



# OLD DOMINION EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ALLIANCE

7818 East Parham Road • Suite 911 • Henrico, VA 23294-4302  
Phone: (804) 560-3300 • (804) 560-0909 • www.odemsa.net

## Training and Education Committee

February 13, 2025

10:00 am – 11:00 am

**Chair:** Marquita Whisonant, VCU CTCCE

**Vice Chair:** Damien Coy, Brightpoint

**Members and Guests Present:** None Noted

**Web Conference:** Marquita Whisonant, Greg Neiman, Adam Alford, Jay Gould, Nakia James, Mike Watkins

**ODEMSA Staff:** Ryan Scarbrough, Tarsha Robinson

**Minutes Scribed by:** Ryan Scarbrough

**Materials Provided:** Previous meeting minutes, agenda, standing reports

Topic / Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action / Follow-up; Responsible Person
<b>Meeting Called to Order</b>	A <b>working meeting</b> was called to order at 10:10 AM by Chair Marquita Whisonant. No quorum was present. The December minutes and February agenda were not approved.	
<b>EMS Reports</b>		
<b>Goochland Fire</b>	Mike Watkins advised that Goochland Fire has shifted to focused, brief training programs. They offer EMT classes once or twice yearly, including a summer career EMT class and an evening class, led by Lieutenant Danny Coughlin as the primary instructor. Efforts are underway to place CPR instructors on every shift to enhance CPR training availability. EMS in-service training occurs twice a year, with upcoming focuses on pharmacy training and a new EMT class starting on Saturday.	
<b>Hospital Reports</b>		
<b>VCU Health</b>	Greg Neiman announced a continuing education (CE) event on stroke scheduled for February 27, 2025, and another planned for March at Community Memorial Hospital. He highlighted a Cyano Kit shortage expected	Agencies should prepare for the ongoing Cyano Kit shortage (expected through Q2 2025) by



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	to persist through Q2 2025, advising agencies to prepare for replacement challenges.	managing existing supplies and exploring alternatives if needed.
<b>Accredited EMS Programs</b>		
<b>VCU CTCCE</b>	Adam Alford announced that Garrett has retired, and Adam Alford is temporarily assuming the training center admin role while a new position is posted. Two EMT cohorts begin this spring, with a total of 42 students enrolled across two schedules: Monday/Wednesday evening classes and Tuesday/Thursday classes. Program improvements have led to higher certification rates, exemplified by 20 out of 28 students from the fall cohort successfully certified. Federal grants continue to support providers from rural and underrepresented areas, resulting in 49 new EMTs in recent years. Looking ahead, an Intermediate to Paramedic cohort is scheduled to start on March 22, 2025, and will run through October 2025, with Tuesday classes led by Harrison. Additionally, a new EMT cohort will begin in mid-April 2025 and conclude on July 2025, operating in the Tuesday slot and led by John Sayers. A fall EMT cohort is also planned for Crater, though specific details are still to be determined.	With Garrett retiring, Adam will be the training center admin for the interim.
<b>ECPI</b>	Not present, and no report was provided.	
<b>Reynolds CC</b>	Nakia James advised recently completed two paramedic cohorts (May and December 2024) and two EMT cohorts. New cohorts include a paramedic group started in December 2024 (ending December 2025) and another in January 2025 (ending May 2026), plus two EMT cohorts this semester and a summer EMT cohort (May 19–July 30, 2025, Monday/Saturday). The paramedic program structure is changing to offer a Career Studies Certificate (CSE) for certification-only students and a Technical Career Studies degree with flexible course options for leadership roles. An MCI event is scheduled for April 7, 2025, on campus, seeking minimal participation (e.g., as patients); contact Nakia to volunteer.	



