

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

483A



FROM: Department of Public Health

SUBMITTAL DATE:
October 17, 2012

SUBJECT: Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) Annual Report

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Receive and file the EMCC's 2011 annual report.

BACKGROUND: Resolution Number 2001-358 requires the EMCC to prepare an annual report to the Board of Supervisors on the current and anticipated conditions of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) within the County. Attached is EMCC's 2011 annual report that was approved for submission at EMCC's October 3, 2012 meeting.

Departmental Concurrence

Susan D. Harrington

BB:BM/bm

Susan Harrington, Director
Department of Public Health

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 0	In Current Year Budget:	N/A
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	N/A
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	N/A

SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

BY: *Debra Cournoyer*
Debra Cournoyer

County Executive Office Signature

ATTACHMENTS FILED
 DEBRA COURNOYER, CLERK OF THE BOARD
 Policy
 Policy
 Consent
 Consent
 Per Exec. Ofc.:

RIVERSIDE COUNTY



October 3, 2012

Riverside County Board of Supervisors
County Administrative Center
4080 Lemon Street
Riverside, CA 92501

Dear Members of the Board:

RE: Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) 2011/2012 Annual Report

Enclosed is the 2011/2012 EMCC Annual Report for your review. Please contact me electronically at smgrube@juno.com or by telephone at (951) 737-1065 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stanley M. Grube".

Stanley M. Grube, FACHE
Riverside County EMCC Chair

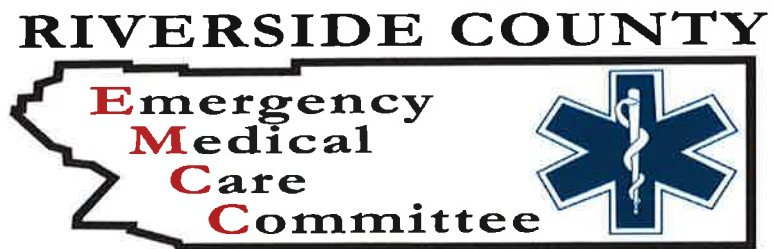
SG/bm

Enclosures

cc: Bruce Barton, EMS Agency Director
Brian MacGavin, EMS Assistant Director
EMCC File



RIVERSIDE COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE
2011
Annual Report



INTRODUCTION

This report documents Riverside County Emergency Medical Care Committee's (EMCC) observations on EMS matters in Riverside County. By virtue of the EMCC's membership, pursuant to Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 2001-358, these observations are composed by a varied group of individuals which forms this EMS advisory group. Reporting these observations will help to reinforce positive changes within Riverside County's EMS System.

EMCC MEMBERSHIP

EMCC Membership has been established by Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 2001-358 and the current composition consists of the following individuals:

Prehospital Medical Advisory Committee (PMAC) Physician Representative—Stephen Patterson, MD
Hospital Association of Southern California Representative (ex-officio)—Dimitrios Alexiou
Riverside County Medical Association Representative—Deepak Chandwani, MD
Riverside County Ambulance Association Representative—Peter Hubbard
Riverside County Fire Chiefs Association Representative—Jason Keeling
Coachella Valley Association of Governments Representative—Mike Marlow
Western Riverside Council of Governments Representative—Grant Yates
Riverside County Law Enforcement Agency Admin Assoc Representative—Vacant
PMAC Prehospital Representative—Jim Price
Riverside County Fire Department Representative—Phil Rawlings
Supervisorial District One Representative—Thomas McEntee
Supervisorial District Two Representative—Stanley M. Grube, FACHE (EMCC Chair)
Supervisorial District Three Representative—Mike Norris
Supervisorial District Four Representative—Blake Goetz (Vice Chair)
Supervisorial District Five Representative—Kent McCurdy

STAFFING AND TRAINING

Over the last 10 years requests for EMS have increased by over 20 percent. For the calendar year of 2010 there were 156,325 responses for 9-1-1 ambulance services and 76,068 responses for interfacility transports totaling 232,393. For 2011 there were 164,200 responses for 9-1-1 ambulance services and 77,057 responses for Interfacility transports totaling 241,257. During the 2011/2012 ambulance permit cycle there were 296 ambulances permitted to operate in Riverside County. Additionally, in 2011, 1,415 EMTs, 497 paramedics and 127 MICNs were credentialed at Riverside County EMS Agency (REMSA).

In 2011 REMSA and EMS participants worked on a major revision to the EMS Policy and Procedures Manual which went into effect on April 1, 2012. Since the last annual report additional uniform performance standards and objective evaluation tools have been adopted

and incorporated into REMSA's Protocol, Policy and Procedure Manual. Additionally, train-the-trainer classes have been completed to ensure a system-wide uniform application of Policy Manual updates for the April 1, 2012 implementation.

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL DISPATCH (EMD)

As mentioned in last year's report, REMSA plans to redesign and develop a radio and data communications system. So far there have been two approved grant funded UHF radio projects in order to improve radio communications interoperability with mutual aid resources: (1) The installation of a UHF repeater in the Northwest EMS Zone and (2) The installation of a UHF repeater in the Southwest EMS Zone. REMSA is exploring additional options to expand radio frequency/ channel capacity in order to improve EMS interoperability for all EMS Providers. REMSA is working toward having all Riverside County permitted ambulance providers on the Riverside County Public Safety Enterprise Communications (PSEC) System.

