

Emergency Preparedness Coordinators Meeting: 03/05/07

Attendance:

Kay Gordon, chairperson, Doctors Medical Center
Judy Mahan, DMC
Don Bailey, Evergreen
Dan Cipponeri, Evergreen/Progress Valley
Troy Lute, E & J Gallo
Jeff Wilson, E & J Gallo
Renee Cartier, Stanislaus H.S.A.
Rosie Lopez, Stanislaus HSA Clinics
Richard McGinthy, Hospice
Marianne Shaw, MMC
Sharon Perry, Memorial Medical Center
Tammie Waddle, MMC
Alicia Hinshaw, Modesto City Fire
Doug Buchanan, Mountain-Valley EMS Agency
Jim Worobe, Mountain-Valley EMS Agency
Vivian Thompson, Oak Valley
John Walker, Stanislaus Public Health Officer
Phil Cook, Kaiser
Terry Nelson, Stanislaus Surgical Hospital
Steve Andriese, Mountain-Valley EMS Agency
Randy Fike, Stanislaus Health Services Agency
Michael Rossini, Medical Society

1. Welcome/Introductions:

Kay called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m

2. Meeting Minutes:

Corrections: Dr. Walker was in attendance at the February meeting. “Mobile Filed Hospital” should read “Mobile Field Hospital.”

M/S/C (Cipponeri/Worobe: unanimous) to accept the minutes with corrections.

3. System Saturation Issues

Doug reviewed Saturation statistics from Dec – Feb, and shared that the committee looking at the draft Saturation Policy has met recently and at its upcoming meeting will be looking at the protocols for each “level” of saturation. Additionally, he shared that conference calls were conducted during the week of significant saturation in February. Dan asked if LTC facility assessment is considered during Acute Care facility saturation. Vivian stated that OV could not find any LTC facility space during the February week of surge. Dr. Walker suggested that as a community we should look at an After Action Report. The two non-911 acute care facilities participated in the week of significant surge. The EMS Agency agreed to host the After Action meeting in concert with the upcoming Saturation Policy meeting.

Kay shared regarding the state Surge Project meeting (sponsored by Pricewaterhouse-Coopers) attended by her, Vivian, and Dr. Walker last week. The output of this project is to be statewide standards and guidelines for creating hospital surge plans. Dr. Walker reviewed a handout from this project. Vivian, Kay, and Dr. Walker all encouraged members of this committee to visit the project website, and participate in this project. The web address is: www.dhs.ca.gov/epo/surge

4. Pandemic Flu

Renee shared that Chief Hinshaw is looking at the Continuity of Operations for both large industry and small businesses. They will be postponing the April seminar for businesses. Terry Nelson shared regarding SB739, which outlines various new hospital requirements for preparedness and response to influenza. Terry offered to provide this language electronically, to be attached to the minutes of today's meeting.

5. Evacuation Info

Tammie shared regarding the LifeSlider, a device for patient evacuation, and suggested that this device might be considered for future HRSA funds. Renee shared that there is a video of the device available on the website: www.lifescider.com Terry Nelson questioned what devices the Fire Service has available. Alicia shared that they don't store these types of evacuation devices. Vivian shared that hospitals cannot depend on the fire service for conducting evacuation, but rather must be self-sufficient. Kay shared that more information will be brought to future meetings.

6. Patient Tracking

Randy distributed and reviewed minutes from the last Patient Tracking subcommittee. The subcommittee is hoping to get better representation from stakeholders. He also shared that it was proposed to conduct some "Triage Tuesdays" in order to get everyone more familiar with the patient tracking process and identify issues. There was a fair amount of discussion regarding electronic systems and lack of statewide standards. Dr. Walker shared that the statewide Surge Committee is also supposed to be addressing Patient Tracking.

7. HRSA Grant

Renee reported that the 05/06 grant was extended to August of 2007. As of today, there is about \$115,000 yet unexpended (about 26k in training, 16k in patient tracking, and 74k in radios). These funds must be encumbered by the end of August and spent by mid-October. She will be sending out one more reminder to eligible agencies regarding the training monies. Doug agreed to bring recommendation back to next month's meeting regarding the portable radio purchases. Renee suggested that due to the 05/06 timeline, she suggested re-allocating the funds for Patient Tracking & Exercise to another project.

M/S/C (Worobe/Bailey) Unanimous. To release these funds for other objectives and reallocate (Renee abstains).

There was discussion regarding possible purchases with available funds. Items identified included: caches of PPE/PAPR trainers, more nitrile gloves, Evacu-sleds. After some discussion, Renee offered to send out a current financial report with a request for outstanding needs.

Last week Renee received approval for 06/07 grant, which will likely be extended. Renee also distributed draft MOUs to local health facilities, which addresses mutual-aid, personnel, supplies, etc, and asked for comments back. She hopes to get the revised MOUs signed and back by the end of April. Terry Nelson asked about the purchase of supplies for Alternate Care Sites, and how that is being defined. Renee shared that both MMRS and HRSA funds will be used for Alternate Care Site (ACS) development. Renee also stated that she would like to form an ACS subcommittee to help with the development of this project.

**M/S/C (Cartier/Worobe) to establish an ACS subcommittee
Marianne, Kay, Tammie, Judy, Dan, Jim, Renee, Troy, and Jeff volunteered,
Dr. Walker also suggested inviting Red Cross.**

M/S/C (Cartier/Mahan) Unanimous. To establish a subcommittee for the development of Drills and Exercises
Randy, Tammie, Kay, Judy, Jim volunteered.

8. Roundtable Reports:

-Kay reported that the HICS class is being postponed due to a scheduling conflict. This class will be re-scheduled.

-Dr. Walker will be speaking at Progress Valley later this month regarding Disaster Preparedness and Influenza

-Dr. Walker asked if Judy might provide NDMS update at the next meeting

-Doug shared that EMSA is again asking that our Trauma Centers each host a Trauma/Burn Cache, being made available through HRSA funds.

-Jeff shared that in his discussions with other companies he has noted a divide regarding stockpiles of Tama-Flu or other drugs. Renee shared that she was interested in opening discussions with Gallo regarding certain stockpiles. Dr. Walker suggested that the HR Managers meeting would be a great place for this discussion. Steve shared that there were certain national guidelines. Dr. Walker shared that www.panflu.gov has various checklists for government and businesses, however, this doesn't replace the need for all of us to meet and learn what each other is doing.

9. Next Meeting: April 2, 2007