

Air Medical Transport Task Force



June 18, 2008

Group II Report - Morning Session



Multi-County Service Provider document

This concept was introduced by Rachael Hanks-Saphore and Joe Barger. The purpose of the document is to provide an option for local EMS agencies to collaborate formally and provide one central point of “medical control” approval for an air transport provider that serves multiple local EMS agencies. Concern was expressed by the group that this concept may be placed in regulations as a “shall” process. Dr. Barger explained that this would be an option for local EMS agencies that share a given air transport provider. The option allows for one local EMS agency to serve as the “classifying” agency and the Medical Director to coordinate all medical aspects of the service with the other local EMS agencies a given air transport provider serves. This option would allow a multi-jurisdictional air transport provider to only have one set of protocols/procedures and equipment list and standardize the scope of practice for the paramedics in a given “region”. This option would not affect operational issues specific to the local EMS agencies the air transport provider serves, such as dispatch and destination determination. Group II will continue detailed discussions at the breakout afternoon session to address all concerns raised by the Main Task Force:

- Language needs to encourage local EMS agency collaboration
- Check on enabling language; may be able to use intercounty agreements
- Address possible conflict with local Medical Advisory Committee activities related to air transport service.
- Reinforce this concept as “optional”
- “Culture” needs to change moving towards collaborative rather than prescriptive language in any guidelines
- Look at implementation stumbling blocks that may exist in an Exclusive Operating Area
- Focus needs to be improved patient care through continuity

A draft will be finalized for one more review by Group II (July 22nd meeting) and will then be distributed to Group I for comment.



90-Day Temporary Authorization/Accreditation Process

This document is being finalized to provide recommendations to local EMS agencies on a “temporary accreditation” process to allow air transport medical personnel to staff units outside their normally assigned response area. This would be applicable when a unit is short-staffed (i.e. sickness) that would result in a unit being out-of-service unless personnel can be brought in from another area. Difference in scope of practice between areas needs to be addressed.



Air Provider Data

This document is under development and will provide local EMS agencies and air transport providers with air transport-specific clarification on CEMISIS data elements/definitions. There may also be included NEMSIS data elements (not included in CEMISIS) and new elements (not included in CEMISIS or NEMSIS) for data collection consideration.



Air Provider Quality Improvement

There was discussion regarding how the “product” will be incorporated into EMS QI. The document will be developed to assist local EMS agencies and air transport providers with the development of air transport-specific QI Processes. The intent is to provide QI indicators and QI process recommendations specific to air transport utilization that could be incorporated into EMS QI activities. Share draft document with the EMSAAC QI Group for input.