



OLD DOMINION EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ALLIANCE INC.

1421 Johnston-Willis Drive
Richmond, VA 23235-4730
804-560-3300 • FAX: 804-560-0909
www.odemsa.vaems.org

Hospital Diversion Committee

October 23rd 2020: 12:00pm to 1:00pm
Chair: Mr. Zachary McCluskey, Johnston Willis

Members and Guests Present: N/A

Conference Line: Allen Yee, Andy Inge, Ashley Andrews, Beth Matish, Brian Epperson, Bubby Bish, Jayme Shears, Steve Parrott, Wayne Harbour, David Seay, Corri Miller-Hobbs, Summer Martin, David Johnson, Deanna Jones, Greg Neiman, Jason Johnson, Karen Lea, Katherine Poarch, Jomi Cooke, Summer Lynch, Zach McCluskey, Jordan Rennie, Deb Adler, Kelley Rumsey, Ken Smith, LeRon Lewis, Megan Middleton, Mike Watkins, Pier Ferguson, Sam Burnette, Taylor Flowers, Monty Dixon, Al Thompson, Joanne Lapetina, Amy Howard, Chip Decker, Chris Allin, Eddie Ferguson, Bryan McRay, Stacy White, Dawn Titmus, Allison Castillo, Umuron Chowdry, Michael Colman, Lisa Baber, Harinder Dhindsa

ODEMSA Staff: Tarsha Robinson, Heidi Hooker, Ryan Scarbrough, Kathy Eubank

Minutes Scribed by: Tarsha Robinson

Materials provided: Previous meeting Minutes, meeting Agenda

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Meeting Called to Order	Meeting called to order by Zach McCluskey. Minutes and Agenda were approved and introductions made.	Motion by: Bubby Bish Seconded by: Summer Lynch Vote: Approve previous minutes.
Reports: <u>Hospital Reports</u> Bon Secours	Name changes have been completed for facilities that were bought out by Bon Secours; Jeff McPhearson has left the organization, and Al Thompson and Mike Harmon will be the EMS liaison contacts until the position is filled; there has been a noted increase in wait time; St. Mary's has a new dedicated respiratory section to help with offload times for EMS; SRMC hired new staff; created hallway beds and have seen some reduced EMS wait times with staff meeting EMS to accept and triage patients	



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VCU Health	Continued construction; 10 th Street will be closed in both directions this weekend (Oct. 24 th -25 th)	
HCA	Chippenham has received their state designation as a Level 1 trauma center and will begin offering air medical services under the name Air Medical-Air Care Eagle (MedTrans-vendor); there has been an increase in volume, increase in patient acuity, and have had some staffing shortages; shifted resources to triage/lobby (waiting room) and providers can give report to a nurse to help reduce EMS wait times; they have been increasing staffing; JRMC went on diversion for the first time in 3 years	
Farmville Centra Southside	Working on staffing issues; floor units capping due to staffing and if full in the ED, can't move patients; looking at patient flow standpoint and opening additional beds on in-patient units to try to get patients admitted quicker	
VAMC	There has been an increase in volume; there has been a decrease in ER diversion, but increase in mental health/ICU utilization	
Halifax Regional	Have had to limit ICU staff due to outside COVID exposures by half; utilizing Sentara nursing assets	
<u>EMS Agencies</u>	Thank you to facilities for working with EMS to move them out of facilities; staffing issues are rising, which is the opposite of what was going on at the start of the pandemic; Chip Decker explained RAA's process of their "internal soft diversion" and how they divert long wait times, to include looking at drop times, available units, etc.; after explaining why and how they make the decision to go on "soft diversion", Chip expressed that he would be more than happy to talk to other agencies in greater detail on their process	
RAA		
New Kent	No tangible data, but with doing inter-facility transports for the New Kent FSED, there has been some impact on the 911 services with increased lag time, but has otherwise been business as usual; working with New Kent management to try to mitigate lag times	



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<p>Chesterfield Fire</p> <p>Lakeside</p> <p><u>ODEMSA</u></p>	<p>Thank you to the hospitals for their efforts and recognizes that facilities are busy</p> <p>Stated have seen some extended wait times for their crews, but when a crew went to VCU, advised family of the extended wait time but family/patient were adamant that the patient be transported; no other tangible data</p> <p>SVEC, Lakeside, Goochland, Southside Rescue Squad, Henrico, and Forest Ambulance Services were present with no report</p> <p>Regional EMS awards will be broadcast on Monday, November 2nd on Facebook Live</p>	
<p>Old Business:</p> <p><u>Diversion Plan Review</u></p>	<p>Plan was reviewed with updates presented by Jordan Rennie and Zach McCluskey; highlights include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification on “Closed” or “Special Diversion” • Clarification on who would take command for patient distribution 	<p>Motion: Allen Yee Second: Summer Lynch Vote: Diversion plan approved at 1301</p>
<p>New Business:</p> <p><u>Recent Diversions</u></p> <p><u>Hospital Diversion Open Floor Discussion</u></p>	<p>None</p> <p>It is known that some facilities aren’t necessarily using all tools available to communicate information/wait times, etc.; what can be done to communicate more effectively with agencies; CVHC will be looking at best practices from a regional perspective to gather data for throughput as well as COVID vaccine/vaccinations;</p>	



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	reaching out to EM's, ODEMSA, and those interested in participating; solicit members for a sub-committee to look into diversion solutions; Jordan presented data that showed average EMS turnaround times, transfer of care, facility turnaround time, ICU bed availability and utilization to help the discussion in the increased wait time for EMS	
Next Meeting	TBD, 2021	
Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned at 1334 pm	