

Monroe Livingston REMAC Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2010

Standing Agenda Items

Agenda Review, Terry Fairbanks, MD

Minutes, Terry Fairbanks, MD – Sorry for missing the past three meetings

- Thank you for your support in asking me to be your Chair again
- I will have to miss one more meeting due to a business trip
- Physicians on the REMAC should think about who will act as Chair next term
- Welcome to Mike Santiago our new RGH representative; he is the EMS director at RGH
- Motion to accept the minutes; Moved; All ayes; No opposed; Motion passed

Correspondence / Announcements, Terry Fairbanks, MD

- Letter to Dr. Shah & Dr. Hettinger
- CME opportunity for EMS personnel; three hour workshop on managing patients; NCS training

Medical Directors' Report, Manish Shah, MD (for Jeremy Cushman, MD)

- Dr. Cushman could not be here today as he is out of town; he sends his apologies
- He has given me a written report to read from
- An offer has been extended to the Program Agency Administrator candidate
- We anticipate for that person to start around April 5th
- An official announcement will be released once the person begins and is settled in
- Position posted on U of R site as well as MLREMS site: Quality Assurance Analyst
- Looking for a qualified paramedic who is interested in a TAR position
- If interested contact Dr. Cushman or myself
- Dr. Cushman and I have been covering all of the Program Agency responsibilities since Sheri stepped down; it's a lot of work; if we're missing something, please contact us and let us know
- Protocol updates are nearly complete
- Website statistics – over 7,000 visits in February; over 1,500 copies of the protocols downloaded since January; almost 900 providers have completed the BLS test; 53 have completed the ILS test; a little over 300 have completed the ALS test
- We're pleased with how this has worked out despite the minor technical glitches in the beginning
- We plan on using this model for future rollouts, podcasts, education, etc.
- February Chart Closure Times have been posted to the website
- In general, the region is doing well and is meeting its goals
- A few agencies are having issues meeting the 12 hour chart closure time
- The REMAC QA Committee will continue to review the data and will get in touch with agencies who have persistent issues

Associated Reports

Council (MLREMS), Mark Tornstrom

- Support for the STEP Conference
- We decided not to support anything STEP related this year including tables for the award nominees
- The Council voted re: RFPs and strategic planning
- We received two proposals: one wanted a lot of money; the other is Tyler Consulting – reasonable pricing

State Council Meetings, Manish Shah, MD (for Jeremy Cushman, MD)

- A few things out of SEMAC – the shortage of PCRs for the few agencies that use them has been rectified
- The state now has plenty of PCRs and we have some in our office
- Still a few questions about funding from the state for program agencies & regional stuff
- Two CONs at State Council; both were overturned
- One was for Niagara County, the other was for NAVAC in the Syracuse area
- Utica FD CON is still with the Administrative Law Judge at the State Level
- EMS Memorial – Wednesday May 19th at 11am
- Anyone who would like to participate should contact Donna Gerard-Johnson
- Three people will be inducted this year- the most notable being the medic who was shot & killed when responding to a call in the North Country
- August 26-29 Vital Signs in New York City at the Sheraton Hotel & Towers
- More than half of the rooms are already gone; if you're interested book now

State Actions, Jeremy Cushman, MD

- None

REMAC Sub-Committee Reports

Terry Fairbanks, MD

- Jeremy, Mark Tornstrom, and myself have met a few times over the last month
- We discussed strategic planning in terms of structure
- Right now, the subcommittees review/work and bring proposals w/a deadline of a week before REMAC so everyone has time to read them, vote, etc.
- A few committee that Jeremy chairs deal w/protocols & advanced practices
- A lot of the same people are on these committees
- The thought is to combine the committees and call it Protocol & Policy Committee – this committee would do most of the work re: policies & procedures. Jeremy would be the chair
- The QA Committee would continue as structured
- The Pharmacy Subcommittee would also stay the same
- I would like to propose that we have formal liaison reports & have members from REMAC be liaison w/groups that are in our area of expertise
- I would like to add these to the agenda so that every hospital representative has a chance to make an announcement during the meeting
- Ideas? Reactions to this?

ALS Subcommittee, Julie Jordan (Chair)

- ALS Committee continues to meet

Pharmacy Subcommittee, Mike Kuder (Chair)

- No Report

Protocol Subcommittee & Advanced Practices, Manish Shah, MD (for Jeremy Cushman (Chair))

- Protocol subcommittee sent out the MHA draft policy change & refusal forms
 - No comments have been received
 - Jeremy is asking for approval of the policy & document – then the website will be updated
- Any discussions? If none, all those in favor please say aye
 - Ayes
 - Any opposed? Motion carries.
- The protocol changes taking effect on April 1st are fairly significant at least for hospital representatives
 - Make sure physicians giving medical control are fully aware of the changes
 - Quickly – Haldol was removed, Lasix was removed, Valium was removed,
 - Standing order for morphine for burns & fractures; they can now call for chest/abdominal pain
 - Avulsed tooth protocol
 - No changes to spinal immobilization
 - Standardized forms for medical control; leave them w/patient charts

Quality Assurance Subcommittee, Manish Shah, MD (Chair)

- We have had a large number of reports re: failure to properly use the spinal immobilization protocol
- We have been going through and thinking about issues that surround the protocol
- One piece we've identified as the least standardized in the entire rollout was the training
- I would like to bring forth a motion from the QA subcommittee re: a podcast on spinal immobilization
- Dr. Cushman would require that all providers in the region complete the podcast along w/the online test
- The issues with this protocol are across the board; it does not apply to one agency alone
- Motion; Seconded; Motion passes – the objectives will be sent out

MHA TAG, Mark Tornstrom (Chair)

- A podcast is being developed re: the Mental Hygiene Law in NYS & how it applies to EMS providers
- This will make it debut at the STEP conference by Dr. Kevin
- We're also thinking about a panel discussion in terms of capacity
- Dr. Cushman will be there as well so we will have a good panel consisting of EMTs, paramedics, and law enforcement

Regionalization TAG, Julie Jordan (Chair)

- Next meeting is tomorrow; it's a Go-To Meeting
- Sections will be separated out as there isn't a lot that can be done while Sheri's position is open
- Tomorrow's meeting will focus on the preceptor policies
- As Sheri's position gets filled, we'll go over everything else in depth
- It's crucial that all of our REMAC members are active members who participate
- If you're name is not on the list, find a committee that interests you and sign up
- RTAC – met on Friday (Regional Trauma Advisory Committee)
- Reviewed data re: transport times, ground vs. air
- RTAC is a group similar to REMAC in that they examine trauma issues in the nine county region

GRQC Committee Update, Manish Shah, MD

- No report

ePCR TAG, Zach Hettinger, MD

- No report

Old Business

- No report

New Business

- Would like to introduce Liz, she is a pediatric emergency physician
- She was also a local EMS provider for years before she went to medical school
- Welcome to the REMAC Liz
- Bruce Thompson on behalf of Unity – several patients have been diverted and Unity has noticed
- Simple falls are not considered traumas and most community hospitals can handle these issues

Hospital & EMS Leadership Meetings,

- No report

RHIO, Manish Shah, MD (for Jeremy Cushman, MD)

- Nothing new re: RHIO

Applications –EPI & Albuterol-, Jeremy Cushman, MD

- Scottsville FD- submitted for Epi and Albuterol
- Nunda- submitted for BG; their medical director has supported & they're training BLS appropriately
- Motion to approve; All in favor; Motion carries

Motion to adjourn; Second; Motion carried