



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
152 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

MIKE SAUSCHUCK
COMMISSIONER

J. SAM HURLEY
DIRECTOR

Medical Direction and Practices Board – August 18, 2021
Conference Phone Number: 1-646-876-9923 **Meeting Number:** 81559853848
Zoom Address: <https://mainestate.zoom.us/j/81559853848>

Members present: Matt Sholl, Seth Ritter, Beth Collamore, Mike Bohanske, Rachel Williams, David Saquet, Claire DuFort, Benjy Lowry, Kate Zimmerman
Members Absent: Tim Pieh, Pete Tilney
MEMS Staff: Chris Azevedo, Marc Minkler, Sam Hurley, Melissa Adams
Stakeholders: Eric Wellman, Joanne Lebrun, Phil MacCallum, Steve Almquist, Paul Marcolini, Chip Getchell, Rick Petrie, Jay Bradshaw, Dan Pugsley, Chris Pare, Matt Fifield, Stephanie Cordwell, Dr. Norm Dinerman, Tony Lagasse, Butch Russell, Steve Leach, Adam Salve, John Kooistra

MDPB Agenda – Meeting begins at 0930

- 1) Introductions
 - a. And role call.
- 2) July/June 2021 MDPB Minutes
 - a. Motion to approve June meeting minutes made by Dr. Zimmerman and seconded by Dr. Lowry. No discussion. Motion carried.
 - b. Motion to approve July meeting made by Dr. Zimmerman and seconded by Dr. Lowry. No discussion, Motion carried.
- 3) State Update
 - a. Director Sam Hurley
 - i. Discusses Maine CDC immunization rules to include EMS agencies, training centers and EMD centers, needing COVID vaccine dose.
 1. Emergency Board meeting called for 17 Aug 2021. The emergency meeting was not held due to technical difficulties and was rescheduled for Monday, 23 Aug 2021.
 - ii. In process of revising the playbook
 1. Masking guidance will advise clinicians to wear mask regardless of vaccination status.
 2. Screening guidance- revising to anything less than 12-hr shift- 1st test at beginning of shift. 24- beginning and end.
 3. The Maine Bureau of Labor is coming out with guidelines aligning with new temporary rule on COVID 19. We are waiting to hear back from them. We expect them to publish something next week. We expect this will be similar to guidance that Maine EMS has been using all along.
 - iii. Rick Petrie asks for clarification on masking. Will the new playbook revisions mandate masking in the station, or is this just in the field?
 1. Director Hurley
 - a. It will say we recommend masking in the station regardless of vaccination status, because it is difficult to determine vaccination

status. Dr. Sholl and I spoke specifically about that at the COVID update. Rick Petrie adds he was looking for clarification on "recommending" versus "mandating."

- iv. Dr. Sholl asks when postings for BLS position come down. Director Hurley replies that they come down next week and asks if MDPB is developing an interview panel? Dr. Sholl replies that they are. Discusses status of BLS member vacancy filling process, for the group.
- 4) Special Circumstances Protocol Review – NONE
 - 5) New Devices– NONE
 - 6) Pilot Program – Portland Fire Department
 - a. Dr. Sholl discusses the frequency of report-outs from Portland Fire on this project.
 - i. Dr. Ritter suggests quarterly and then biannually. Discussion by the group.
 - ii. Director Hurley suggests standardizing the reporting procedure and interval. We'll be having multiple pilot projects and standardizing facilitates tracking and managing expectations.
 - iii. Dr. Ritter highlights that difficulty with pilot project is that each of them is different. Example, Jackman might feel they need to report much more frequently than other projects. Discussion of this point by the group.
 - iv. Dr. Sholl suggests setting initial expectation at monthly and then backing down or moving up from there as necessary.
 - v. Motion to accept this reporting schedule by Dr. Sholl. Dr. Bohanske seconds the motion. No discussion. Motion carried.
 - 7) UPDATE – Medication Shortages – None
 - 8) COVID-19 – Dr. Sholl
 - a. Discusses review/approval of the Coronavirus Pandemic Summer 2021 Clinical Bulletin.
 - b. Asks for comments by end of business on Friday.
 - c. Discusses national and local activity around COVID. We're hearing there is diminished pediatric ICU capability nationwide. Impact on peds hospitals has been worrisome. Will be important in Maine to monitor trends to keep up on impact here.
 - d. The COVID R(0) factor is now in excess of 8 for the Delta variant. Dr. Sholl discusses emerging issues with Delta variant. Vaccination plus masking is now becoming a cornerstone of our response and is the main idea of the forthcoming clinical bulletin.
 - i. Dr. Williams discusses impact on peds in Maine. Dr. Sholl adds that Maine Medical Center currently has 2 intubated patients.
 - ii. Dr. Dinerman adds that it may be interesting to share comments regarding capacity elasticity throughout the system. May be impactful on transport issues.
 - iii. Dr. Ritter adds that his hospital is basically shut down from accepting patients from elsewhere. Not due exclusively to COVID, but because of volume. Capacity issue seen in south is not being seen here yet, but we need to be cognizant of rise in patient numbers and reinforce every protective posture we have and make sure the state does its job to be proactive in promoting this.
 - 9) 2021 Protocol Update –
 - a. Discussion: Items for review from Protocol Review Process
 - i. Dr. Sholl- discusses protocol review and editing process and thanks Marc Minkler for assistance. This has taken a bit longer than expected.
 - ii. Once final edits are complete, will disseminate all sections to MDPB and Maine EMS staff to post for all to review and see.
 - b. Dr. Zimmerman adds, as a note, that for all the work she does on these, Dr. Sholl does triple.
 - c. Dr. Sholl shares his screen for discussion of a neonatal resuscitation protocol late change.
 - i. Dr. Williams describes the new changes that had to be made.
 - 1. The protocol was reviewed by neonatologist specialists who requested some clarification in the protocols regarding airway and CPR guidelines.

