

Northern Virginia Emergency Medical Services Council Meeting Minutes

EMS/Pharmacy Committee
Tuesday, November 18, 2020
10:00 am



VIA ZOOM

Attendees: (Alphabetical Order by last name)

- Gill Abernathy – Pharmacy Manager, Inova Health System
- Daniel Acosta - Captain EMS Operations, Prince William County Fire & Rescue
- Diane Buckley – Pharmacy Manager, Sentara Northern VA Medical Center
- Andrew Carver - EMS Captain, City of Manassas Fire & Rescue
- Millicent Deya – Pharmacist, Novant Health/UVA
- Karen Dunavant – Pharmacy Manager, HCA Reston Hospital Center
- Craig Evans – Executive Director, Northern Virginia EMS Council
- Brian Hricik – Deputy Chief EMS, Alexandria Fire Department
- Ryland Kendrick – EMS Battalion Chief, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue
- Adam Lieb – EMS Captain, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue
- Michelle Ludeman – Regional Coordinator, Northern VA EMS Council
- Candace Ly – Pharmacy Manager, Novant Health UVA Health System
- John Morgan, MD – Operational Medical Director, Loudoun County Fire & Rescue
- Nancy Nystrom – Pharmacy Manager, Virginia Hospital Center
- Gauri Shirolker – Pharmacy Manager, Inova Mount Vernon Hospital
- Laura Vandegrift – Administrative Coordinator, Northern VA EMS Council
- Chris Vernovai – EMS Systems Planner, VA Office of EMS

Meeting Called to Order – 10:10 am

The minutes from February 25, 2020, meeting were sent out by email for review. There were no questions, corrections or discussion.

- A motion was made by Brian Hricik
- The minutes were unanimously approved.

Federal and State Updates

- The proposed DEA changes are now open for public comment. The change that will affect us is that hospitals will be released from diversion issues because each agency will be required to have their own DEA license
 - Craig asked the group if we continue the way we are doing now or change?
 - The change being that when a drug is given, the agency is responsible for the drug, not the hospital

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- Dr. Morgan stated one consideration is that when using a single drug in the CSK kit, under the proposed model, regardless of how the drug was received, it is the responsibility of the agency and not the hospital, and this creates a reprocessing issue for the rest of the drugs in the CSK kit.

EMS Pharmacy Policy

No changes.

Regional Forms Review

- There was discussion over the current form on the website versus the forms currently in use at various pharmacies.
 - The group agreed that the CSK form showing 2 Fentanyl, 2 Midazolam each of 5mg and 10mg, 1 morphine 10mg and 1 Ketamine is the dispensing they'd like to use now due to ongoing drug shortages.
 - The Drug Dispensing Form dated February 2020 will be used.
- The CSK form will be emailed to the group members today before the end of business.
- The most current forms can always be found on the EMS Council's website at northern.vaems.org under Documents, Regional Forms.

Drug Shortages

- Karen Dunavant from HCA Reston advised they still have shortages of dextrose syringes and the epinephrine syringes are getting stocked again but the epinephrine vial shortages wax and wane.

Open Discussion/Roundtable

- Gil Abernathy advised that Inova has the -80 degree freezers for COVID vaccines once they are FDA cleared and distributed
 - Most Sentara facilities do not, but there are a few that do currently
 - HCA is working on this, they have submitted it to VDH for approval
 - Novant has ordered a freezer and it should be in in the next month
- Diane Buckley from Sentara advised they are moving to Omni Cell from Accudose in the third or fourth quarter of 2021.
- Adam Lieb from Fairfax County Fire & Rescue advised they are seeing some opaque CSK bags and they're difficult to see through to check drugs, dosages and expiration dates.
 - Gil Abernathy advised this could be from bags being reused.
 - Candace Ly from Novant advised she'd look into their bags opacity.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 am

CERTIFICATION OF PHARMACY COMMITTEE MEETING

Northern Virginia EMS Council
7250 Heritage Village Plaza, Ste. 102
Gainesville, VA 20155

I, Craig Evans, Executive Director of the Northern Virginia EMS Council certify that the above minutes are a true and correct transcript of the minutes of a meeting of the Pharmacy Committees of the Northern Virginia EMS Council held at the City of Fairfax Fire Department, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 on November 18, 2020, and that the meeting was duly called and held in all respects in accordance with the laws of the state of Virginia and bylaws of the corporation and that a quorum was present. The minutes were officially approved at the _____ meeting of the Pharmacy Committee of the Northern Virginia EMS Council.

Craig A. Evans
Executive Director
Northern Virginia EMS Council

Date

DRAFT