

CLINICAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Minutes	Clinical Issues Committee Meeting
Date	June 9, 2021
Time	10:00 am CST
Location	665 Mainstream Drive, Iris Room
Participants	Members present: Dr. Joe Holley, Timothy Booher, Angela Bowen, John Dabbs, Hunter Earnest, Hugh Laxton, Kevin Spratlin, Randy White, Brandon Ward, Chip Cook, Dwight Davis (at 1127)

Overall Lead	Topic	Summary / Decision	Assignments / Next Steps	Responsible Person	Time Frame
Dr. Joe Holley	Roll Call	The meeting was called to order by Dr. Holley at 1032. Dr. Holley conducted a roll call and a quorum was not present.	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dr. Joe Holley	Old Minutes	Minutes were presented and elicited any feedback or corrections. Unable to approve without quorum.	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dr. Joe Holley	Off Load Protocol	<p>Continuing to have off-load delays, especially in West Tennessee/Memphis area. K. Spratlin shared experiences in Memphis with increasing concerns from some specific hospitals, including turning off the radio, declaring internal disasters due to staffing and requesting paramedics to register patients at the hospital. Services have resulted in carrying chairs/cots to off-load patients in the ED. Healthcare Facilities Board is aware of the concerns and recent meetings were cancelled. Dr. Holley Suggested strong letter from EMS Board to Healthcare Facilities to fully explain these issues.</p> <p>In Knoxville region, working with the HealthCare Coalitions has been helpful to maintain cooperative relationships. Concern verbalized for support to reimburse for alternative destinations besides of an emergency department as some patients are</p>	<p>Present at EMS Board meeting</p> <p>Share information with K. Douglas/TASA</p>	<p>Brandon Ward for Dr. Holley</p> <p>Brandon to reach out to Keith. T. Booher and K. Spratlin to connect for TASA.</p>	Meeting on June 16, 2021

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		<p>better served by other more appropriate destinations. Recently Texas passed legislation in this direction. Keith Douglas is now liaison between TennCare and EMS/TASA. June 21, webinar by CMS to discuss alignment with reimbursement for alternative destinations. Memphis Fire and AMR are involved in a trial to transport to alternative destinations through ET3 trials.</p>			
Dr. Joe Holley	COVID-19 Impacts	<p>Encouraging overall outlook. WHO has created a new nomenclature using Greek letters to name variants. Currently at Delta variant (UK virus that has now mutated – Indian version). Concerns with this variant are with increased transmissibility and slightly increased severity of illness, and impact seems to be higher on younger populations. Very good evidence that the vaccines are less effective with this variant (83-85% efficacy) but still effective in reducing severe illness/hospitalizations. A single dose may only be around 50% effective against the Delta variant.</p> <p>The Beta variation (UK) is the most prevalent virus in the U.S. currently.</p> <p>Governor’s executive order that allowed operators on BLS EMS units expired May 31. The emergency rule by the EMS Office allows operators on ALS to continue with an approved plan. There is an emergency rule being submitted to attorney general office for approval that would allow operators on BLS/ALS on a limited basis.</p>	n/a	n/a	n/a

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Dr. Joe Holley	NAEMSP Website	The Tennessee Chapter of NAEMSP has a website with a few best practices documents posted.	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dr. Joe Holley	Medical Director's Workshop	Dr. Holley be doing several presentations at the upcoming TEMSEA conference, similar to a mini-Medical Director's workshop.	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dr. Joe Holley	EMT Administration of nebulized albuterol	COPEC recommended that for patients less than 3 years of age require on-line medical direction for administration. Dr. Holley to prepare an approved clinical practice and present to next Clinical Issues Committee meeting.	Develop approved clinical practice	Dr. Joe Holley	Before next meeting
Dr. Joe Holley	Changing THC Rules/Decriminalization	General discussion of potential legalization of THC in Tennessee, as well as use of CBD, and the impact on EMS workers. Laws vary from state to state with legalization, with many of these states have laws restricting the recreational use for healthcare and childcare workers. A recent neighboring state legalized medical marijuana without any restrictions for healthcare and childcare workers. Discussions around continued impairment on healthcare workers, specifically testing for THC by legislative rules, lack of qualitative test that is correlated to impairment, and how medical marijuana with a prescription would be managed as this would not be reported on a drug of abuse screen.	Present discussion to EMS Board	Brandon Ward for Dr. Joe Holley	Meeting on June 16, 2021
Dr. Joe Holley	NG tube insertion	NG tube insertion by paramedics is already included in the scope of practice.	n/a	n/a	n/a
Williamson County EMS (Dr. Jay Cooper, Mark King, Zach Mryan,	Old Business: Williamson County Blood in the Field Project	Initially presented in 2019 to CIC. Administered blood products to 14 patients. Estimated 6 patients that met criteria but were not administered due to logistical issues. 3/14 were trauma and 11/14 were medical with	Present to EMS Board for full approval	Williamson EMS	Meeting on June 16, 2021

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and Scott Storey)		<p>predominately GI bleeding diagnosis. Only 1 unit of PRBCs were wasted during the trial due to expiration. All cases were reviewed by Dr. Jay Cooper and found to have met requirements of the protocol and there were no adverse reactions or negative impacts to the patients in the study. Williamson EMS would like to continue this protocol, potentially expand to another location and administer liquid plasma to be followed by PRBC. Those present supported this moving this to a permanent program from trial status. Suggested to continue with new services progressing as a trial then to approval with demonstrable results.</p> <p>Dr. Holley to draft an approved clinical practice for CIC approval.</p>	Develop approved clinical practice	Dr. Joe Holley	Before next meeting
	Stroke Survey	<p>Survey was presented on Survey Monkey. Have preliminary results. Full results will be coming soon.</p>	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Ultrasound Trial	<p>Ultrasound trial is ongoing. Expecting report in Fall 2021.</p>	n/a	n/a	n/a
	New Business: Next meeting	<p>Next meeting scheduled for August 18, 2021 in Iris Room. Members can currently email Brandon Ward for a proxy if unable to attend. Attendance for this meeting will not be counted against attendance requirements due to change from virtual to in-person meeting. Unable to provide a virtual participation in the committee meeting by strong recommendation by the Governor.</p>			
	Adjournment	<p>Meeting was adjourned by Dr. Holley at 1219.</p>	n/a	n/a	n/a

Minutes recorded and submitted by Kevin Nooner.