



Charlie Crist
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General

State of Florida
EMS Advisory Council
July 17, 2007 @ 09:00 am
Disaster Response Guidelines Committee
Division of Emergency Medical Operations
Office of Emergency Operations & Public Health Preparedness
Meeting Minutes

Dr. Elias called the meeting to order at 09:05 and welcomed all in attendance.

Dr. Elias called for and received a motion to approve the minutes from the April 2007 meeting. The minutes were approved without any changes.

Captain Tim Devin provided the group with a progress report on the activities of the EMS Mass Casualty Trailer Sub-Committee. Captain Devin reported that the committee is still collecting information from the trailer recipients. It was noted that HRSA retrofit funding is still pending approval but it was noted that the project is likely to be funded. Captain Devin reported that he will provide a progress report at the October meeting.

John Scott reported on the activities of the Communication sub-committee. He noted that he was pleased to have Todd Mechlar on board to manage communications issues, on behalf of EMS, at the State level. Mr. Scott added that the Communications TAP had been reinstated by the EMS Advisory Council and should serve as an improved process to manage EMS communications issues.

Lloyd Parker provided a very informative presentation on Disaster Medical Assistance Teams. He showed a very powerful video that illustrated some of the activities that DMAT FL5 were involved in during their response to Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi.

Dave Freeman made a presentation on Catastrophic Incident Response Planning (CIRP). Mr. Freeman noted that CIRP training was available, free of charge, through the University of Miami and encouraged all that had not attended to do so. He also distributed flyers for the training.

Dr. Elias provided an update on the Cyanokit project. Dr. Elias explained the distribution process that the committee had recommended. He planned to (present) the recommended distribution process to the Medical Directors at a later meeting that day. Dr. Mullen reviewed the process for the acquisition and distribution of the Cyanokits to the ALS EMS Providers. In-service training will be provided as part of the distribution. In addition, Dr. Mullen noted that the DEY Pharmaceutical protocol will be provided as a model. There was no opposition to the distribution recommendation.

Dr. Elias then engaged the group in a post incident discussion concerning the response to Ocala during the wildfires. Issues that were raised by the group were:

- The need to develop a "no-notice" component to the Ambulance Deployment Plan (ADP)
- Housing problems existed during the deployment. It was recommended that DOH work with the Strike Team Leaders to identify adequate hotels for the deployment



Charlie Crist
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General

- There was concern raised that the notification process did not follow the ADP or the SERP plan. Chief T.J. Lyon addressed this issue noting that he was fully aware of the deviation to the plan and had approved the temporary modification. He noted that may be times in the future that ESF 4 & 9 may have to defer the notification process to ESF 8 but that he was very confident that ESF 8 would keep ESF 4 & 9 apprised of the situation as it developed.

Regarding ambulance deployments, Ray Runo addressed the group noting that logistical support for ambulance deployments need to be identified so that ESF 8 can make the necessary arrangements for logistical support at the time of the deployment. Chief Lyon recommended that an EMS Liaison be sent to the Incident Command Post to serve as the EMS Logistics Liaison. He noted that the EMS Liaison could provide the logistics order to the State ESF 8.

Dr. Nelson noted that Strike Team Leader training still needs to be conducted. Bobby Bailey advised the group that funding had been submitted to create a Strike Team Leader training program. The State is currently awaiting approval/funding of the project.

Tom Lackey asked Dr. Nelson what patient care protocols the deployed ambulances should use. Dr. Nelson noted that the Medical Directors are discussing this issue. Mr. Lackey observed that the ADP notes that the deployed ambulance assets are to follow their local patient care protocols. Dr. Nelson made the group aware that he was attempting to develop statewide disaster medical protocols. He plans to provide the group with a presentation on this issue as soon as the protocols are developed.

Mike Jacobs noted that the Department of Health, Office of Emergency Operations is currently developing a medical facility evacuation plan designed to better position State ESF 8 to support the evacuation of local medical facilities located in the Category 5 hurricane surge zone.

Terry Schenk provided an update on the Alternate Medical Treatment Site (AMTS) project and catastrophic triage. Three beta sites for the AMTS have been identified and are developing their AMTS plans. The beta site plans, once complete, will serve as model plans for the remaining counties. Mr. Schenk addressed the recent AMTS exercise that occurred in Hillsborough County. He noted that Hillsborough officials effectively implemented their AMTS plan as well as effectively tracked patients through the system.

Dr. Mullen addressed sustainment of the expired EMS Chemical Antidote caches and Atropens that were distributed to the ambulances. The caches will be replaced with a CDC program called CHEMPAK. A project has been submitted for funding that will replace the Atropens for the ambulances. Future projects will call for the replacement of the Mark I Kits and the Diazepam auto injectors, both of which are scheduled to expire in 2009.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.