

Prehospital Steering Committee

4-16-8

December meeting minute approve unanimously.

Old business

C Spine Protocol: In use, no major issues. Working to clarify some of the judgment calls in its use. Will revisit at prehospital committee.

RSI update: Sedona has been doing this for over a year. There has been a retraining once on this and it was excellent.

CPAP: NAEMS training money this year will be used to purchase CPAP disposable devices.

ED Director Report, Rob Barth: Construction update indicates planned pull thru room for apparatus of up to medium size. There should be ample parking for EMS. Jan 09 is expected time to move in.

The **new EMS radio system** is up and running. The hospital is funding the acquisition of Rosetta devices for EKG transmission. This fits well with the progress towards being a cardiac arrest center.

Protocol revisions from FMC: VVEMS has agreed to diverge if needed from FMC with respect to protocols. This will be slow and minor, but will serve our agencies better and keep administration simpler.

New business:

Code 3 transport decisions were discussed with respect to our agencies. There is considerable agreement among agencies with respect to training of drivers, speeds, traffic control, and spotlight policies. The decision to use code 3 from patient to hospital is up to the medic. There is little medical evidence to guide decision making in this area. There is no existing guideline for which medical conditions merit code 3 transport from scene to hospital. Dr. Lang will work to gather information with respect to how medics decide to use code 3 for runs. Any suggestions will retain the ultimate judgment of the medic in using Code 3. This is somewhat analogous to helicopter use over past years. Chief Casson suggested the possibility of tracking Code 3 transports via the dispatch. This would create some additional administrative burden, but would be an easy way to track the use of Code 3.

General discussion of the importance of direct communication was undertaken. Dr. Lang shared his cell phone number with the group and asked that any concerns be brought to his attention and that the group can contact him anytime.

Next meeting will be in August. This will be in April, August and December.

Respectfully,

Todd Lang, MD
VV EMS Medical Director