



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

ROBERT GORDON
DIRECTOR

COVID-19 Response EMS Conference Call
Tuesday, July 7, 2020
2:00 PM

MINUTES

1. Introduction

Kathy Wahl, BS, MSN, RN

Director, Division of EMS and Trauma

- Kathy Wahl welcomed everyone to the call and thanked everyone for joining us. Kathy made some announcements.
 - Clarification on Dr. Khaldun's directive on testing in skilled nursing facilities,
 - Those frequently visiting had to undergo LTC weekly testing. Kathy said clarification was received on this. This does not apply to agencies that go at various times with various providers unless it is the same person contracted to be going weekly.
 - EMS One Education Program COVID training course
 - Information from this program is incorrect and the office will be reaching out to have it updated. Kathy reminded everyone that michigan.gov/coronavirus has the most up to date information.

2. Data Element Submission

Sabrina Kerr, BA, MPA, EMS Section Manager

Bureau of EMS, Trauma and Preparedness

- Sabrina Kerr went over some history on data submission. A list of requirements was sent out in the past to those not in compliance. There was great response, but some agencies are still out of compliance. Sabrina said one concern was agency liability for a data breach. Sabrina said she reached out to the MDHHS legal department and the responsibility would lie with the department. A security document will be going out. She spoke about the importance of submitting the patient demographics. Please reach out to Sabrina with questions. She can be reached at 517-241-3024 or kerrs3@michigan.gov.

3. Pediatric Update

Dr. Samantha Mishra, MPH, DO

EMS for Children Coordinator

- Dr. Mishra gave some updates.
 - Heatstroke in vehicles.
 - Information has been going out in the Wednesday Update that you can share to spread the word. July 31 is National Heat Stroke Prevention Day, so the month of July is a great time to get information out. The reason this message is being

pushed in COVID-19 times is due to the additional stress this may cause on parents/guardians. People may forget to check the back seat. Michigan has not had any fatalities in the last two years.

- Infant safe sleep.
 - This was brought to our attention from a paramedic asking about resources. She described the issues caused by the recent flooding in the Midland area. A communication went out to the impacted areas surrounding the flood area. Resources that can be used at any time are also available. Dr. Mishra can be reached at mishras@michigan.gov and michigan.gov/safesleep has information by county. These resources are available at any time.

4. Protocol Updates

Emily Bergquist, MSA, EMT-P, EMS-IC
MCA Coordinator

- Emily gave an update on the emergency COVID-19 protocols in Section 14. It was discussed at the Quality Assurance Task Force (QATF) meeting and it was decided to keep these as emergency protocols at this time, and Emily went over the benefits to this. The protocols were reviewed on June 26, 2020, and no changes were made other than the implementation date.
 - MCAs only need to alert the EMS office if they are making a change. MCAs creating their own version that would like to get them implemented permanently would submit to QATF.

5. Medical Director Update

William Fales, M.D., FACEP
State EMS & Trauma Medical Director

- Dr. Fales spoke about last week's press release that identified the public health problem during COVID-19 of an increase in out of hospital deaths. Emily Bergquist used EMS data to pull together the information that was pushed out by Dr. Khaldun. Out of hospital cardiac arrests are up statewide 43%, and out of hospital deaths are up 62%, while transports are down 17%. STEMI and Stroke transports also decreased. Dr. Fales discussed possible reasons for this. Dr. Fales said he has pushed the information to colleagues in other states so they can get the message out, as well. He said it's important to realize the importance of using EMS and communicating that to the public. Dr Fales suggested people monitor the MDHHS Facebook page. This is an alarming trend and shows the importance of EMS data.
 - Kathy gave a shoutout to the Michigan Association of Ambulance Services (MAAS). They created a lot of the messaging in collaboration with MDHHS and has been pushing information on social media to get the message out to utilize EMS. Kathy said the initial coverage resulted in 23 news stories and interviews. She thanked MAAS for helping spearhead getting the message out. They also provided links that can be put in the Wednesday Update. They also have good information on their [website](#).
- Dr. Fales said COVID-19 has not gone away by any means and warned about becoming complacent. He asked everyone to keep the troops motivated on PPE and good decontamination between calls.

- Kathy said we will still be asked to enter PPE information into EMResource. The COVID crisis is not over and we want to stay on top of how much PPE agencies have and anticipate where there might be need should hotspots develop. If you haven't been updating information, an EMS Regional Coordinator will be reaching out to you. Accurate data is helpful for providing support.
- Influenza season is coming up and it is important that agencies and MCAs start to think about getting immunizations, both for influenza and COVID-19, if that becomes available.

6. Education Update

Terrie Godde, BS, CCP, EMS-IC
EMS Education Coordinator

- Terrie reported that the security details have been finalized for the Instructor Coordinator (IC) exam to be held online. It will be tested next week. Once the test is complete and reviewed, Terrie will reach out to IC candidates to schedule exams.

7. Q&A

All

- A participant asked if there were any updates on the Pediatric Inflammatory disease. Dr. Mishra said there haven't been any increasing spikes or new major hotspots outside of metro Detroit. We are keeping an eye on it and working with closely with MDHHS epidemiology. There is a new and updated [Michigan Disease Surveillance System](#) (MDSS) reporting form for clinicians in the hospitals. Please let us know if there are strange pediatric calls so they can be reviewed.
- Additional questions can be emailed to MDHHS-MichiganEMS@michigan.gov.
- Kathy thanked everyone for their participation.

8. Future Calls

Statewide EMS COVID-19 Call
August 4, 2020 at 2:00 pm

- Topic suggestions can be sent via email at MDHHS-MichiganEMS@michigan.gov.