

**SEVEN MOUNTAINS EMS COUNCIL
REGIONAL MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
August 6, 2007**

**Meeting Minutes
DRAFT**

A. **Call to Order** at 12:00 hrs.

B. **Attendance:**

Dave Jones, University EMS; Sandra Foster, Moshannon Valley EMS; Rich Kelley, Mt. Nittany Medical Center; Kent Knable, Center LifeLink; Dave Gingrich, Flemington; Alice Reeder, Flemington; Martha Ridd, Mt. Nittany Medical Center; Bart Ewing, Medic 29 (by telephone); Jen Williams, Council Intern, Tim Nilson, Council Staff.

C. **Regional 12 Lead Project**

Tim thanked everyone for attending on short notice and explained the reason for the special meeting. Clinton County is the second county in a three year project where Council is assisting to implement prehospital 12 Lead EKG transmittal (STEMI management) throughout the region. When Lock Haven contacted Medtronic (Physio Control) concerning purchasing of a receiving station, they informed the hospital that new technology was being released and they wanted Lock Haven to make an informed choice as to which system they wished to purchase. The receiving station Mt. Nittany has works off analog cellular service from the EMS units to transmit the data. Cellular companies are dropping analog service and will, sometime in the near future, offer digital service only.

Medtronic has developed an internet based transmission system where the ALS service transmits the data to their (Medtronic's) server and the information is then re-transmitted to the receiving hospital(s) on whatever computer that hospital(s) may designate. Consequently, there is no 'receiving station' to purchase with this new system; but, there are connection fees for this new service – both hospitals to receive the data and ALS services to be able to transmit data.

Cost figures received show that the hospitals will pay about \$12,700 for the ability to receive information on one computer for a three year period and the ALS services will be required to pay \$179/per device each three year period. Upon hearing the information on this new system, Council wanted to convene MAC to review this change and make a recommendation as to the viability of project continuation as previously anticipated.

Several options were discussed including 1) Rosetta system 2) Maintaining current system 3) looking at migration to Philips (which would require regional ALS services to purchase Philips monitors). Bart Ewing discussed services that Lewistown Hospital is currently looking at – complete electronic patient records – and its impact/implications for this project.

The concern was raised that Mt. Nittany just purchased the system less than a year ago and now, according to information received, it may be obsolete before long.

Rich said that he has been in contact with Medtronic and they have indicated that they will offer a 'subscription' onto this new system for \$1000. Rich made the offer, on behalf of Mt. Nittany, that if the hospitals were in agreement Mt. Nittany would act as the receiving hub for regional 12 lead data and would push (e-mail, fax, printer, (?) the information out to the receiving hospital if that wasn't Mt. Nittany. This would alleviate the need for all three hospitals to purchase the service agreement with Medtronic and possibly free up some funds, EMSOF or whatever, to assist the services with their Medtronic service fee.

Bill Fox, salesman for Medtronic, was contacted by telephone. He confirmed some information including 1) \$179/ three years was per unit not per service; 2) Medtronic is in discussions with other monitor vendors to allow their units to transmit to this system; but, currently Physio Control is the only unit that can upload to the system 3) various gateways available to the ALS services to transmit the data – PDA, smartphone, table PC.

The recommendation was made to get information in writing to confirm that Mt. Nittany can move to the new system for \$1000. If so, it is recommended that we support the "hub" concept where Mt. Nittany receives all 12-lead transmissions and forwards them as needed. If possible, we could then take the money which was to be used by Lock Haven for the receiving station and provide it to 1) Mt. Nittany for upgrade costs and/or assist with purchase of Philips software 2) help regional ALS services (Centre & Clinton Counties for now) in obtaining the gateway devices and/or assisting with the three year service fees payable to Medtronic. Rich will contact Medtronic and Tim will check on possibility of changing the funding through the Department.

D. **Adjournment** at approximately 14:10 hours