

Contra Costa County  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE

**Annual Report for 2003**

**Advisory Body Name:** Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC)

**Advisory Body Meeting Time/Location:** 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of March, June, September, and December. Meetings are held at the Contra Costa County Schools Insurance Group Conference Room in Pleasant Hill.

**Chair:** John Tysell, MD

**Staff person:** Lauren Kovaleff, Health Services EMS

**Reporting Period:** December 1, 2002 - November 30, 2003

**I. Activities:**

The EMCC, over the four (4) meetings in the past year, kept its membership informed in the following areas:

- Public Access Defibrillation programs
- EMS System review and planning process
- First Responder Paramedic programs
- Prehospital personnel standards, protocols and policies
- Health Services disaster and bioterrorism preparedness efforts
- ReddiNet - EMS/hospital communications system
- Paramedic Interfacility Transfer Program
- DMAT (Disaster Management Assistance Team) CA-6 activities
- Advisory committee activities including the EMCC's Facilities and Critical Care Committee, the EMS Medical Advisory Committee and EMS Hospital Disaster Forum.
- Flu season planning
- Emergency Department Diversion
- Trauma system funding

**II. Accomplishments**

Formulated recommendations for the Board of Supervisors with respect to the Fitch Report findings and suggestions for integrating the EMS first responder and transport system in a cost neutral way. These recommendations were developed following an extensive review process, which included two special EMCC meetings.

Recommended that the Board of Supervisors direct reinstatement of the ability of ER Director's and their designates to place 72 hour psychiatric holds in accordance with Welfare & Institutions Code 5150, following presentations by the Alameda Contra Costa Medical Association, community physicians and others.

**III. Attendance/Representation**

The EMCC is a multidisciplinary committee with membership consisting of member representation of specific EMS stakeholder groups and organizations plus one consumer member nominated by each Board of Supervisor member. There are 27 member seats on the EMCC. Three seats were vacant due to no



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nominee submitted by the American Heart Association, CC Police Chiefs' Association\* or by Community Awareness and Emergency Response (CAER).

Twenty-two of the 24 EMCC representatives were regular participants. One alternate position may be appointed for each representative to serve during a representative absence; 12 alternates have been appointed. A quorum was achieved at each of the 4 EMCC meetings in the past year. Attendance record sheet attached.

**IV. Training/Certification**

Each EMCC representative and alternate representative was given a copy of the Advisory Body Handbook and copies of the "The Brown Act and Better Government Ordinance - What you Need to Know as a Commission, Board or Committee Member" and Ethics Orientation for County Officials" videotapes. Responsibilities of County Boards were discussed including the responsibility to view the videotapes and submit signed certifications. Certification forms were received from 17 of 24 of the representatives and 7 of 12 alternates. (Attached)

**V. Proposed Work Plan/Objectives for Next Year**

Report to the local EMS Agency its observations and recommendations relative to its review of:

Ambulance and paramedic services

Emergency medical care and first aid practices, including the education of people about the benefits of cardiopulmonary resuscitation and lifesaving first aid techniques. This year early defibrillation will be highlighted.

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\* Although this group does not have a formal representative, the California Highway Patrol Representative sits on the CC Police Chiefs' Association, so is in a position to provide EMCC and EMS related information to the other local police chiefs.

