EMS Committee Meeting Minutes for 20 Jan 2009

Members Present:
Dr Flanagan
Capt Eliot
Eng Jeremy VanAusdall
Eng Robert Garcia
FF Dave Thomas

Members Not Present:
Eng Mark Tisdel
Eng Tim Aurora
Eng Hank Shear

Old Business: None! This was our first meeting!

New Business:

Item #1: Presenter: Eng Jeremy VanAusdall Item: Recommendation to add the ResQPod to NBFD equipment / protocol. Justification provided: Background information on ResQPod and Draft Protocol.

Jeremy provided details on the benefits of the ResQpod. The device is proven beneficial and a class IIA recommendation by AHA. The only negative is the price and the impact to the budget. Capt Eliot provided an estimation of impact based on 08 CPR cases. Dr Flanagan wanted to discuss the budget impact with Chief Robinson. A separate meeting was conducted days later with Chief Robinson, Dr Flanagan, and Capt Eliot. A letter of justification was provided to Chief Robinson by Capt Eliot as requested. As of 10 Feb 2008 we are still awaiting final approval but it is anticipated. We hope to roll the in-service into the scheduled BLS renewal training scheduled in February. Jeremy drafted a protocol for it's use on Dr Flanagan's request.

Item #2: Presenter: Eng Jeremy VanAusdall Item: Recommendation to engage Therapeutic Hypothermia cooling into NBFD protocol/equipment. Justification provided: Slide presentation

Dr Flanagan presented his intention to begin Therapeutic Hypothermia (TH) cooling for ROSC post cardiac arrest at the regular EMS Meeting so Jeremy didn't spend a lot of time on his slide presentation. He had gathered protocols from Austin EMS and Wake County in North Carolina. He had valuable input and the committee agreed to follow the 2 liter bolus protocol similar to Austin EMS. Dr Flanagan tasked Jeremy with providing a draft protocol which he has since provided. He also recommended utilizing TH for pediatric patients and Dr Flanagan endorsed the idea.

Item #3: Presenter: Capt Eliot: Item: Recommendation by Eng Eric Wyatt to add Chloraprep antiseptic to equipment. Justification provided: In use by CNB, website background information provided www.chloraprep.com

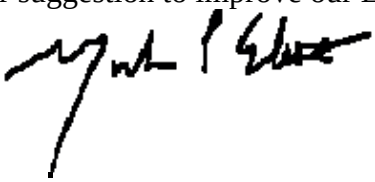
The committee heard the benefits of chloraprep over betadine but did not feel the added cost difference between existing antiseptic skin prep and chloraprep was justified. The committee felt that existing skin preparation (betadine and alcohol) prodecures were adequate should be re-iterated that proper preparation should be followed.

Item #4: Presenter: Eng Jeremy VanAusdall Item: Discuss doing reports at ER Justification provided: None – Item was rejected for agenda / committee discussion by Capt Eliot

Eng VanAusdall brought this subject up when asked by Dr Flanagan what the members thought of the current committee format. Capt Eliot explained that he rejected the item for discussion due to a letter recently issued by the Fire Chief stating the procedure would be to do reports at the ER. He felt it was a dead issue. Jeremy objected and felt the committee shouldn't be censored in that regard. Capt Eliot understood his point of view and apologized. He appreciates and desires all committee input and understands it is extremely valuable to our success. Dr Flanagan tasked Jeremy to justify at the next meeting how doing reports at the ER negatively impacts patient care.

Other:
Capt Eliot – More detailed EMS Supply Budget information will be available by next meeting. Other possible agenda items for next meeting: Eng VanAusdall - C-Spine Clearance in the field and IV pump replacement plan.

Note: New items to be placed on agenda must be received by EMS Captain not later than 5 business days (training weekday business days) and with supporting justification. The reason for this is so that we can circulate the items to all committee members to facilitate discussion, and it allows sufficient to get the agenda posted. If you have an idea or suggestion to improve our EMS program please contact your shift committee member!



Mark P Eliot, Capt
EMS Officer
New Braunfels Fire Department