Feel free to print and post these notes at your agency or pass them on to others you think would be interested.

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NYS DOH Bureau of EMS & Trauma Services  
Briefing for EMS Agency Leadership and Providers  
Thursday 8/26/21, 4:00 PM to 4:18 PM

Unofficial Notes

This is not a verbatim transcript of the call. Outline notes of what was said were typed during the call, reviewed and wording added to as needed afterward.

There was no prepared agenda distributed before the call. Questions could be submitted before or during the call.

Links to other forms or documents are highlighted in blue.

106 attendees were logged on at the beginning of the call.

Panelists:

Peter Brodie, Deputy Chief, Data and Informatics (Host)  
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Jean Taylor, Deputy Chief, Education Branch  
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Richard Robinson, Deputy Chief, New Rochelle, Metropolitan Area Regional Office  
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Edward Mager, Deputy Chief, Buffalo, Western Region  
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Michael Linehan, District Chief/Investigator, Metropolitan Area Regional Office  
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Amy Eisenhauer, Program Administrator, EMS for Children (EMSC) Program  
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Amy Eisenhauer

- National Pediatric Readiness Project Assessment (NPRP) is a hospital based survey of ER’s readiness to treat pediatric patients. It has been ongoing over the summer and is scheduled to end 8/31/21. Have been calling people the last few weeks to read the survey.
- Had applied to for a rural grant but unfortunately once it was scored we were not chosen. There were only 5 opportunities for all 50 states plus some of the
protectorates. Announcement of who was awarded should be coming out in the next month.

- Did receive our carry over funding and we are in the process of implementing those funds now.
- There will be an EMS for Children Advisory Council meeting on 10/12/21, the day before the State Trauma Advisory Committee (STAC) meeting. It will be at the Empire State Plaza. There will be a Webex connection to that for people in other parts of the state that want to attend but can’t make the ride to Albany, or because of social distancing, etc. That is in the process of being approved and official announcement will come out after approval is received.

Jean Taylor

- Good news is the new cards are here. We have managed to figure out how to print them.
- Everything from 8/1/21 through 8/15/21 has been printed and will be going out in the mail tomorrow.
- The cards look totally different and there may be questions if the card is real. Examples have been previously shown.
- Have list of CME cards that need to be printed. Those have to be individually printed and will probably start on those next week. Be patient as there are over 3,000 of them and it will take some time. Some people recertified in April 2020 while others recertified in August 2020 and they will not get their cards at the same time. It will be a lengthy process and we are on the short staffed side.
- Liz Donnelly is back and working and that is a big help to the unit.

Michael Linehan

- Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) unit continues to be engaged with the mass vaccination sites under the State Mobilization Plan.
- Currently there are 15 sites with 17 ambulances deployed.
- Also, be aware that since we now have new leadership in NYS you might be seeing increases to mass vaccination sites so more mobilization requests might be coming out. More to follow on that once we have official guidance.
- During the recent Henri storm we were able to use the ambulances that were assigned to the mass vaccination sites and stage them throughout the lower half of the state, mainly the MARO region, for weather related incidents weather its hospital facilities or whatever was needed at that time.
- Be safe and vigilant related to any emergencies weather related and COVID-19.

Richard Robinson

- Nothing new to report.
- Reminder to region to please e-mail any and all renewals to the Metropolitan Area Regional Office.
- If there is a check for a Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement renewal it should be mailed to Mary Ramo, Unit Chief, Operations Branch in Albany.
- Staff is still deployed out in the field for COVID-19 activities.
- Question: With the new vaccine requirements for healthcare providers is there a possibility that EMT’s will be cleared to administer vaccines at clinics again? Answer: Will have to forward to Ryan Greenberg and/or Steven Dziura. Still currently, basics are not included in administering vaccines but advanced EMTs, CCs and medics can under the Federal Act but not EMTs. Jean Taylor added that EMT's were allowed under the Executive Order that expired months ago. Unless there is a new Executive Order they will not be allowed to do it.
- Question: Does a doctor or midlevel provider need to be at POD to for medics, CCs or AEMTs to administer vaccines? Answer: At the Westchester POD we do have advanced providers and there are doctors and clinicians there for evaluations but not to oversee them. They have been vetted and can administer.
• Stay safe out there, wear masks and hang in there, it’s not over yet.

Edward Mager

• Several agencies waited till the last minute for renewal or did not know when their agency operating certificate or controlled substance narcotics license expired. These expire 2 years from the date they are renewed or issued. Agency is responsible for keeping them up to date and submitting required documents in a timely fashion. As a courtesy we e-mail out packets. If we do not have an e-mail on file we try to track down who is in charge of an agency but sometimes that goes to an individual that recently exited the position. Get documents in early and be aware of expiration dates.

• Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement is no longer accepting quarterly controlled substance reports. Use **DOH-3848 Semi-Annual Controlled Substance Form for EMS Agencies**. It covers all controlled substances and there are no longer separate reports for ketamine or fentanyl.

• With high heat indexes agencies should be aware of medication temperature compliance. A few agencies in the Western Region forgot and left medication in vehicles and medications needed to be disposed of properly and not able to be utilized.

• Remember crew safety, good luck with the rest of the summer and keep the US military in your thoughts and prayers with the crisis going on in Afghanistan.

Peter Brodie

• Working directly with AMR, the Onondaga County EMS directors, Central NY Regional EMS Program Agency director and Upstate University on healthcare at the NYS Fair.

• Working on a new product to be rolled out over the next 6 to 12 months that would allow agencies to assess how they are performing.

• Working on addressing concerns from hospitals as well as EMS agencies across the state on the documentation standards released the other day.

• A mild update will be released tonight which just changes 1 aspect of 1 of the rules and will be implemented on Tuesday.

• Competing the data dictionary and that is coming right along.

• Question: Are volunteer EMTs and paramedics included in mandate for healthcare providers to be vaccinated? Answer: We do not know the answer to that question. Per Director Greenberg that questions is with the Division of Legal Affairs and we are waiting for guidance on that. We are currently investigating and will get back to you.

• Question: What is being done at other industrial locations that meet the standard for PCR filing? Answer: Working on compliance of locations with agency codes to determine what the appropriate response will be.

• Question: In regards to ESO, how have things been coming along with the NEMSIS issues? Answer: After we implement the documentation standard on Tuesday we will be meeting with ESO and their clients to determine how the roll out went and we will address all concerns at that point ... invitations will be sent to all agency heads and ePCR contractors.

Next call is Thursday 9/9/21 at 4:00 PM.

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