



Emergency Medical Service Agency

333 Valencia St, Suite 210
San Francisco, CA 94103

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Title: EMSAC

Date/Time: February 24, 2026

Location: MS Teams

ATTENDEES: [see roster sheet]

Summary and Minutes generated by AI

Executive Summary:

The meeting focused on reviewing and approving various hospital and EMS policies, protocols, and medication updates. The primary goal was to ensure alignment with state regulations, address public comments, and incorporate new medical practices. Discussions included updates on EMS awards, policy changes, and the introduction of new protocols for conditions like alcohol withdrawal and agitated patients. The meeting concluded with administrative updates and an open forum for additional comments.

Key updates

- **Hospital Positions:** Ronald reviewed hospital positions, and quorum was met with
- **EMS Positions:** Ronald confirmed EMS positions, including representatives from San Francisco Fire, AMR, and Royal Ambulance. The quorum for EMS positions was met.
- **Policy Approvals:** Judy facilitated the approval of policies 2020, 2040, 2050, and 2060, with minor changes to align with state regulations and public comments.
- **EMS Awards Announcement:** Dr. Amelia Breyre announced the EMS awards scheduled for May 18th and the APOT summit on March 24th, encouraging registration.
- **Policy Updates:** Ronald and Dr. Amelia Breyre presented updates to policies 4041, 4044, and 7010, focusing on scene management, physician on scene, and EMS at special events.
- **Protocol Changes:** Dr. Amelia Breyre introduced new protocols for alcohol withdrawal and agitated patients, emphasizing the need for training and documentation.
- **Medication Updates:** Changes to medications like midazolam, droperidol, and naloxone were discussed, including dosage adjustments and new administration methods.
- **Administrative Changes:** Gino presented administrative updates for atropine and ketamine, aligning with current medical guidelines.
- **Open Forum:** The meeting concluded with an open forum where Dr. Amelia Breyre expressed gratitude for public comments and engagement.



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- **Quorum Establishment and Voting Procedures:** Ronald, Judy, and Gino coordinated the roll call and confirmed quorum for both hospital and EMS voting positions, allowing the meeting to proceed with policy and protocol approvals involving participants such as Terrence, Peter Goyhenetche, and Chief Molloy
 - **Hospital and EMS Roll Call:** Ronald led the roll call for hospital and EMS positions, confirming attendance from representatives including Teresa O'Brien, Julianne, Tim Schultz, and others, and noted the need for quorum before proceeding with voting.
 - **Quorum Confirmation:** After additional clarification regarding voting eligibility, Terrence Moody was added to the quorum, and Judy confirmed that quorum was achieved, enabling the meeting to move forward with official business.
 - **Voting Member Rules:** Judy reviewed meeting rules, specifying that only voting members could speak or make motions, and outlined time limits and procedures for motions and votes, including the use of chat for voting.
- **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Judy facilitated the approval of the previous meeting's minutes, with Peter Goyhenetche making the motion and Peter Jacoby seconding, resulting in unanimous approval by the voting members.
 - **Minutes Approval Process:** Judy asked for a motion to approve the minutes included with the agenda, Peter Goyhenetche made the motion, Peter Jacoby seconded, and the minutes were approved without opposition.
- **EMSA Announcements and Upcoming Events:** Amelia announced the opening of registration for the 2026 EMS Awards and the upcoming APOT Summit, encouraging participants to register and highlighting the collaborative nature of the events.
 - **EMS Awards Registration:** Amelia shared that registration for the 2026 EMS Awards is open, with the event scheduled for May 18th at 10:00 AM, and provided the registration link in the chat.
 - **APOT Summit Details:** Amelia described the APOT Summit as a novel gathering for hospital and EMS leadership, scheduled for March 24th, and emphasized limited spots and the importance of registering early.
- **Policy Updates and Approvals: 2020, 2040, 2050, 2060:** Ronald presented minor updates to policies 2020, 2040, 2050, and 2060 to align with state regulations and public comments, with Peter Goyhenetche and Chief Molloy making motions and the group voting unanimously to approve the changes.
 - **Policy 2020 Updates:** Ronald explained that policy 2020 was updated for consistency with state regulations, including format, spelling, style changes, and added statements verifying CPR equivalency and EMT basic refresher requirements.



