

MEDIC ONE/EMS 2008-2013 STRATEGIC PLAN

AUGUST 2011 UPDATE

KING COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION

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<http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/ems.aspx>

Public Health 
Seattle & King County

EMSAC MEETINGS

The **EMS Advisory Committee** met on June 15, 2011 for briefings on Medical Quality Improvement Audits (see article on page 3), the proposed 2012 budget and economic forecast, system and financial policies drafted as a result of the 2009 financial Audit, and the levy planning process.

The next EMS Advisory Committee meeting will take place on **September 21, 2011 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.** at Kent Fire Station #73, (26512 Military Road, Kent). Agenda items will be distributed prior to the meeting. *For additional information, please contact Mary Alice Allenbach at (206) 263-8545.*



EMS Strategic Plan

The *Medic One/EMS 2008-2013 Strategic Plan* is the primary policy and financial document that steers the Medic One/EMS system into the future, and directs the EMS Division in managing the regional system. This newsletter, published by the EMS Division, updates the EMS Advisory Committee and other interested parties on

the extraordinary efforts of all those involved in carrying out the various programs and activities identified in the *Strategic Plan*.

If you have questions or ideas for future newsletters, please contact Helen Chatalas at (206) 263-8560.

Cardiac Case Review

The EMS Division has closely studied every cardiac arrest event for the past 36 years, leading to constant improvement in training, practices, and programs. The newest tool in this QI effort is web-based cardiac case review, which will provide consistent performance feedback to those EMTs and paramedics who participate in a cardiac arrest resuscitation (for which there is a defibrillator recording). Currently in its pilot phase, the program will allow EMTs and paramedics to log into EMS Online and view comments, details and an evaluation of the resuscitation.

With this tool, EMTs and paramedics will be able to assess overall CPR fraction (overall time that hands were on the chest performing CPR), average chest compression rate (rate of chest compressions per minute), and average peri-shock pause (time that CPR was interrupted for analysis and delivery of shock) for each resuscitation. These measures can then be compared against

King County goals and overall King County averages. A video of the ECG, compression record, and audio of the resuscitation will be available for review, as will comments from medical direction and training officers. Within this recording, EMTs and paramedics will be able to jump to key points in the case such as shocks delivered, intubation, or breaks in compressions.

By making this information available via EMS Online, EMTs, paramedics, training officers and physicians can access the Cardiac Case Review System from any location and at any hour. Such individualized case review will reveal potential areas for improvements and aid EMTs and paramedics in staying prepared.

We anticipate demonstrating this program soon. *For more information, please contact Ann Doll, Medical QI Manager, at (206) 263-8659.*

Planning for the next Medic One /EMS Levy

The priority of the levy reauthorization is to ensure Medic One :

- Remains an adequately funded, regional tiered system;
- Reflects the existing successful medical model; and
- Continues to provide state of the art science-based strategies, programs, and leadership.

The *EMS Advisory Task Force* will provide the forum for discussing these issues.

Our world-renowned King County EMS system is funded by a Medic One/EMS levy that expires December 31, 2013. To continue providing this critical service in 2014 and beyond, the region must come together to develop a new Strategic Plan that details the programmatic EMS services for the system, and a levy rate to fund these services. The King County Executive will propose putting the reauthorization of the Medic One levy before the voters in 2013.

The *EMS Advisory Task Force* was created by the King County Council to lead the levy reauthorization planning effort, and develop "inter-jurisdictional agreement on an updated EMS strategic and finance package" for the 2014-2019 levy funding period. Comprised of 19 leaders and decision makers from throughout the region, the *Task Force* will convene to review and endorse the future direction and basis for the next Medic One/EMS levy, including:

- Current and projected EMS system needs;
- The Financial Plan based on those needs; and
- The levy rate, levy length, and when to run the levy.

To manage the *Task Force* in meeting their objectives, the Executive developed the **EMS Advisory Task Force Work Plan** which was transmitted to the King County Council in September 2010.

The Work Plan recommends that the *EMS Advisory Task Force* meet four times, starting in October 2011 and concluding in July 2012. To complete the bulk of the system program and cost analysis, four subcommittees, representing the Advanced Life Support (ALS), Basic Life Support (BLS), Regional Services (RS) and Finance program areas will be created. The Subcommittees will generate and present the Strategic Plan recommendations regarding current and projected program needs to the *EMS Advisory Task Force*. A financial plan to adequately support these needs will be developed and reviewed by the Finance Subcommittee.

The EMS Division is seeking interested parties to serve on the **Subcommittees**. *For more information on this or the levy planning process in general, please contact Helen Chatalas, EMS Division Levy Planner, at (206) 263-8560.*

EMS Advisory Task Force Membership

The *EMS Advisory Task Force* consists of the following members:

- King County Executive or designee
- 2 King County Council members or designee
- 1 Representative from each city over 50,000 in population:
 - 4 Representatives from cities under 50,000 in population to be appointed by Suburban Cities Association
 - 3 King County Fire Commissioners to be appointed by the King County Fire Commissioners Association

Auburn	Redmond
Bellevue	Renton
Federal Way	Seattle
Kent	Shoreline
Kirkland	

Executive Dow Constantine has contacted each jurisdiction and association to actively recruit *Task Force* representatives.