- ii. Dr. Sholl makes the suggestion to take language in pink section as a PEARL in protocol itself and maintain split between airway and CPR and leave language “if able AEMT/Paramedic, BIAD or intubate.” Motion to accept the changes is made by Dr. Bohanske and seconded by Dr. Williams. No further discussion. Motion carried.
 - d. Review/Approve the K9 Protocols –
 - i. Dr. Zimmerman shares her screen with the group. Covers the actual Canine protocols with the group.
 - ii. Dr. Sholl solicits comments from the group.
 - 1. Dr. Ritter asks, would it make sense to include SAR dogs in this as well?
 - 2. Dr. Zimmerman replies that it would. This is going to be accessible for law enforcement and SAR both. This will only be usable for prehospital personnel who have taken a course in this and have been trained. And, there should already be an established relationship with a veterinary clinic.
 - 3. Motion to approve made by Dr. Collamore to add canine protocols as annex to current provider protocols. Seconded by Dr. Saquet. Discussion. Motion carried.
 - e. QI Markers in the Protocols –
 - i. Section authors to review their sections and forward to Drs. Sholl and Zimmerman protocol items that should be QI markers in your respective protocols.
 - f. Status of the Educational Product – CA/Education Committee
- 10) Discussion - Physician Response – TP/MS/All
 - a. Dr. Sholl discusses further scenarios for pursuing accommodation of this concept in Maine.
- 11) Dr. Sholl asks the group to be diligent in looking for the following topic items for their review and input, as they present themselves:
 - a. PIFT- from Dr. Tilney
 - b. Jackman pilot program
- 12) Notice – upcoming agenda items

Old Business – 1245 -1300

- 1) Ops
 - a. Director Hurley
 - i. Team meeting was cancelled due to emergency Board meeting. This will be rescheduled soon.
 - ii. Rick Petrie
 - 1. Would like to acknowledge the passing of Kerry McKee Pomelow. She was an integral part of the EMS system in Maine
 - 2. Dan Palladino was instrumental in building many of the educational projects throughout the history of Maine EMS
- 2) Education
 - a. Chris Azevedo- reported on protocol education development process.
- 3) QI
 - a. Dr. Sholl- working on sepsis newsletter. They will not be meeting today. Please consider any QI markers that you would like to forward.
- 4) Community Paramedicine
 - a. Dr. Lowry is new chair of CP committee. Gives short brief on operations of committee.
- 5) Maine Heart Rescue
 - a. Working on alternate methods of education using training equipment for high performance CPR training.
 - b. Conversations ongoing regarding re-invigoration of education efforts.

Next meeting scheduled for 15 Sept 2021.

Motion to adjourn by Dr. Sholl.

Meeting adjourned at 1137 hrs.

Ongoing Items for Future Discussion:

PIFT protocols/IFT Committee – Tilney/Sholl