

CEMSFD Conference Call – Combined notes of conference calls on 4/7/15

11am- Stacy Weisberg, Kathy Rinnert, Josh Gaither, Noel Wagner, Lori Harrington, Brian Clemency, Juan March, Chris Martin-Gill, Craig Cooley, Sal Silvestri, Bohdan (Dan) Minczak, Aaron Eberhardt, Bill Gerard

6:30pm – Stacy Weisberg, Kevin Schultz, Deb Perina, Michael Sayre, John Brown, Ron Roth

1. Stacy had asked all fellowships to respond with a list of current and incoming EMS Fellows. All were then sent a survey with the ultimate purpose of assessing feelings on having EMS enter the Match and how it may or may not affect fellowship placements. Please see the included results for data from this survey. Given that the majority of respondents only applied to one program and all respondents accepted fellowship positions at their first choices, all callers were in agreement that it was still too early for EMS to enter the Match. Further discussions were about when to revisit this topic.

One suggestion was to ask Toxicology what helped them to decide.

\*\*\* I have since asked this question and discovered that they chose the Match when several programs complained that the original application process was unfair and that fellows were being pressured to accept positions before they were ready. However, the Tox Match is in December and some fellowship directors feel this is too late as potentially strong fellows are being enticed to accept clinical positions at community hospitals where they can earn significantly more money. Therefore, despite being part of the Match process, fellowships are holding many positions out of the Match and offering them earlier.

A suggested benchmark of waiting until the number of EMS fellowship applicants more closely matches the number of available positions. Tentatively, this number will be calculated for the January 2017 meeting in New Orleans.

2. The wording of the Gentleman's Agreement on the website has been updated to include a line that encourages programs to make their offers prior to 11/15 so that an applicant can make an informed decision on 11/15. Stacy was then reminded that the date was changed to the second Wednesday of November to avoid weekend confusion. Stacy will email the Webmaster of NAEMSP to make this last adjustment.

3. All committees have been asked to give the Program Committee suggestions for next year's annual meeting. On behalf of the CEMSFD, Stacy and Dave Cone submitted a proposal for a series of rapid-fire "mini lectures" of topics difficult to cover during fellowship. This was met with some hesitation from the Program Committee who raised concerns of applicability to all meeting participants. Participants agreed that we should move forward with this proposal and that it should be held during the concurrent sessions.

One suggestion included stressing that this session would be good for anyone who needed a "brief infusion of data" in areas not seen in every EMS agency.

6 topics were suggested (20 minutes each)

- Tactical – the tactical committee may have a lecture in draft form that was more administrative. This will need to be a brief operational lecture

- Air Medicine – specifically focusing on differences in medical care or flight physiology. Of note, Chris Martin-Gill will be giving a webinar on this topic through Derek Cooney’s EMS educational series. The Air Medical Committee has a complete and approved lecture on this topic, but it is much longer than 20 minutes.
- Wilderness Medicine
- WMD
- Search and Rescue
- Occupational Health

Another suggestion was to include Community Paramedicine, but there is concern that this topic is too involved to be covered in a rapid didactic session.

It was confirmed that none of these topics are covered in the current Medical Director’s Course in an operational manner. Some topics have been previously covered in a one-day EMS Operations 101 preconference that was held several years ago but has not been offered recently. The didactic component from that course may be helpful for designing these sessions. The fellowship directors would then be responsible to provide the experiential component.

The Programming Committee has provided a spreadsheet for explaining why each topic is important, suggested speakers. (See included document.)

This lecture will be cost-neutral with the aim to have speakers be conference attendees. Please forward names and contact information for suggested speakers (including yourselves) to Stacy or Noel.

4. Brian Clemency provided an update on the question bank: He discussed the possibility of working with Adam Rosh, but this would be very expensive to those who wished to use the resource and Adam would then own the questions. This does not sound like a feasible plan and so Brian will continue to work with his current group.  
There is a proposal to the Board of NAEMSP to offer this resource to all participants in the EMS Review Course and is currently waiting for approval.  
Further plans for offering access will be discussed with the Board afterwards.  
The bank will consist of 400 questions, but will not be available this academic year.
5. During the meeting in January, there was a discussion about the ABEM EMS exam and how it potentially conflicted with fellows who were scheduled for the fall Oral Board exam. ABEM had explained its process for dealing with this (this occurs for other fellowships as well) – which included allowing fellows to register for the EMS exam with Oral Exam scores pending. The original request was to ask ABEM to offer EMS Fellows the spring exam date. However, the Board of NAEMSP has denied this request. Therefore, fellows are encouraged to apply for the Oral Boards early, and may try to arrange a swap with someone with a spring date, or write a letter requesting a change of date to ABEM if they are concerned about their ability to complete both exams.

6. There will be a section in research posters for the upcoming annual meeting for Innovations in EMS Fellowship Education. All fellowships are encouraged to participate. Unused poster slots will be given back to the Research Committee to accept other EMS posters.