Nominations are due to Helen Chatalas by August 10, 2011. For more information please contact Helen at 206-263-8560.

EMT Quality Improvement (QI)

The Medical QI Section within the EMS Division recently initiated a program for BLS Quality Improvement. In partnership with Seattle Fire Department's Norm Nedell, King County researchers conduct weekly reviews of randomly selected MIRFs to better understand how EMTs are responding to critical conditions. Results from the mini-audits are distributed to fire agency chiefs and training officers, and used primarily to identify and update EMT training needs.

To date, we have reviewed the use of EpiPen, response to seizures and asthma in

children under 12, and response to suspected stroke. We are currently reviewing responses to newborn delivery on scene, pulse over 180 in adults over 65, hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia. Overall, EMT care has been excellent, and we are proud of the fantastic care they provide King County residents.

For more information on this effort, please contact Ann Doll, Medical QI Manager, at (206) 263-8659.

EMS Vehicle Network Upgrade

ALS vehicles throughout King County have added secure mobile Wi-Fi to currently existing network enabled devices. This enhancement will provide units with the ability to collect patient care records in the field and transmit this critical data to the hospitals en route. Hospitals will receive detailed advance notice of a patient's arrival and have a comprehensive set of emergent cardiac arrest data for

managing that patient's care. With the ability to rapidly collect and transmit critical data, the EMS community and hospitals can stay connected to make better decisions as they work together to save lives.

For more information, please contact Dan Anderson, IT Project Manager, at (206) 263-8546.

Other items of interest

EMS Staff published in Resuscitation:

The May 2011 edition of Resuscitation features a study conducted by UW School of Public Health student, Kristen Sipsma and EMS Division staff, Ben Stubbs and Michele Plorde regarding training rates and the willingness to perform CPR in King County.

Audit: The King County Auditor's office completed its review of the 2010 EMS financial practices and costs of EMS dispatch services provided primarily by two independently operated dispatch agencies. Findings will be presented at the

September 7, 2011 meeting of the Government Accountability & Oversight Committee.

Annual report: The EMS Division recently completed its 2011 Annual Report to the King County Council. It will be making its way to all EMS agencies in King County, as well as individuals on the EMS Advisory Committee newsletter mailing list, in early September.

For more information on any of these items, please contact Helen Chatalas at (206) 263-8560.

EMT & Paramedic Recognition

The EMS Division recognizes the following EMTs and Paramedics who successfully saved patients suffering cardiac arrests during the month of **April**. Thank you for your dedication.

King County Medic One

James Connell /Andrea Coulson
Neal Brandt /Sylvia Feder
Steve Perry/Gabe Webster
Rick Norwood/Mike Farrell
Calvin Schlegel/Tony Smith
Frank Wasicek/Steve Marth
April Dehuff/Dave Ackland

Shoreline Fire

Brian Eaton/Steve Richardson
Strojan Kennison/Richard Sewell

Bellevue Fire

Dennis Olsen/Joel Willis
John Tetzlaff/Faun Patzer
Kris Johnson/Tyron Warren
Paul Hyatt/Lenard Norris

Enumclaw

Brassard/Otto/Rodenberg

Kent Fire & Life Safety

Robert Allen/Brian Case/Gregory
Duarte/Elizabeth Gallup/Paul Lyons/Cody
Mitchell/Erin Rhead/Shad Ricard/Graham
Sharman/Steve Smith/Paul Zydek

Renton Fire

Keith Adams/Nick Bushnell/Justin Cox/
Andy Deleuw/Josh Downing/Chuck
Hagood/Scott Harter/ Mat Jackmond/
Richard Jahn/Bill Kullberg/Jake Lazenby/
Brian McGee/Shawn Mendenhall/David
Nelson/James Rush/Gary Ryser/Randy
Sheffer/Chip Slothower/Nick Ziegler

South King Fire & Rescue

Gary Bowen/Christopher Cahan/
Alexander Charoni /Brandon
Church/Jerry Clos/ Cortney Cullison/
Daren Deboer /Jerome Degagne/Steve
Hopf/Eric Kiphart/Drew Lowen/Chris
Mathis/Brett Otness/Sven Schievink/
Shane Smith/Patrick Soper/ Rob Willson

Port of Seattle

McGinnis/Schirado

Snoqualmie

Roberts/Summers *and crew*

Bothell

Crawford/Jackson/Jones

Eastside Fire & Rescue

Grant/McOsker/Parkinson/Walior

Bellevue Fire

Troy Donlin/Kerry Doran/Nikolas Kramer/
Johann Sehmsdorf

Shoreline Fire

Bryan Braswell/Rod Bush/Brett
Defenbaugh/Cameron Eickelmann/
Edward Horstman

Redmond Fire

Anderson/DuBee/Moran/Simon/Smith