

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES **MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD**

Minutes of July 20, 2004 meeting – **“DRAFT”**

A meeting of the Emergency Medical Services Medical Advisory Board was held on July 20, 2004, at the Daytona Beach International Airport – Volusia Board Room, Daytona Beach, Florida. Dr. John Shedd called the meeting to order at 6:15pm.

Members present:

- John Shedd, M.D., FACEP, Chair, Volusia County EMS Division
- Thomas Beaver, M.D., Volusia County Medical Examiner
- Paul Martin, M.D., Florida Hospital – Fish Memorial
- Arlen Stauffer, M.D., Bert Fish Medical Center
- Pete Springer, M.D., Halifax Medical Center
- Chip Woodard, D.O., Volusia County Medical Society

Guests Present:

- Dave McCallister, New Smyrna Fire
- Dan Scales, Ponce Inlet Fire
- Scott Johnson, Ormond Beach Fire
- Bob Staples, Deltona Fire
- _____, Volusia County Road & Bridge
- _____, Volusia County Road & Bridge
- Todd Husty, D.O., Seminole County Medical Director
- Therese Immich, Volusia County Public Schools
- Susan Whitlock, Volusia County Fire
- Matt Zavadsky, Volusia County EMS

Welcome and Introductions:

The Chair opened the meeting with introductions.

Trauma Center Issues:

Dr. Shedd reported on the recent happenings with Halifax Medical Center. Working cooperatively with Dr. Fabian and others, the pre-hospital Trauma Alert issues seem to have improved. A recent review of all trauma cases revealed an over-triage rate of approximately 7%, well below the nationally accepted rate of 30 – 40%. The reporting of this information has seemed to help all realize that the pre-hospital protocol for Trauma Alert designation is working appropriately. Patient transfers from other hospitals to Halifax through use of the Halifax Transfer Center continue. Several members also expressed continued concern about difficulty transferring patients to Halifax.

Dr. Springer indicated it was both a bed availability and a staffing issue.

Dr. Shedd stated that he would continue to work with Halifax to try and improve the process.

Matt Zavadsky reported that Dr. Fabian attended a recent EMS Inservice on Trauma Issues and subsequently did a ride-along with EVAC to get a first-hand view of the pre-hospital system.

Creation of a Trauma Agency for Volusia County:

At the April 20, 2004 MAB meeting, Dr. Wiener suggested the Board be provided an overview of the state's Trauma Agency system and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of creating a Trauma Agency for Volusia County. Matt Zavadsky provided a PowerPoint presentation and several documents on the existing statutes and administrative code relating to Trauma Agencies, including insights from several existing Trauma Agency Directors in Broward County, Hillsborough County, Gainesville and the Florida EMS Bureau.

Dr. Shedd indicated that the State EMS Bureau and the Florida Association of EMS Medical Directors are pushing hard for the creation of additional trauma agencies. He also suggested that we do a presentation for the Volusia County Medical Society. Dr. Woodard agreed to arrange for the date and time.

After the presentation, discussion ensued regarding the potential advantages of a Trauma Agency in Volusia. After significant discussion, the Board advised that Dr. Shedd should continue discussions within the community for input and support for the creating of a Trauma Agency focusing on a few key themes:

1. Working cooperatively with the existing Trauma Center
2. Seeking coordination and inclusion with Flagler and possibly Putnam County
3. Creating proposal that meets the needs of the entire trauma care system and all stakeholders

EMS Grants Program:

Matt Zavadsky provided an overview of the EMS Grants and the applications that have been received. Several Board members were surprised to learn that there was not already a comprehensive method for field data collection and reporting. Members of the Board were strongly supportive of grant applications for technology designed to enhance the collection and reporting of information that could help evaluate the performance of the EMS system.

AED Loaner Program:

Matt Zavadsky provided a summary of a proposal to create a program which provides 'loaned' AEDs for highly at-risk populations such as patients recently discharged from the hospital after a cardiac arrest. The Board members discussed the advantages to this type of a program, but highlighted some significant issues that would need to be addressed such as CPR training, AED distribution, maintenance and tracking. Dr. Shedd stated that the County Department of Public Protection could provide the coordination of the program, including the logistics issues. Matt stated that the CPR training could be as simple as the 2.3 hour CPR for Friends and Family course developed by the American Heart Association.

Some Board members also expressed concern over how patients would be identified and suggested that the EMS Division seek input from Cardiologists to assist with the eligibility guidelines. Matt indicated that the program could be scalable, starting with perhaps only patients who were status-post sudden cardiac death and discharged home without an implanted defibrillator.

Dr. Stauffer inquired if funding for the program would be an issue. Matt responded that the program could start small and use a small number (3 – 5) of the AEDs already granted to Dr. Shedd under the existing AED grant received from the County Council as recommended by the EMS Trust Fund Advisory Board.

In closing, the Board members felt this was a valuable program worth pursuing with the advice and council of the area cardiologists.

Goals & Priorities for 2004 - 2005:

Dr. Shedd asked members to bring other ideas and topics to be reviewed to the next meeting.

Medical Advisory Board Minutes
July 20, 2004

Open Discussion:

Revivant AutoPulse:

Dr. Stauffer asked about the current status of the project. Dr. Shedd stated that there are currently 12 units in the field which to date have been used on 37 patients. Two have survived to discharge. Drs. Stauffer and Martin indicated that there is some unfamiliarity for the ED staff when a patient arrives at the ED with the AutoPulse applied. Bob Staples commented that additional AutoPulse units will be employed in the system soon as Deltona, Orange City and Port Orange have all received grant monies to purchase additional AutoPulse devices.

Bob offered to do additional inservice for the ED staffs.

Dr. Shedd EMS Medical Director of the Year:

Matt reported on Dr. Shedd's award as the Raymond Alexander Medical Director of the Year for 2004 bestowed by the Florida Bureau of EMS. All congratulated Dr. Shedd on this milestone.

Adjournment:

Being no further business, the EMS Medical Advisory Board meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.