

NH EMS Medical Control Board

MEETING MINUTES (**Approved**)

**March 21, 2024**

9:00AM

NH Fire Academy Classroom 2

Quorum: 9 members required (currently 14 positions on the MCB)

**Members Present:** Robert Brown, Marc Grossman, David Hirsch, Frank Hubbell, Joshua Morrison, Michelle Nathan, William Plerhoples, Robert Rix, James Suozzi, Brett Sweeney

**Members Absent:** John Freese, Ryan Gerecht, Jon Gray, Patrick Lee, Andrew Seefeld, Tom Trimarco

**NH FST&EMS Staff:** Vicki Blanchard, Joseph Cartier, Joanne Lahaie, Justin Romanello, Joey Scollan, Walter Trachim, Crystal Tuttle

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM by Chair Rix

**1) Welcome/Membership**

- a) A motion was made (Suozzi/Hirsch) to accept the re-nomination of Michelle Nathan- Region II, Catholic Medical Center, and to accept the nominations of Kimberly Ohman-Region II, St. Josephs Hospital and Erin Wirths-Region II, Elliot Hospital as voting members of the Medical Control Board. All in favor, none opposed.**

**2) Approval of the minutes**

- a) A motion was made (Nathan/Brown) to accept the January 18, 2024, minutes as presented. All in favor, none opposed.**
- b) A motion was made (Nathan/Brown) to accept the special meeting minutes from October 20, 2023. All in favor, none opposed.**

**3) Division/Committee Reports**

**a) Bureau of EMS- Justin Romanello**

- i) If protocols are approved on this date by both the MCB and CB, then this will allow the protocols to be put forth for 60-day public comment period. This would mean a June statewide adoption of the 9.0 protocols.
- ii) With the retirement of Captain Vicki Blanchard, the new Clinical systems Captain will be Matthew Robblee, from specialty services, effective April 19, 2024. Joe Cartier will be taking over for Captain Kathy Higgins Doolan in EMS Operations on the same date.
- iii) Licensing is 2-3 weeks for background checks, renewals are on par with previous years.
- iv) ETA rules are with legal, and then to JLCAR. Hopefully releasing the ETA Rules in April 2024.
- v) Continued Education continues with a robust schedule.
- vi) NEMSIS 3.5 will roll out in April, and notifications will be sent.
- vii) Compliance has over 30 investigations and is still reviewing applicants for the part time position.

viii) The Division is tracking several bills in Legislation.

ix) Trauma kits will be in select State-run facilities, 470 kits have been ordered.

**4) CB Report- Nothing to report.**

**5) TMRC Report- Brett Sweeney**

a) Updating the State Trauma Plan, which will be voted on at the next meeting April 17, 2024.

**6) Protocols- Jim Suozzi**

The Division distributed to the MCB the public comments received during the public comment period.

The comments were broken down in 4 categories:

1. Correction: Typographical errors, formatting errors, correcting copy and paste errors, etc.
2. Considerations for 9.1 or 10.0: These were comments that warrant additional time and research through the regular protocol development process with the Protocol Subcommittee.
3. Other comments: These were questions or comments that the writer received clarification on.
4. Consideration for 9.0: These are comments the Division felt should be brought before the MCB today to be voted on for Version 9.0.

The protocols for consideration:

Post Resuscitative Care

- Blue box at end of protocol:
  - Removed bullet referencing transporting to a facility capable of therapeutic hypothermia. AHA put out a science advisory in August of 2023 no longer recommending therapeutic hypothermia.

Cricothyrotomy - Percutaneous:

- Changed chlorhexidine to antiseptic solution.
- Bullet 11 added to “attach corrugated tubing extension to cannula”.

Cricothyrotomy – Surgical Bougie Assisted

- Added commercial prepared surgical cricothyrotomy kit with appropriately sized trach tube or ETT tube.
- Changed chlorhexidine to antiseptic solution.
- Made equipment list less specific, depending on the kit used there are various sized solutions, scalpels, syringes, and tubes.

A motion was made (Morrison/Brown) to amend the Cricothyrotomy – Surgical Bougie Assisted commercial kit bullet to read, “A surgical cricothyrotomy kit that contains the following.” All in favor, none opposed.

A motion was made (Morrison/Brown) to add “Trach to the Endotracheal bullet to read, “Endotracheal or Trach Tube” and remove the ETT references in the sub-bullets below. All in favor, none opposed.

**7) Old Business**

- a) CARES registry- The CARES group received money from a CDC grant for new people entering the CARES system, but discussions have been centered ongoing funding for the programs.

**8) New Business**

- a) Bulletin #85 Nalmefene (OPVEE)- The Division will revisit the use of this in protocols in the future.

**9) Topics Ad Libitum**

- a) Pediatric ER readiness- Anna Sessa- This year data will be collected in pre-hospital readiness for children. The collection window is May, June, and July. This is anonymous and voluntary. Anna is here for support when agencies receive their score.
- b) The MCB thanked Captain Blanchard for her dedication and hard work in her tenure at the Division.

**10) Adjournment**

- a) A motion was made (Brown/Suozzi) to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, none opposed.
  - i) Next Meeting: May 16, 2024