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- **Policy 2040 EMT Certification:** Policy 2040 was revised to reflect the transition to an online EMT certificate platform, with additional style, spelling, and grammar changes to match state regulations.
- **Policy 2050 Paramedic Accreditation:** Updates to policy 2050 included alignment with state regulations, style and grammar changes, and the addition of ALS from American Red Cross for initial or renewal accreditation.
- **Policy 2060 CE Requirements:** Policy 2060 was updated to match Title 22 Chapter 3.5, with grammar and spelling corrections, and the inclusion of ITLS and PHTLS as continuing education options.
- **Voting and Approval:** Peter Goyhenetche made the motion to approve the policy changes, Chief seconded, and the group voted unanimously in the chat, with no opposition.
- **Policy Updates and Approvals: 4041, 4044, 7010:** Dr. Amelia Breyre presented updates to policies 4041, 4044, and 7010, including new definitions, scene management principles, and special event requirements, with Peter Goyhenetche and Kate making motions and the group voting unanimously to approve the changes and retire the old 4041.
 - **Policy 4041 Physician on Scene:** Dr. Amelia Breyre described the division of 4041 to focus solely on physician on scene, updating definitions to include California licensed physicians and other independent healthcare professionals, and adding Appendix A endorsed by the California Medical Association.
 - **Policy 4044 Scene Management:** 4044 was introduced as a new policy, importing language from 4041, adding definitions, updating patient criteria for paramedic assessment, and aligning vital sign parameters with triage criteria.
 - **Policy 7010 EMS at Special Events:** 7010 incorporated mass gathering language from 4041, added requirements for heat mitigation plans, clarified procedures for multi-day and multi-footprint events, and updated post-event reporting requirements.
 - **Voting and Retirement of Old Policy:** Peter Goyhenetche and Kate made motions to approve the changes, the group voted unanimously, and the old 4041 policy was retired.
- **Destination and Diversion Policy Updates: 5000.1 and 5020:** Gino presented updates to the destination chart (5000.1) and diversion policy (5020), including new center designations and notification procedures, with Peter Goyhenetche and Chief Molloy making motions and the group voting unanimously to approve the changes.
 - **Destination Chart 5000.1 Updates:** Gino outlined changes to the destination chart, adding Seton as a designated STAR center, updating UCSF facility names, alphabetizing designations, and correcting burn center footnotes.
 - **Diversion Policy 5020 Updates:** Policy 5020 was revised to allow any hospital with compromised essential center function to declare internal disaster, updated language regarding HICS, and changed notification requirements to include the EMS Agency Duty Officer.
 - **Voting and Approval:** Peter Goyhenetche and Chief Molloy made motions to approve both policies, and the group voted unanimously in the chat



