NAEMSP MEETING – Oct 6, 2015- Greensboro, NC EM Today Conference

PRESENT: J March, J Williams, J Winslow, J Zalkin, R Nelson, R Portela, B Kitch, J Stopyra, D Swanson, S Crapo, E Hawkins, M Belfi, R Alson, B Pearce, E Wirths, B Berry, Inga Kish, M Bachman, T Griggs, J Myers, J Adams, M Chovaz, H McGinnis, H Kornegay, J Hinshaw, C Fales, M Straka, C Corey, M Harmody, N Fowler, M Quale

1) Welcome, introduction to the group from NC NAEMSP chapter president Juan March

2) Approval of Minutes from January 2015 at NAEMSP Annual Meeting– Motion Alson, Second Swanson, approved with no amendments

3) Old Business

a) Discussion was held regarding any 2015 NC Legislative updates. NCOEMS administrative rules are still under the revision process, update to be provided at November EMS Advisory Council meeting. Most of the discussion was regarding the recent attention towards violence against EMS providers. While HB 327 died in committee, members agreed that this would continue to be an ongoing issue for the state. Discussed potentially creating a state-wide self-report repository for providers. Joseph Zalkin also discussed a preliminary survey sent to providers/systems to get a sense of issue across the state. Membership discussed forming a subcommittee of the NC NAEMSP chapter to focus on these issues. Motion to form committee Portelo, second Williams, no discussion and motion passed. Subcommittee volunteers were Kish, Myers, Portela, Nelson, Hawkins, Crapo, and March (Board representative).

b) Report from the End-Tidal CO2 education subcommittee: Discussion was held re: report from Covidien at medical directors’ update (today). There is material for “troubleshooting” ETCO2 equipment, Goal for this subcommittee is to develop an education module for “best practices” as it applies to NC EMS specifically. Work ongoing, will update in January.

c) Report from the Ketamine subcommittee: Discussion was held regarding ongoing efforts to potentially bring Ketamine into wider use in NC, for example the agitated delirium patient as per the “violence” issues noted today. There was discussion by membership regarding challenges in presenting this accurately to the medical board, including the limitations of currently published literature and other data. Also discussed in the context of Drug-Assisted intubation, and would it be appropriate to include Ketamine as an option in a broader “airway” protocol, whether or not an agency employs DAI or RSI. Discussion also held re: challenges of teaching providers when to utilize ketamine and when NOT to give ketamine. Update in January. As of now, there is a subcommittee of the NCOEMS to the NC medical board that Dr. Winslow is creating to help address/research these issues before taking them to the medical board for potential addition to
scope of practice. NC NCNAEMSP Ketamine subcommittee members are: March (board representative), Kitch, Stopyra, Mell, Crapo, Winslow.

d) Group communications were discussed. Email has been the predominate method of communication; we also have website space on the national NAEMSP website. Discussion was held re: what the membership preferred. In general, membership agreed that email updates were best; goal for 2016 is to develop consistent email list and website, as well as easy way to reach all members with an ever-changing membership roster. Also briefly discussed the quarterly newsletter that Dr. Winslow has been sending out. Discussed whether this newsletter would also be something to utilize for communications. Jason Stopyra volunteered to assist with communication development, Joseph Zalkin will assist.

4) New Business

a) Open Forum: Jeff Williams introduced the idea of having “open forum” time at these meetings, to discuss ongoing issues within each other’s systems, and trade best practices. Discussion was held at this meeting regarding target CPR compression rates across systems, consideration of ITD usage pending expected AHA guidelines to be released this month, discussion re: pending new spinal precautions protocol that NCCEP EMS committee is working on.

b) Elections: we are approaching our 2 year anniversary as a state chapter, which means it is time for elections! Election procedures and bylaws reviewed, new officers to be in place as of January 2016 meeting at NAEMSP annual meeting.

c) Representation to the new NC Office of EMS medical board advisory committee was discussed. The NC chapter of NAEMSP has a standing position on this newly developed committee. Discussion was held regarding who should represent us and how that person should be chosen. Given the pending elections, membership elected to table this discussion to the meeting in January, as elections may afford interest (or not) in others serving on this important committee. Meetings of the medical board advisory committee will be quarterly, following the NC EMS Advisory Council meetings. Given this, Williams and Swanson, who serve on the EMS Advisory Council, can adequately represent NCNAEMSP on an interim basis until we can discuss this again in January.

5) Future Meetings of the Membership:

a) NAEMSP Annual Meeting Jan 2016 in San Diego- will confirm date, time, place

6) With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jeff Williams, Secretary