



National EMS Safety Council Meeting
Wednesday, March 15, 11:00 am CT
Notes

In attendance: Dr. Michael Redlener (NAEMSP), Rick Sherlock (AAMS), Jason White (NAEMT), Pat Elmes (ACEP), Allison Bloom (NEMSMA), John Todaro (NAEMSE), Ron Thackery (AAA), Pam Lane (NAEMT), Melissa Trumbull (NAEMT), and Kathy Robinson (NASEMSO)

1. EMS agency safety program guide

To date, Richmond Ambulance Authority, MedStar, the National EMS Managers Association, and the American Ambulance Association have made contributions to the guide. There appears that sufficient materials have been provided to start the development of the guide.

2. EMS Safety Officers program at EMS World Expo

Pam reported that the workshop will take place on October 19, from 1-5:45 pm PT at EMS World Expo. A draft workshop agenda will be disseminated to the Council in about a week or two for review. Some of the topic areas for the workshop are Crew Resource Management, driving and highway safety training, tools for developing a patient safety program, and case studies in safety incidents. The Council approved the idea to provide attendees with a 'tool kit' of resources to take back for use from the workshop. Kathy reported that the fatigue study guidelines will be released soon and is willing to offer, and cover the costs, for Daniel Patterson to speak at the workshop on how to incorporate the guidelines into a safety officer program. She noted that the fatigue study resources will be available and can be covered through the support of the National Sleep Foundation. Dr. Redlener reported that NAEMSP is developing an academy on safety and quality as a pre-conference workshop at the NAEMSP Annual Meeting.

ACTION: Pam to share NASEMSO offering with Nancy Perry of EMS World.

3. Quality Assurance Officer Program

Allison shared with the Council two initiatives that NEMSMA has underway. NEMSMA is developing a collaborative program on a quality assurance officer designation, and a safety officer designation. The Council agreed it is very important for the industry create its own credentials.

4. Letter to NHTSA with top 10 EMS safety concerns

A letter to NHTSA was drafted and provided to the Council. The Council inquired if there is a possibility of other safety concerns that are written into the poll. Pam reported that the poll does offer a write-in option. If something trends in the poll results, the Council will be able to review for consideration to be added to the top 10 lists.

ACTION: Council members are asked to provide feedback on letter via the Council listserv.

5. Poll on top EMS safety concerns

The poll has been posted on NAEMT's social media sites, and published in the NAEMT e-newsletter, and on the NAEMT website. NAEMT encouraged other organizations to utilize the

link to share with their members to generate more response to the poll. The Council believes the poll can lead to research in other safety areas.

6. Selection of next on-site meeting of NEMSSC

The Council has decided to conduct its on-site meeting at EMS World Expo. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 19, 9 am – 12 pm. The EMS Safety Officer workshop will occur following the meeting on Thursday afternoon.

7. OSHA workplace violence

Kathy reported that NASEMSO is crafting a response to OSHA on workplace violence. Kathy reported that data was not include in the guidance, and that focus should be given to workers being able to report workplace violence and receive support. Council members felt that there is a great opportunity for education on this topic area. Although it was noted that new regulation will be difficult to secure with the new administration. She also noted that CDC and NIOSH are engaging in a project based on NEMSIS data. Metrics are voluntarily reported. Only 7-9 states are collecting reports on workplace violence and injury. The research study will be launched and a report will follow. Dr. Redlener reported that NAEMSP member Dr. Mark Conterado is interested in this topic and conducted online research last year. He is currently constructing a follow up to his survey tool.

8. NIOSH EMS Safety Fact Sheet

Pam thanked everyone for their contributions. The Council will be provided with the final document as soon as it is received.

9. EMS fatigue EBG

Kathy reported that the Expert panel met February 28-March 2. Forty-thousand (40k) articles were reviewed by the panel. Several studies were collected and reviewed were on shift workers (physicians, nurses, police, fire) due to lack of research on EMS. Four meta analyses were captured from the scientific review. Seven (7) PICO questions are in development. The next steps are for the expert panel to finalize the last of the PICO questions, then submit a special supplement to PEC Journal. The range of negative images about EMS practitioners 'napping' on the job need to be de-mystified. Reality is that practitioners napping reduces risk of fatigue. Education on fatigue is key.

The Council inquired if Daniel Patterson was accepting offers to present. Kathy stated that Daniel is available to present to discuss the outcomes of the measures.

ACTION: Pam to contact Kathy to schedule a date and time for Daniel to present a webinar.

10. Other items

Council members were invited to add items to future agendas. Council members to make request to Pam Lane for inclusion.