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- **Pilot Research and EMS Data Use Policy Discussion: 6030 and 6040:** Amelia and Michael discussed proposed updates to pilot research and EMS data use policies, with Michael recommending tabling the policy for further review due to concerns about data sharing alignment with city attorney guidance, and the group agreeing to table the discussion.
 - **Policy 6030 Updates:** Dr. Amelia Breyre described updates to 6030 to reflect changes in research standards and processes, emphasizing health information protection and outlining procedures for EMS data access and pilot projects.
 - **Data Sharing Concerns:** Chief Mason raised concerns about the definition of 'covered entities' and potential conflicts with city attorney guidance on data sharing, recommending further review before policy adoption.
 - **Motion to Table:** Chief Mason made a motion to table the policy for further review, Judy and Chief Molloy seconded, and the group agreed to postpone voting and discussion to a future meeting.
- **Retirement and Update of Documentation Policies: 6010 and 6050:** Dr. Amelia Breyre presented the retirement of policy 6010 and its replacement by 6050, updating documentation requirements for pre-hospital care, with Peter Goyhenetche and Dr. Ignell making motions and the group voting unanimously to approve the changes.
 - **Retirement of 6010:** Dr. Amelia Breyre explained that 6010 (LEMIS) was retired due to infrequent operational use, with relevant language integrated into the new 6050 policy.
 - **Policy 6050 Updates:** 6050 added definitions, clarified documentation responsibilities for patient care reports, and updated Appendix A to include opioid withdrawal and remove near drowning as a data element.
 - **Voting and Approval:** Peter Goyhenetche and Dr. Ignell made motions to approve the changes, and the group voted unanimously in the chat.
- **Protocol Updates and Approvals: Seizure, Alcohol Withdrawal, Agitated Patient:** Dr. Amelia Breyre presented updates to protocols for adult seizure, alcohol withdrawal, and agitated/violent patient management, with extensive discussion involving Chief Mason, Dr. Jeremy Lacocque, Dr. Curt Geier, and Kate, resulting in amendments and unanimous approval of the protocols.
 - **Adult Seizure Protocol:** Dr. Amelia Breyre clarified definitions for status epilepticus and eclampsia, added glucose checks to BLS management, and addressed public comments regarding treatment thresholds for partial seizures, with the group approving the protocol and an administrative indentation correction.



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- **Alcohol Withdrawal Protocol:** A new protocol for alcohol withdrawal was introduced, authorizing midazolam use based on the BAWS score, with Chief Mason and Dr. Clement Yeh recommending pre-implementation data element creation and paramedic training, and the group approving the protocol with a documentation amendment.
- **Agitated/Violent Patient Protocol:** Dr. Amelia Breyre updated the protocol to include pediatric patients, removed the requirement for base hospital contact after 15 minutes post-droperidol, and clarified medication sequencing, with input from Dr. Jeremy Lacocque, Dr. Curtis Geier, and Kate regarding pediatric and medication considerations.

- **Medication Card Updates: Midazolam and Droperidol:** Dr. Amelia Breyre, Dr. Jeremy Lacocque, Dr. Eric Silverman, and Dr. Curt Geier discussed updates to midazolam and droperidol medication cards, including dosing, contraindications, and monitoring requirements, resulting in amendments and unanimous approval by the group.
 - **Midazolam Card Updates:** Dr. Amelia Breyre presented changes to dosing, preferred administration routes, and side effect simplification, with Dr. Jeremy Lacocque and Dr. Eric Silverman recommending alignment of adult and pediatric doses and clarification of contraindications.
 - **Droperidol Card Updates:** Dr. Amelia Breyre updated droperidol to include allergic reaction and hypotension as considerations, with Dr. Jeremy Lacocque, and Dr. Eric Silverman discussing the appropriateness of contraindications and recommending the addition of known prolonged QT syndrome.
 - **Voting and Approval:** Jeremy made a motion to approve both medication cards with proposed amendments, Peter Goyhenetche seconded, and the group voted unanimously.

- **Protocol Updates: Near Drowning, Heat Injury, Hypothermia:** Dr. Amelia Breyre and Dr. Elizabeth Avakoff presented updates to near drowning, heat injury, and hypothermia protocols, incorporating public comments and evidence-based guidelines, with Dr. Jeremy Lacocque suggesting language improvements and the group approving all three protocols as a bundle.
 - **Near Drowning Protocol:** Dr. Amelia Breyre added general assessment, consideration of medical causes for drowning, and CPAP use for respiratory distress, while streamlining base contact criteria.
 - **Heat Injury Protocol:** Dr. Elizabeth Avakoff updated the protocol with aggressive cooling measures, clarified ALS management, and focused on acute manifestations of hyperthermia, aligning with current guidelines.
 - **Hypothermia Protocol:** Elizabeth refreshed the protocol, specified heat pack placement, added 12-lead EKG for dysrhythmia assessment, and clarified defibrillation and pacing recommendations, with Jeremy suggesting language emphasizing rewarming as the main treatment.



