

## ***NY COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE TASK FORCE***

Statewide General Meeting – 6/4/13

### Attendance

Mark Marino, Director of Prehospital Care, Medisys Health Network

John Garfinkel, EMT-P, Mount Sinai Medical Center

Michael Boyle, Marketing Consultant

Nadine Lim, MS, Columbia University

Michael Ponticiello, VP, Susquehanna REMSCO

Curt Bashford, President, General Devices

Vince Flood, EMT-P, FDNY

Bryan Lynch, EMT-P, NSLIJ

Kevin Munjal, MD, MPH, Mount Sinai

- Welcome and Overview of Community Paramedicine by Kevin Munjal
  - Using New Definition for CP:
    - **An umbrella term to describe all of the potential expanded roles of EMT's, Paramedics, and EMS systems to provide higher quality patient-centered out-of-hospital care and helping to prevent emergencies before they begin.**
  - New Mission Statement for Organization:
    - **To empower New York EMT's, Paramedics, and EMS systems to play a larger role within our healthcare system through the provision of higher quality patient-centered out-of-hospital care and helping to prevent emergencies before they begin.**
  - New Round of CMMI (Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation) Healthcare Innovation Awards announced
    - \$1 Billion available for new ideas wrapped around new payment models.
    - Perfect for Patient-Centered Emergency Response
- Presentation by Mike Ponticiello, VP Susquehanna Regional EMS Council
  - Made a commitment early on to move to electronic platform (1999).
  - Historically, had a home grown EMS health information platform that was not NEMSIS compliant.
  - Region decided to pursue ImageTrend's ePCR because it was NEMSIS compliant, already linked to the State Bridge, and cost effective.
  - Phase 1 of project involved bringing all agencies online with ImageTrend (about 80 agencies and 4 hospitals). Agencies were not required to go with ImageTrend, all but one agency did. From ad hoc committee formation to full implementation was 15 months.
  - Phase 2 will involve building a bidirectional link with the RHIO to send patient information into the field directly into ImageTrend. This is expected to be a 12-24 month project.
  - Envision this platform will allow for growth into community paramedicine.
- Dr. Munjal reviewed the various challenges to community paramedicine and the resulting committees we have formed.

- Legislative / regulatory subcommittee
  - State TAG has not yet met
  - Our work products may end up being submitted by TAG to state
  - Dr. Lewis Marshall has agreed with our legal analysis conducted last summer, that much of community paramedicine falls outside the scope of article 30.
  - Brian Wilkow is working on a draft legal brief to articulate this message.
- Financial Reform committee
  - CMMI grant offers us a chance to redefine the delivery system
  - Emblem Health would like to meet with us – meeting being arranged by colleagues from Medstar (Fort Worth)
- Public Relations committee
  - 9 letters of support
  - Last week, Suffolk County REMAC voted to support Task force.
  - Hoping to double this number during the summer
- Health information technology
  - Looking to support increased integration between in hospital and out of hospital clinical information systems
  - Support use of telemedicine
  - These will enable a new era of EMS with it being part of the solution when it comes to effectively managing acute unscheduled care needs.
- Workforce and education committee
  - Will explore what training, certification and medical oversight might be needed for various aspects of the community paramedicine program.
  - George Contreras will organize first meeting
- Open Discussion
  - Mr. Marino asked if we could build off of programs for frequent fliers?
    - Many hospitals and EMS systems recognize their own frequent fliers but it would be great if we could recognize them across hospitals and agencies.
    - Other cities /programs have successfully reduced frequent fliers through proactive engagement
  - What demo projects already exist in our state?
    - FDNY / DOH prison screening - this places EMT's in a different role. Clearly someone thought it had value. There are other roles that might also have value.
    - NSLIJ is working on a program with visiting doctors requesting home evaluations.
    - Rochester University had a grant to use EMS to help reduce assisted living facility transports.
  - This would be a major culture shift.
    - How can the culture of EMS or a particular agency be changed?

Open Agenda Items from Previous Meetings:

- Public Relations Committee
  - **Focus Groups of EMS Providers – Munjaj & Callaghan**  
- 2 Focus Groups of total of 8 providers performed. Data to be analyzed.
  - **Reach out to Schools of Public Health – Donell Harvin**
  - **Reach out to EMS Educators – Donell Harvin & Aaron Scharf**

- **EMS Unions**
  - **1199** – Secondary Meeting scheduled. Likely to gain their support.
  - **FDNY Union** – so far unwilling to meet with us.
- **Nursing Outreach** – Mike Redlener and Donell Harvin
- **Home Health Outreach** - \*\*\* unassigned \*\*\*
- **White Paper** – What do we think Community Paramedicine is and what is the Task Force trying to accomplish? – Aaron Scharf and Vince Flood
- **Presentations and Lectures**
  - **UNYAN Conference** – Set up by Timothy Egan
  - **Initial Assessment Conference** - Mountain Lakes REMSCO
  - Mike Guttenberg working with Hudson Valley EMS to set up a presentation
- **Letter of Support Campaign**
- **Building off Conceptual Model** – All members should reach out to stakeholders listed in the Conceptual Model.
- Financial Reform committee
  - **Write more articles in trade magazines, newspaper, other media advocating for reimbursement reform.** \*\*\* unassigned \*\*\*
  - Seeking ability to receive and distribute funds
    - **Partner with a 501c3 Financial Conduit**
- Health Information Technology
  - **Reach out to RHIO's** -\*\*\* unassigned \*\*\*
    - Dr. Marshall will reach out to Brooklyn RHIO where he sits on the board.
  - **Reach out to NYeHealth Collaborative** – Rami Rafeh
  - **Research legal and billing issues related to Telemedicine** – Kelly Barsan
  - **White Paper** – “**Telemedicine Enhanced EMS**” - \*\*\*unassigned\*\*\*
- Soon to come: Workforce & Education Subcommittee
  - Marie Diglio will arrange for presentation opportunities at NYC REMSCO Credentialing Committee and Training / Education Committee.