

**CONNECTICUTY TRAUMA COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**Connecticut Hospital Association
Wallingford, CT**

April 17, 2014

PRESENT: Lenworth Jacobs, Chairman; Brendan Campbell, Elizabeth Denby-Callahan, Kevin Dwyer, Jean Jacobson, Florence Leishman, Kevin Manzolillo, Gillian Mosier, Patrick O'Hara, Paul Possenti, John Quinlavin, Linda Roney, Jim Santocroce, Kevin Schuster, Subramani Seetharama, Shea Gregg, Jennifer Tabak, Pina Violano, Bruce Walch, Brian Wallace

Dr. Jacobs called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted and approved.

Wendy Furness from the Department of Public Health attended the meeting. The Committee was most appreciative of her attendance and wisdom.

John Quinlavin, Chair of EMS Advisory Committee addressed the board on a number of issues. He informed the board of the status of a number of bills which were currently before the Connecticut State Legislature. There was a significant discussion on primary service assignments and the potential implications of these assignments relative to the conduct of EMS activities within the state. The Trauma Committee was enlightened on a number of these legislative initiatives and was greatly appreciation to Mr. Quinlavin for his detailed report.

There was a significant discussion on the recommendations which have been under discussion by the EMS Advisory relative to the administration of NARCAN by emergency medical technicians in the State of Connecticut. There was a discussion on the role of the administration of Epinephrine by individual members of the public, family and friends to individuals who had anaphylaxis secondary to issues like a bee sting or peanut allergies. It was generally thought that whereas overdose of Heroin with resultant respiratory distress was a major problem, it was not completely clear that the widespread use of NARCAN to people not trained in its contraindications and potential problems was a good idea, and it needed extensive discussion before becoming public policy. There was a call to distribute literature on NARCAN and specifically some of the issues related to public education relative to the drug and its usage prior to widespread implementation of uncontrolled administration of the drug.

There was discussion on a number of issues including carbon monoxide monitoring, the rehabilitation of firefighters and the use long boards in spinal mobilization. A new educational conference on Connecticut EMS Expo would be promulgated in the last weekend in May and it was thought that this would be widely attended.

The Data Committee gave an extensive report on Connecticut specific data relative to the use of helmets and the injuries which were sustained with people who had protection and those who didn't. This was a multi-year extensive review which generated considerable discussion. The final report will be forwarded to the Commissioner of Public Health for her review and ultimate disposition. There was a strong sense that helmets on motorcycle riders offer substantial protection to the rider, decrease the number and severity of injuries and decrease the short-term and long-term costs to the patient and to society. There was an extensive discussion on the benefits of rehabilitation in head injured patients. At the conclusion of the discussion a motion was made to forward the data and the recommendations to the Commissioner for her review and comments. The motion passed unanimously.

There was a discussion of the presentation to the National Security Council at the White House on the recommendations of the Hartford Consensus document. The document was a 'call to action' to increase survival from active shooter and mass casualty events. This report was well received by the National Security Council. It was noted that over 40,000 police personnel are now equipped and carrying tourniquets and bleeding control kits on their person nationally. The Committee was informed that bleeding control bags would be available every five miles of the Boston Marathon route and that over 1500 runners with bleeding control kits would be embedded within the race.

At the end of the discussion the CT State Police informed the committee that they had outfitted every member of the CT State Police with a personal bleeding control kit which would be carried on their person on in the car. The Committee was informed that the State Police frequently, especially in rural areas, are called to respond to major crashes where there is significant property damage and personal injuries which require hemorrhage control. Trooper Kevin Manzolillo of the CT State Police demonstrated the bleeding control kit which was in place with the State Police. The Committee positively acclaimed and applauded this effort.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Florence M. Leishman