee leadership brought up the want to potentially establish an EMS Body Camera Workgroup to regionalize a guideline for the region. There was a lot of discussion from multiple EMS partners on the utilization of the body cameras and their policies. Community FD began utilizing them for approximately 6 months and it is going well. North Channel EMS have been utilizing for years now and it has also benefited the agency as well. Discussion around PIO request, record retention, added benefits, training, etc. were heavy.	No action items or recommendations. No action items or recommendations. Recommendation for SETRAC to produce education for EMS and Hospital partners on wristbands and what the expectation is from stakeholders. Recommendation from members and EMS Committee leadership to establish a workgroup for regional body cameras under the EMS Committee and involve other partners.	Update to be provided at future meeting. Closed. Update to be provided at future meeting. Update to be provided at future meeting.



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DSHS (Amber) stated that if the body camera footage is apart of the patient care record it does fall under the 7-year retention policy and that body cameras helps with discrepancy issues at a state level as well. A workgroup under the EMS committee will be formed and multiple agencies voiced they would be willing to help.		
• EMS Feedback from Hospitals The EMS Committee leaders asked about the feedback from hospitals regarding things such as patient outcomes and do EMS partners get the information they need or are there any ideas to help streamline this process. Health Information Exchange was brought up and the hospital representatives stated there currently is not a 3rd party vendor that shares patient information across all ePCR platforms. HCA stated that they have a QR Code system that EMS can scan to get patient outcomes at any of their facilities including the freestanding ER's. Some agencies who have ImageTrend have integrated into ESO's Health Data Exchange but not all of their customers. J. Reed stated that another option is Greater Houston Health Connect is a regional HIE that all major healthcare systems are required to report to them. There was question on if Greater Houston Health Connect is in real time or if there was a reconciliation time. C. Naranjo stated that he has a contact for Greater Houston Health Connect and stated they had met with them "a few years ago" and one of the major issues was technology capabilities.	Recommendation to follow up with hospitals and EMS partners on a health data exchange for EMS feedback. Getting together with Greater Houston Health Connect in looking at HDE.	Update to be provided at next meeting.



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DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW-UP
• Hospital Wall Times The EMS Committee leadership spoke about hospital wall times for EMS partners. The members voiced concern that this is a systemic problem with all providers in the region and not just larger EMS systems. There was a lot of conversation around utilizing the newly formed SETRAC Emergency Department Committee to work on this issue with EMS partners to assist in reducing these wall times. There was discussion around EMS agencies utilizing hospital based free-standing ER's as a tool to reduce wall times. There was discussion around developing joint criteria with the hospitals and EMS partners for identifying patients who meet criteria to be transported to FSED's. Discussion around educating the EMS crews on utilizing the FSED's for patients that may meet the criteria.	No action items or recommendations.	Closed.
<u>AIR MEDICAL</u> <u>Old Business:</u> • N/A <u>New Business:</u> GETAC Air Medical & Specialty Care Transport Committee • Interoperability Radio List At the GETAC level there was a radio communication list that was approved. This list is for air medical providers who are flying into unknown territory for providing mutual aid or care during disasters. This list would be a living document at the GETAC level where air medical providers can access to know how to communicate via radio channels with command on the ground. The questionnaire from GETAC will be sent to the RAC's to have agencies complete the questions to provide information about local radio systems. This information will be a living document with up-to-date information from around the state.	No action items or recommendations. No action items or recommendations.	Standing report Update to be provided at future meeting.



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<u>EMS DISASTER</u> <u>Old Business:</u> • No items to report <u>New Business:</u> • Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) Update: Grant was in attendance in person and stated that EMTF has been busy the last couple of weeks. EMTF has pre-positioned assets around the state with severe weather package teams for Hurricane Francine. EMTF6 respondents to this were Lake Jackson EMS, HFD, Colorado County EMS, The Woodlands FD, and AMR. There was a fire in La Porte where EMTF6 responded to and scaled back from two ambulance strike teams and 1 AMBUS. No patients were noted from this incident. October 2nd and 3rd there will be IDRU EMS training here at SETRAC for our IDRU partners, Ft. Bend Co. EMS, City Ambulance and AMR.	No action items or recommendations. No action items or recommendations.	Standing Report Standing Report
<u>Open Discussion</u> • N/A Partner Updates: • Memorial Hermann Katy's new ER is opening on October 5, 2024. Notification will be sent out from Hermann to the agencies directly. MH stated this will be obvious of the changes upon arrival of the EMS units. • Deer Park EMS thanked the responders to the fire via EMTF.	No action items or recommendations	Closed.



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<u>ADJOURN</u> The meeting was adjourned at 1421. The next meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2024, at Cy-Fair Fire Department. Code Word: Cheeseburger	No action items or recommendations.	Closed.



SETRAC EMS Committee Meeting Attendance Roster
September 18, 2024

Agency/Hospital	Representative	Date	Meeting Name
Acadian Ambulance	Chance Brown	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
American Medical Response-Houston	Petra English	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Atascocita VFD	Sean Conley	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Austin County EMS	Tammy Wendel	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Baytown Fire Department	Dana Dalbey	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Baytown Fire Department	Derrick Gaskin	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Channelview Fire Department	STEVEN ADAMS	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
CHI Baylor St. Lukes	Richard Engdorf	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
City of Nassau Bay	Lillian Wibe	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
City of Nassau Bay	Shawn Doyle	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
City of Pearland	Kelly Sears	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
City of Seabrook	Robert Turner	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
City of South Houston	Gilbert Esparza	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
City of Sugar Land	Kevin Leverence	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Colorado County EMS	AJ Jimenex	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Community Volunteer Fire Department	Josh Taylor	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Cy-Fair Fire Department	Christian Arick	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Cy-Fair Fire Department	Justin Reed	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department	Jared Sessum	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
DSHS	Amber Adams	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
East Bernard EMS, Inc.	Walter Morrow	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
El Campo EMS	Garret Bubela	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Fort Bend County EMS	Dudley Wait	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Fort Bend County EMS	Joseph Gill	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Harris County Emergency Corps	Corey Naranjo	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Harris County ESD #4	Cody Nance	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee

Harris County Public Health	Kimberly Hobson	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Harris County Public Health	Trey Frankovich	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
HCA Houston Healthcare (regional rep)	Christy Stermer	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
HCA Houston Healthcare (regional rep)	Lisa Martinez	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
HCA Houston Healthcare (regional rep)	Nathan Jung	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
HCA Houston Healthcare Conroe	Trey Urech	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
HCA Kingwood	Collin Poole	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
HCA Kingwood	Shane Jenks	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Highlands Volunteer Fire Department	Theresa Young	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Houston Fire Department	Christine Langas	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Houston Fire Department	Kevin Schulz	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Huntsville-Walker County EMS	Rachel Parker	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Integrity Alliance Partners LLC	Amber Quarles	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Jacinto City Fire Department	Mike Bodak	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Jersey Village Fire Department	Mark Bitz	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Memorial Hermann Life Flight	Aaron Young	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Memorial Hermann System	Jim Young	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Memorial Hermann System	Zach Ward	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
North Channel EMS/ HCESD6	Roland Hobbs	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Northwest Community Health/HCESD8	Eric Steffel	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
PHI	Christopher Hardman	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Priority Ambulance	Brandon Kabre	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Priority Ambulance	John Rutachokozibwa	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
SETRAC	Grant Kelley	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Southlake Houston EMS	C.J. Brown	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Village Fire Department	Adam Ekblaw	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
West University Place Fire Department	James Novak	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee
Wharton EMS	Christy Gonzales	Sep 18, 2024	EMS Committee