



Quality Assurance & Improvement Committee  
Minutes for November 16, 2022

“The mission of Maine EMS is to promote and provide for a comprehensive and effective Emergency Medical Services system to ensure optimum patient care with standards for all clinicians. All members of this committee should strive to promote the core values of excellence, support, collaboration, and integrity. In serving on this committee, we commit to serve the respective clinicians, communities, and residents of the jurisdictions that we represent.”

1. Call to Order
  - a. Chip called the meeting to order at 1333
2. Reading of the mission statement
  - a. Chip read the mission statement
3. Attendance
  - a. Committee Members
    - i. Alan Henschke, Dr Collamore, Chip Getchell, Dwight Corning, Joanne Lebrun, Jon Powers, Dr Zimmerman, Melinda Dyer, Oliver Mackenzie, Rick Petrie, Rob Sharkey,
  - b. Guests
    - i. Steve Almquist
  - c. Maine EMS Staff
    - i. Jason Oko; Darren Davis
4. Public Comments
  - a. No public comments were made
5. Modifications to the agenda
  - a. No modifications to the agenda were requested
6. Previous Meeting Minutes
  - a. September 21, 2022, there was no meeting in October.
  - b. Motion by Rick, second by Dwight Corning to accept the minutes, no discussion,
    - i. Alan Henschke,
    - ii. Dr Collamore - Abstain
    - iii. Chip Getchell
    - iv. Dwight Corning



- v. Joanne Lebrun
- vi. Jon Powers
- vii. Dr Zimmerman
- viii. Melinda Dyer
- ix. Oliver Mackenzie
- x. Rick Petrie
- xi. Robert Sharkey Abstain

7. Old Business:

a. Safety Newsletter Discussion

i. The committee reviewed the draft section by section

1. Lights & Sirens Responses

- a. Chip would like to add a section on priority dispatch and how it plays a role in the EMS response
- b. Melinda provided some additional comments on the topic and offered to draft a section regarding determinant codes and priority dispatch and call acuity levels. Melinda & Jason agreed to work on this together,
- c. Joanne commented what is on the first page about the place holder on the first page adding an overview of the determinant codes, and how to engage the idea this is a collaborative process.
- d. Alan would like to emphasize that individual clinicians should not be making response decisions. Providing information on how these happen and come from policies is a good point to mention.
- e. Rob Sharkey would like to see the information put out there.
- f. Melinda shared information with the committee regarding this topic.

ii. Traffic Incident Management Responder Training

- 1. Chip spoke about his frustration with not closing roads, they have had a few near misses.
- 2. Add a graphic to the newsletter



3. Alan mentioned working within the ICS structure to mention road closure as an issue and to empower ems clinicians to speak up and also use of high visibility traffic vests.
4. Add more about the course
- iii. Clinician Fatigue
  1. This is near and dear to Chip, they have had a few crashes over the years due to fatigue
  2. We discussed fatigue assessment
  3. Does your service have a policy about sleep and fatigue
  4. What would you do if you felt fatigued on your shift?
- iv. Visibility Standards for vehicles
  1. Condense the first four paragraphs
  2. Keep the rules mentions
  3. Mention the visibility of the unit is the first line of protection to the crew
  4. The message gets lost in the three standards, but don't give the history, focus on the critical nature of great visibility
  5. Add a picture of a Maine ambulance
  6. Highlight some pictures of what we are talking about
- v. Transport Safety (Clinicians & Patients)
  1. No comments
- vi. Ambulance Crash Data
  1. Add measures safety 1 & 2
8. New Business:
9. Maine EMS Staff Update
10. Action Items for next meeting
  - a. Update newsletter and bring back to committee

Next Meeting  
January 18, 2023