



# County of Santa Cruz

## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
SERVICES PROGRAM

## PREHOSPITAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)

### MINUTES

APRIL 7, 2008

**Present:** Kent Benedict, Chris Jones, Brad Cramer, Lawrence Erickson, Rayette Andrews, Beth Landes, Hilda Chelstowski, Maureen Sullivan, Celia Barry, Priscilla Leighton, Marc Yellin, Barbara Rice, Scott Vahradian, Hilary Weaver, Scott Weyland, Greg Vandervoort, Sterling Lewis, Lisa Angell, Jeff Terpstra, Richard Rubin

March's meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

### 1. NEW BUSINESS

1. King Tube/EZ IO Audit –Now have been using King Tube for 15 months. EMDAC (Emergency Medical Directors Association of California) will be moving forward with a request that the King Tube be readily available to any agency interested in using it as a rescue tube and that approval include EMT-1 usage. The device has a higher success rate than the Combi-tube. Medics prefer to use it. Brad is updating local data to accompany the request to the State. For 2007, there were 50 to 60 attempts and success rate is at approximately 95%+. There are three counties that are using the King Tube in California. It is unknown whether or not any of those counties are using the pediatric King Tube.
2. Safe Haven – Barbara Rice, PHN, Santa Cruz County Maternal Child Adolescent Health Program – State law as of 2001, allows babies to be surrendered at any hospital or designated site such as fire departments. Current law permits surrender of babies up to three days old. The County Board of Supervisors has the authority to designate a site. The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors chose not to designate the fire departments because they are not always staffed. Dominican Hospital has designated all entrances to the hospital as safe surrender sites. Lawrence brought the San Mateo policy as an example. This issue will be taken to the EMSIA and to the Fire Chiefs this month.

## 2. REPORTS

1. EMS Administrator Report-The Save A Friend campaign, under the auspices of the EMCC and now managed by Dominican Hospital, needs more willing presenters. This should also be brought to the EMCC to see if there is interest to be the “champion”. County budget is very grim. There will be a “mini EMS surge summit” in the next few weeks with a few key players to coordinate surge planning locally. The medic recognition/EMS week event will be on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:15am at the Board of Supervisors.
  1. Electronic PCR Report – There has been a lot of work to move WebPCR to a more reliable server. There will be a test of the new server’s ability to support WebPCR without slowing down the system. The electronic PCR subcommittee had vendor demonstrations last Friday. Firehouse EMS received favorable reviews. Current plan is to replace the server, upgrade WebPCR to “live” on the new server and place the server at NetCom. The committee will obtain quotes from Firehouse for their product as well as quotes from Maji Technology (original programmer for WebPCR) to perform some upgrades to the current product.
  2. EMS System Report – There was an issue with NetCom not knowing that Dominican had been red for 2 hours and NetCom reported to a crew that Dominican was green.
2. EMSIA Report – Scott – AFG grant has been submitted for EKG monitors. Should hear in June if grant was potentially successful. Waiting for the purchase orders to be cut from the Office of Emergency Services to purchase the CPAP equipment. Propose to stop doing EZ IO audit. Kent will give approval once he’s reviewed 2007 data. Propose doing audit of status 4 respiratory distress cases.
3. AMR Report – Brad – MDC has had fewer problems lately. WebPCR is being loaded onto the MDCs.

## 3. OLD BUSINESS – UPDATES

1. Trauma – Update – Will not have a trauma forum this year because don’t have the resources for it. Kent will write the report for the 2007 cases.
2. Policy & Procedure Committee – Update – Meeting will be on April 18<sup>th</sup> 9am at Central Fire and topics will be hypothermia, Life Threats Policy 4000 for changes by AHA, the DNR policy (1190), MCI and Trauma triage. Changes have already been made to the Air Ambulance Policy, the Burn Policy and Diversions. Please email Celia directly with any examples of the new policy for air ambulance cancellation policy creating problems (requires that BLS IC cancel air ambulance in consultation with ~~on-scene~~ ALS medical). There

was a recent call where NetCom canceled LifeFlight in favor of another call, but the on-scene IC didn't want to cancel the resource. Police at Scene policy – pepper spray issue was brought to EMS by UCSC.

3. CPAP – See above.
4. WestMed/Monterey – Kent and Celia will meet with Tom Lynch and the Monterey County EMS Medical Director soon to discuss trauma and transfers.
5. EKG Monitors – Medtronic and Zoll have both reduced prices. ST SMART program meeting tomorrow at 4pm at Dominican Hospital to begin phasing out the project.
6. Cardiac Arrest Study – Kent communicated with principal investigator of CDC's CARES project and provided a copy of the Santa Cruz County Cardiac Arrest Study. The investigator remarked that the local cardiac arrest study provides very similar data to the CARES project and that it reflected very good work.
7. Diversions and Status 4 patients – Will be looked at at CQI.

#### **4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Paramedic charting office at Dominican is changing again. Rayette will probably share an office with the paramedics.

Emergency Department closure for three days in Arizona because the hospital was so full.

CALSTAR is having a trauma forum on 4/24 in Salinas.

CALSTAR is testing a new helicopter out of Gilroy. The helicopter is very quiet.

Agenda for next meeting:

**The next PAC meeting will be on Monday, May 5th at Central Fire at 8:30am**

Health Services Agency website: [www.santacruzhealth.org](http://www.santacruzhealth.org)