As of October 1, 2011, the City of Riverside started utilizing EMD resource allocation. On August 16, 2011 REMSA was directed to oversee the implementation of an Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) system for Riverside County. Throughout 2011, REMSA has been meeting with Riverside County Fire Department and American Medical Response staff for the development and coordination of this program for the 2012 implementation.

ALS AMBULANCE EXCLUSIVE OPERATING AGREEMENTS

In 2011 there were no changes to Exclusive Operating Agreements (EOA). However, REMSA has continued to monitor these agreements and have quarterly and biannual EMS Administrative Zone meetings for each EOA to review compliance and refine / modify response time zone requirements.

TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Since the last annual report REMSA has provided additional information to the State EMS Authority (EMSA) to address their request for clarification regarding Indio Fire Department's eligibility for exclusivity and American Medical Response's eligibility for exclusivity for the Pass Zone. REMSA received a letter from EMSA requesting additional information before they can recognize the Pass Zone as exclusive. REMSA is currently working on providing EMSA with the additional information they requested.

HOSPITALS

Loma Linda University Medical Center-Murrieta opened in April 2011 and Palo Verde Hospital reestablished their base hospital status on July 20, 2011. This brings Riverside County's number of base hospitals back up to seven and total Prehospital Receiving Centers (PRCs) to 16. In September of 2011 JFK Memorial Hospital became an ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) Receiving Center making them the fourth STEMI-specialized hospital in Riverside County.

Emergency Department (ED) ambulance wait times continue to cause a negative impact on the EMS system. While hospitals identified with the worst wait times have shown some improvement, it has not been consistent or significant enough to lessen the impact on the EMS system. In September of 2011, REMSA received approval to implement FirstWatch's Transfer of Care (TOC) module which allows better tracking and monitoring of ED wait times. The rollout of this program is to take place in 2012. REMSA has been collaborating with hospital representatives in order to draft a PRC policy that will incorporate the use of the TOC and restrict hospitals from holding patients on ambulance gurneys for excessively long periods. Additionally, PRC agreements that reinforce the policy need to be established with all acute care hospitals in Riverside County.

MEDICAL CONTROL

Medical control is maintained through REMSA's protocols, policies and procedures, and through on-line direction with base hospitals. REMSA continually updates their Protocol, Policy and Procedure Manual to keep the system abreast of new developments and improvements in the industry. In 2011 REMSA restructured their Protocol, Policy and Procedure Manual for an April 1, 2012 rollout. Additional Prehospital Medical Advisory Committee (PMAC) meetings were held in 2011 in order to get stakeholder feedback and discussion on the policies and procedures changes. Train-the-trainer sessions were held to ensure widespread accurate interpretation and application of the policy manual changes.

DATA COLLECTION AND EVALUATION

The Sansio data collection project continues to be adopted for use by EMS providers in Riverside County for 2011. Riverside County Fire Department has been phasing-in Sansio's HealthEMS Electronic Patient Care Report (ePCR). Corona Fire Department and Pechanga Fire Department have been using Sansio throughout 2011. Sansio's XchangER was rolled out to the hospitals in 2011. XchangER allows hospital personnel to view prehospital providers' PCR's. It is expected that most of the hospitals will be implementing this system in 2012.

REMSA's Trauma System has been using the same data collection system since 1992. This system does not meet the State's and the American College of Surgeon's current data element

collection requirements. In 2011 REMSA prepared a request for proposal for the rollout of a new Trauma Data Registry in 2012.

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

It is difficult to attain accurate numbers of laypersons trained in first aid and CPR due to many organizations training members of the public on first aid and CPR. Several Riverside County prehospital provider agencies support American Heart Association (AHA) training centers for training the public in emergency cardiac care and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. A REMSA staff member participated in the coordination of the Sidewalk CPR program in Riverside County. REMSA partners with Public Health Injury Prevention Services Branch to provide equipment and training to families with children for the safe use of car seats.

DISASTER RESPONSE

In 2011 REMSA and the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Branch (PHEPR) continued to work together to improve the County's response to public health emergencies and hazards. PHEPR and REMSA have continued to collaborate on emergency preparedness planning and exercises that culminated in a successful County response to the statewide medical / health exercise in November. The REMSA Director and PHEPR Branch Chief participated on a workgroup lead by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the California EMS Authority (EMSA) to establish the California Public Health and Medical Emergency Operations Manual (PHMEOM), a document that for the first time establishes processes and procedures for the statewide health and medical mutual aid system. The PHMEOM will be used to update Public Health and Medical Disaster Response Plans for the County throughout 2011 and 2012.

CONCLUSION

EMCC focuses on providing observations and recommendations in order to improve Riverside County's EMS system. This is accomplished through its diverse membership and direct involvement in advising, planning and directing activities that influence Riverside County's EMS system. Riverside County's EMS system continues to be recognized as a leading system within the State. We thank the Board of Supervisors for their support in improving Riverside County's EMS system.