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- **Hazmat, Chemical, and Radiological Policy Update:** Dr. Amelia Breyre presented the retirement of policy 8050 and integration of its language into 11.03, emphasizing EMS roles in hazmat awareness and decontamination, with Peter Goyhenetche and Dr. Ignell making motions and the group voting unanimously to approve the changes.
 - **Policy Retirement and Integration:** Amelia explained that 8050 would be retired and its language incorporated into 11.03, with updates highlighting EMS responsibilities and training requirements for specialized PPE and decontamination.
 - **Addition of Crowd Control Agents:** A new subsection on crowd control agents and tear gas was added to address emerging needs, with the proposed go-live date in April.
 - **Voting and Approval:** Peter Goyhenetche and Dr. Steven Ignell made motions to approve the changes, and the group voted unanimously in the chat.
- **Medication Card Updates: Albuterol, Aspirin, Dextrose, Epinephrine, Glucagon, Hydroxychloroquine, Naloxone, Nitroglycerin:** Amelia and Elizabeth presented updates to multiple medication cards, clarifying contraindications, dosing, and administration procedures, with Peter Goyhenetche and Megan making motions and the group voting unanimously to approve all changes.
 - **Albuterol, Aspirin, Dextrose Updates:** Albuterol contraindications were clarified for severe tachycardia, aspirin was updated to remove asthma as a contraindication, and dextrose guidance was added for dosing and expected response times.
 - **Epinephrine and Glucagon Updates:** Elizabeth updated epinephrine to include push dose for adults, removed maximum dose limits, and clarified preparation; glucagon was limited to use in beta blocker overdose as directed by poison control.
 - **Hydroxychloroquine, Naloxone, Nitroglycerin Updates:** Hydroxychloroquine was clarified as not routinely stocked, naloxone was updated to include nebulized administration and side effects, and nitroglycerin contraindications were clarified for recent phosphodiesterase inhibitor use and elevated systolic blood pressure.
 - **Voting and Approval:** Peter Goyhenetche and Megan made motions to approve all medication card changes, and the group voted unanimously in the chat.
- **Administrative Changes: Atropine and Ketamine:** Gino presented administrative updates to atropine and ketamine, aligning pediatric dosing with current protocols and clarifying language, with no opposition or questions from the group.
 - **Atropine Update:** Gino added the option to repeat atropine once for pediatric symptomatic bradycardia and removed recommendations for asystole, aligning with current practice and protocols.
 - **Ketamine Update:** Ketamine language was clarified regarding single and maximum doses, and the action description was corrected from agonist to antagonist, based on field provider recommendations.

Follow-up tasks:



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- **EMS Data Sharing Policy Review:** Table the discussion and voting on policy 6030 (EMS data use and pilot research studies) and the retirement of 6040 for further review to ensure alignment with city attorney guidance and ongoing citywide data sharing efforts. (Amelia, Michael, Judy, Antenor)
- **Alcohol Withdrawal Protocol Implementation:** Add a documentation requirement for BAWS score in the alcohol withdrawal protocol and coordinate pre-implementation training and data element setup for paramedics prior to protocol launch. (Amelia, Michael, Jeremy, William)
- **Pediatric Agitation Protocol Review:** Engage with pediatric advisors and relevant stakeholders to review and potentially update the strategy and pharmacology for treating agitation in pediatric patients, including possible formulary changes. (Amelia, Kate)
- **Hypothermia Protocol Language Update:** Incorporate Dr. Lecocque suggested language clarifying that active rewarming is the mainstay of treatment for bradycardia in hypothermia, and consider referencing epinephrine as a secondary option if appropriate. (Amelia, Elizabeth, Jeremy)