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<b>ODEMSA Reports</b>		
<b>Ryan Scarbrough</b>	<p>Ryan provided an update on several key areas during the meeting. The 2024 ODEMSA awards, announced in December 2024 and available on the ODEMSA website, recognized an educator from Chesterfield. However, the Office of EMS has instructed ODEMSA to hold off on releasing information about the 2025 awards, leaving the timeline uncertain. Regarding the drug box transition, progress is steady, with most agencies having obtained their Controlled Substance Registrations (CSRs) and approximately half of ALS agencies securing their DEA registrations. An ARCS assessment was distributed to evaluate progress, and follow-up is planned for the two-thirds of agencies that have not yet responded. Finally, Scarbrough reminded attendees of two upcoming events: the EMS Expo, scheduled for the first week of March 2025, and the HCA Recharge, set for the last week of February 2025, both with registration currently open.</p>	
<b>Preceptor Training for Accredited Programs</b>		
<b>Ryan Scarbrough</b>	<p>Ryan Scarbrough reported no new updates for PTAP at this time. Marquita Whisonant noted that recommendations from prior discussions are still being worked on, likely by Megan.</p>	
<b>Stop the Bleed Coalition</b>		
<b>Greg Neiman</b>	<p>Greg advised the coalition faces scheduling challenges due to weather, with two training days at Matoaca snowed out in January and rescheduled days in February also canceled due to snow; they're seeking new dates. The regional coalition is progressing well, while a statewide coalition under Dr. Rossi is ramping up, inviting all Stop the Bleed instructors to join for collaboration. House Bill 1700, which mandates state-funded Stop the Bleed kits for public schools, passed the House (77–22) and is in the Senate's Education and Health Committee. The training requirement may have been removed, but support is encouraged.</p>	<p>Encourage support and advocacy for House Bill 1700, which mandates state-funded Stop the Bleed kits for public schools, as it moves through the Senate.</p>



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<b>Old Business</b>		
<b>Regional Education Needs Assessment</b>	Marquita advised that the Regional Education Needs Assessment report is still in development (led by Megan), to be reviewed once completed.	Megan to provide an update and create a report on the information from the Regional Education Needs Assessment.
<b>Provider Safety and Wellness Initiative</b>	Marquita advised The Provider Safety and Wellness Initiative’s “Provider Spotlight” program, highlighting diverse EMS contributors, is being set up for presentation at the next meeting. Protocol reviews for ECG, capnography, and pulse oximetry are pending, with a subgroup tasked to suggest changes for the next meeting.	Megan to provide update on setting up this program to present at the next meeting.
<b>Protocol Review</b>	<p>The committee had three protocols to review with no submitted comments for the past meeting. They decided to have the protocol sub-group review these and bring the suggested changes to the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11-1: 12-Lead ECG Acquisition</li> <li>• 11-2: Capnography</li> <li>• 11-3: Pulse Oximetry</li> </ul>	Megan to provide follow-up on the protocols from the protocol review group prior to next meeting.
<b>New Business</b>		
<b>MDC Referral of Education</b>	Tarsha advised that the updated NEMSQA metrics show 93% of adult patients receive respiratory assessments (vs. 86% for pediatric, an improvement). The Medical Direction Committee approved EMTs administering steroids as a “black dot” skill, requiring med math education and OMD approval; this will be reviewed further next meeting	Roll out the newly approved “black dot” skill allowing EMTs to administer steroids, including providing med math education and securing Operational Medical Director (OMD) approval.



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		Megan to work on a training infographic or PowerPoint with the following: Travis Jenkins and John Jacobson.
<b>Business from the Floor</b>		
<b>Trauma Triage Protocols</b>	Mike raised the need to update trauma triage protocols to reflect state guidelines (revised May 2023), shifting from total GCS to motor GCS and including age-specific and burn criteria. The current ODEMSA protocol uses outdated guidelines, requiring updates and provider education. Marquita Whisonant committed to having the protocol subgroup address this for the next meeting.	Protocol subgroup to work on updating the trauma triage protocols to align with the state's revised guidelines (effective May 2023), including changes like the shift to motor GCS, and educate providers on these updates.
<b>Adjourn</b>		
	The meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.	With no further business being noted, Marquita Whisonant adjourned the meeting.