



# Medical Advisory Board

## Minutes of the Medical Advisory Board Meeting

Meeting date and time: *Tuesday, March 20, 2007; 6:00 p.m.*

Meeting location: *Daytona Beach International Airport, Volusia Room*

Attendees:

### **Members:**

Wayne Barry, M.D., Florida Hospital - DeLand

Thomas Coleman, M.D., Volusia County Health Department

James Henson, M.D., Volusia County Medical Society

Marie Herrmann, M.D., Volusia County Medical Examiners Office

Peter C. Springer, M.D., Volusia County EMS (Chair)

Arlen Stauffer, M.D., Halifax Hospital Port Orange

### **Guests:**

Mr. Mark Swanson, Emergency Medical Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Mark Wolcott, Volusia County EMS

## **Call to Order**

Dr. Springer called the meeting to order at 6:00.

## **Welcome and Introduction**

The meeting was opened with the introduction of Mr. Wolcott, Volusia County's new EMS Director.

## **STEMI Study Update**

Dr. Springer discussed the ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) bill (HB 947) currently in committee in Tallahassee. The bill will direct emergency medical service providers to transport patients with STEMI to facilities offering percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI). Data presently supports this concept and the Florida EMS Medical Directors are in agreement. Dr. Springer shared that there is confidence that this legislation will be in place at some point during calendar year 2008. He further expressed his desire to implement a protocol parallel to this legislation prior to implementation by the State.

Based upon the legislative momentum and existing science, Dr. Springer felt it reasonable to disband the collection of STEMI data within the county as there is no perceived gain from the extrapolation and analysis of the data.

There was no objection from Medical Advisory Board members.

Drs'. Barry and Henson engaged in dialogue regarding the definition of a PCI center. Specifically, discussion centered on whether stipulations would be in place to require interventional catheterization services at all hours of the day and if concurrent provision of cardiovascular surgical services will be necessary. A definitive answer was not known by members that were present. The group did identify three facilities presently receiving ambulance patients from Volusia County – *Central Florida Regional Hospital, Florida Hospital - Ormond Memorial* and *Halifax Medical Center* – as the only facilities offering interventional catheterization. Although it is believed that none of the facilities maintain staff in house continually, they do have rotational “on call” programs to fulfill the need. All other receiving facilities were believed to offer non-interventional, or diagnostic, catheterization services only.

Dr. Springer will draft a protocol for consideration at the next meeting of the Medical Advisory Board.

#### **Advanced Airway Management Study Update**

The airway study previously initiated was revisited. The catalyst for the study was Dr. John Shedd's neuromuscular blockade initiative. As the scope of that program was substantially reduced to include only the local aeromedical program, the necessity of data collection no longer is believed to be pertinent.

Dr. Springer announced his intention to eliminate this program.

There was no objection from Medical Advisory Board members.

#### **Orange City Fire Department Update**

The reinstatement of advanced life support services to the Orange City Fire Department appears forthcoming. Clarification of some final language in the closest unit response agreement is being finalized and the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) is expected once that is finalized. Once the COPCN is received, the City will have to obtain an advanced life support license from the Florida Bureau of Emergency Medical Services prior to the resumption of services.

No unfavorable patient outcomes have resulted from Orange City's reduction in service

There was no comment from Medical Advisory Board members.

#### **Revision of Trauma Transport Protocols**

Mr. Wolcott distributed a draft of revised trauma transport protocols. The revision is a result of the addition of Halifax Hospital Port Orange as a receiving facility for ambulance patients. That change to the trauma transport protocols dictates a subsequent submittal, review and approval by the Florida Bureau of Emergency Medical Services.

While there is significant change in format, no substantive changes were made to the content of the section. This update will add Halifax Hospital Port Orange to the list of non-trauma centers that can receive patients meeting Florida Trauma Scorecard Methodology providing specific and currently existing conditions outlined in protocol are met. Submittal of this document to the State is predicated on the receipt of correspondence from Halifax Hospital Port Orange administration that they meet the requirements within Chapter 64E-2, Florida Administrative Code for the provision of basic emergency services. That correspondence will be generated in the very near future.

## **Open Forum**

Dr. Springer opened with a conceptual idea of developing a committee for the review of patient care infractions by field providers with the intent of providing an impartial review process. He explained that during his tenure there have been two incidents involving protocol violations; both resulting in disciplinary action.

Members were supportive of such a committee.

Discussion ensued by a number of the members and guests surrounding ramifications to individual field providers and agencies as it pertained to State staffing requirements, fiscal limitations of the many EMS employers within the county and employability of certificate holders. Concerns for ensuring prompt resolution, providing due process to the provider and reciprocal concerns involving liability of all involved were given consideration. Based upon that discussion, Dr. Springer suggested that the committee consist of himself, Dr. Stauffer and Mr. Wolcott.

There was no objection from Medical Advisory Board members.

Dr. Coleman took this opportunity to share data regarding stroke fatalities within Volusia County. Initial review of the numbers appears to support that there is a growing disparity between survivability rates when contrasting Caucasians and African-Americans. This information was offered for consideration by members. Dr. Coleman will provide follow up if a correlation is identified pertinent to the provision of emergency medical services.

Dr. Coleman also engaged in dialogue with Dr. Barry regarding the provision of Health Department services in the western Volusia County region following the February 2 tornados. Dr. Coleman stated that interim facilities have been acquired and are operational. Permanent solutions for long-term facilities are still being considered.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mark Wolcott