

NM EMS Medical Direction Committee Meeting Minutes

**July 8 2022 at 09:30 am
Sandoval County Fire & Rescue Administration
301 Piedra Lisa St
Bernalillo, NM 87004**

The Meeting was called to order at **0945** by Dr. Crook. Introductions were made around the room. There were **47** people in attendance and **19** in attendance in person.

Committee Members Present:

Dr. Joy Crook, Chair
Dr. Chelsea White, EMS Communications
Dr. Robert Sapien, EMS for Children
Dr Ryan Hodnick, EMS Region I
Karen Burns, Paramedic Representative
Pete Bellows, EMT Intermediate Representative

Changes to the Agenda included: None

The following Proxy Votes were identified: None

The minutes from the December 10, 2021 and March 11, 2022, were approved. Motion was made to approve. Motion carried.

Items discussed under Old Business included:

Scope of Practice/Rule Change Hearing.

EMT B Level – Karen Burns brought up issue with expanding the time length of the EMT-Basic course to add Glucagon and other injectable or oral medications. Pete Bellows expressed same concerns. Dr. White was in support of adding the above-mentioned drugs. Ann Bellows gave JOE perspective. Kim Pruett brought up that the National Registry testing presents more of a problem than class time. Donnie Roberts expressed support for monitoring IVs. It would benefit smaller services to allow them to do their own transports. Chris Bare had some comments on risk benefit. Dr. Crook said there is often not a lot of evidence supporting many of our requested medications and skills in the scope.

EMT I – Raynelle from Questa also felt this would be a benefit to small services that have paramedics and EMT-Is being burned out on transfers. For the EMT-I level TXA and benzodiazepines were discussed. Pete and Karen Burns had a problem with an open class of Benzos, but had no issues with TXA other than increase of course time. Ben Diven voiced some concerns. Ann Bellows gave a JOE overview of time increase for the EMT-I course. Dr. Braude discussed training time for Special Skills and if the times aren't always correct. If things are put into scope, it does not require all services to use the drug or procedure.

EMT P – For the Paramedic scope of practice, Dr. White is very supportive of special skills for some of the items that would require refresher training for retention. Beta Blockers, Calcium Channel blockers, antipsychotics and ketamine. Karen and Pete had a concern about open classes of beta blocker and

calcium channel blockers but supported ketamine. Dr. Braude supported Calcium Channel blockers, but not so much beta blockers. Jenna white felt beta blockers would be a good drug for hypertensive pregnant patients. Several people felt it would be best to limit antipsychotics (Olanzapine and Droperidol) should be limited to certain agents. Dr. Diven would rather Ketamine remain a special skill. Ann Bellows gave the JOE perspective on time increases for the paramedic course. Dr. Crook that ketamine has had a very good safety record with services using it in New Mexico. Dr. White brought up some situations that have called ketamine into question, with Colorado changing their scope of practice regulations. He felt it should remain a special skill. Pete agreed. Mike Buldra requested consideration of removing lower age limits for TXA. Discussion on removing Activated Charcoal. Why not remove it? Toxicology needs to weigh in. Dr. Warrick from the state toxicology says it will probably make a comeback so the committee needs to wait to make the decision.

Items discussed under New Business included:

Special Skills applications –New

- **Zuni-** Glucagon and Midazolam- Motion was made to approve. Motion carried. Charles Leekity from Zuni spoke on the application and gave an overview of the service. Dr. White also spoke in support.

Special Skills applications - Renewal/Annual Reports

- **Las Cruces-** Motion made to approve. Motion carried. Pete made comments on their data collection and how easy it was to read.
- **PHI Air Medical-** Motion made to approve. Motion carried. Pete wanted to know if there were any changes to the protocols. The answer was only change was GI hemorrhage in TXA use.
- **CSI Aviation-** Motion made to approve. Motion carried. Pete wanted to know if there were any changes to the protocols. Changes to QI process and it is working better.
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The EMS Bureau Update

Kyle Thornton introduces new Program Manager, Solange Pihut and new Financial Manager, Sherri Rice. Kyle went over national discussions on requirement of a school to be CoAEMSP certified before paramedics can be passed from a course. If it is passed, would be changed in NM. It is already a standard in NM. NM will not be changing that requirement.

Kyle discussed National Registry testing and hand written exams. It is questionable if the National exam is the most appropriate for FR, EMT-B and EMT-I.

Fund act coordinator has been hired, Rachel Marquez.

Dr. Crook announced that she will be leaving as Medical Director. Her last MCD meeting will be in September. Dr. Kimberly Pruett will be the new state Medical Director.

Dr. Braude is handing off medical direction of the EMS academy to Dr. Whitney Barrett, Kimberly Pruett and Mateo Garcia.

Next Meeting: September 9 In person/ hybrid meeting, location TBD

The meeting was adjourned at **11:55am**