



## Emergency Medical Services Council

Health Services Building – MC L963  
525 Portland Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1569

612-348-6001, Phone  
chd.ems@co.hennepin.mn.us



### Medical Standards Committee

June 1, 2023, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Online at <https://www.hennepin.us/business/work-with-henn-co/ems-planning-reg>  
**Draft Summary**

Present	Absent
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Owen Anderson, OD, Methodist Hospital</li> <li>Todd Joing, MD, MHealth Fairview Southdale Hospital</li> <li>Doug Kayser, Ridgeview Ambulance Service</li> <li><b>Michelle London, MD, Minneapolis Children’s Hospital (Chair)</b></li> <li>Lisa Pearson, MHealth Fairview Hospitals</li> <li>Brittany Philpot, MD, Abbott Northwestern Hospital</li> <li>Nick Simpson, MD Hennepin EMS</li> <li>Kevin Sipprell, MD, Ridgeview Ambulance Service</li> <li>Peter Tanghe, MD, North Memorial Hospital</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ellen Cales, MD, Mercy and Unity Hospitals</li> <li>Charlie Lick, MD Allina Health EMS</li> <li>Ryan Mayfield, Hennepin EMS</li> <li>Paul Nystrom, MD, Edina Fire EMS</li> <li>Angela Walker, Hennepin EMS</li> </ol>
Guests	Staff
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dan Klawitter, Hennepin EMS Communications and West MRCC</li> <li>Jacob Marian, public guest</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kristin Mellstrom, Hennepin County Public Health</li> </ol>

- Welcome and Introductions** - Chair Michelle London, MD called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. with a quorum present. Today’s agenda and the March 3, 2022 meeting summary were approved.
- Report from Ambulance Medical Directors Subcommittee** – Dr. Peter Tanghe, Chair of the Ambulance Medical Directors (AMD) Subcommittee, provided a brief report on the work of the Subcommittee:

The EMS Medical Directors are reviewing several aspects of pre-hospital cardiac care for patients. They met last week with physicians from Regions Hospital to discuss research, best practices and to coordinate cardiac care across the metro.

**III. Action: Change to Hospital Closure and Diversion Policy - Approved**

**Motion from EMS Medical Directors Subcommittee: Delete section 6.1 Divert for Red/Critical Patients in Hospital Closure and Diversion policy - Approved unanimously**

The committee noted that this exception in the policy to allow hospitals to divert Red patients when the ED has a critical equipment failure (e.g. CT outage) has been utilized only a few times since the Jan. 3, 2022 amendments that eliminated most diversions were adopted. While this diversion option seemed to be a very useful option, it wasn't used.

To simplify this policy, section 6.1 and all related references to Red patient diversions will be deleted. Information about equipment outages will continue to be updated by West MRCC in the general notification on MNTrac.

This change in the policy will move to the EMS Council in Oct. 2023.

**IV. Action: Change to Physician Medical Control – Moved back to EMS Medical Directors Subcommittee**

**Motion from EMS Medical Directors Subcommittee: Each ALS Ambulance Provider will identify a base hospital to call for medical control. An EMS Medical Director will manage training and certification of the physicians who will be permitted to provide online medical control from that hospital. This change does not preclude paramedics from calling for online medical control at other metro hospitals when needed.**

The discussion focused on the number of medical control calls each hospital gets per shift and what type of information is requested. The majority of representatives from hospitals agreed that medical advice/direction would be best provided at the hospitals that are affiliated with the medic's EMS service because protocols are getting more customized to each EMS Medical Director's service and the available formulary for each service. Concerns about the need for medical control to be available from one or more pediatric hospitals was agreed by all due to the specialized care that is often needed for this patient population.

The motion was moved back to the EMS Medical Directors subcommittee for further discussion to determine 1) if physicians at all hospitals should keep a unique identifying number for documentation purposes on run sheets; 2) if each EMS provider/EMS Medical Director should choose a single hospital to be the medical control provider for the medics working for that EMS provider; and 3) how to manage medical control numbers for physicians providing medical control.

- V. Action: New Chair for Medical Standards Committee**  
Dr. Nick Simpson, EMS Medical Director at Hennepin EMS was nominated to chair the committee. Dr. Michelle London will step down as chair after this meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
- VI. Future meetings**  
First Thursdays of March, June, Sept. Dec. from 9:30-11:30 a.m. online  
  
EMS Council meeting: Oct. 12, 2023 from 3pm to 4:30pm online
- VII. Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.