

GETAC-EMS Committee
5-24-2007 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Wolf called the meeting to order at 3:15 with 14 of 19 committee members present. Being the first meeting for several committee members, everyone introduced themselves to the group and audience.

Members Present; C. Callsen, L. Charpentier, K. Deramus, M. Farris, A. Garcia, A. Johnson, L. Maes, M. Miriovsky, B. Petrilla, K. Roles, C. Smith, L. Squyres, D. Wait, P. Wolf

Members Absent; A. Aaron, B. Coughlan, L. Mitchell, D. Owens, K. Price-Grant

Reports were given by the DSHS and Trauma Registry staff.

Discussion items;

1. Draft rule recommendations were given by R. Knappage, representing the Stroke Committee. It was noted that there were several suggestions to their recommendations, but those would be considered and possible changes made during the rule making process to follow.
2. D. Wait reported that the EMS & Trauma Regulatory Structure Task Force were nearly finished with their work and would present it to GETAC (and committees) at the August meetings.
3. DSHS Rules 157.12, Rotor Wing Licensure and 157.13, Fixed Wing Licensure were not discussed since the Air Medical Committee hasn't been given any definitive guidance concerning possible FAA pre-emptive authority in several areas of concern.
4. DSHS rule 157.xx, EMS Subscription Plans is on GETAC's agenda for a vote at their meeting Friday. No discussion.
5. Air Ambulance crash liability insurance requirements and Professional Medical Practice Liability insurance were not discussed either, due to same reason as number 5.
6. EMS as an Essential Service was briefly discussed. Wolf stated that it will be on the agenda for the GETAC Retreat in August and now is the time to start building relationships with the Legislators to address this issue in the next Legislative session. G.K. Sprinkle also suggested that we consider contacting the appropriate individuals to see about having this topic addressed as a Legislative Interim Charge.
7. The EMS Gurney Car bill was discussed by DSHS staff and we were informed it is still alive and was recently attached to HB10.
8. Strategic planning for EMS education in Texas was discussed by A. Johnson at both ours and the Education Committee. There will be a work group assigned to discuss and formulate a plan, with Allen spearheading the project.
9. Delivery of PCRs to receiving facilities was discussed by B. Petrilla and DSHS staff, which explained to everyone the current policy in place and cleared up any confusion that anyone had.
10. Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Task Force Chairman E. Epley explained the document that his group has worked on and answered questions. The group was recognized for their hard work and great progress.

11. The Trauma Reporting situation was discussed and issues identified. It was noted that the Trauma Services and RAC Chairs Committees were going to address GETAC concerning their unhappiness and propose action be taken to assure better performance in the future.

12. Dr. Phillips asked if there was any knowledge of emotional/psychological/mental problems for employees who've served in the Iraqi war and returned to work. He is going to work on a survey to distribute to EMS Provider Directors to try to identify if there are problems and to what extent. S. Janda stated DSHS would help facilitate the survey.

13. Wolf brought recent concerns regarding the quality of the EMS wall certificates and wallet cards. DSHS stated the certificate holder could ask for a new wall certificate and receive a new one upon recertification at a cost of \$10. DSHS is also open to discussing the possibility of issuing a higher quality plastic ID card also, but that would need more discussion.

14. In a joint meeting with the Education Committee (after both committees completed their other business), we discussed the Comprehensive Clinical Management Plan (CCMP) and made several changes to the proposed document. Then the changes were presented to the Medical Directors Committee for their input and discussion.

Action Items;

1. It was voted to inform GETAC that we fully supported the Stroke Committee's recommendation to accept their draft recommendation, knowing that additional input and possible changes will be incorporated as it makes its way through the rule making process.
2. It was voted to support the position and echo the concerns of the Trauma Services and RAC Chairs Committee to GETAC, regarding the performance of the Trauma Reporting system.
3. It was voted to accept the changes made by the joint EMS and Education Committees, as well as the Medical Directors Committee and present the final draft to GETAC and support its approval.

General Public discussion was held during each of the discussion/action items listed above.

Announcements;

1. The August meetings will be held at the Airport Hilton in Austin on August 22-23-24.
2. New committee members not having the AG required training completed were encouraged to do so ASAP. Their 90 day period expires this week and they were reminded that they will not be allowed to serve on the committee if not completed.

The meeting was recessed at 5:05 pm and reconvened at 5:15 pm in an adjoining meeting room, as a joint committee meeting with the Education Committee to discuss the CCMP proposal. The joint meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm. Committee representative then addressed the Medical Director's Committee meeting with our proposals and a final draft approved.