

**Rappahannock EMS Council  
Pharmacy Committee Meeting  
Tuesday July 5, 2005**

**Minutes**

**Members Present:**

Kevin Dillard, Chairperson  
Linda Harris, REMS Council Systems Coordinator  
Joey King, LifeCare Medical Transports  
Don Taylor, Spotsylvania Career  
Bill Yeatman, Mary Washington Hospital ER Representative

**Excused:**

Karin Bankston, Mary Washington Hospital EMS Coordinator  
Chris Simmons, Culpeper Hospital

**Absent:**

Tim Kimble, Virginia Office of EMS Program Representative  
Robert Zywiak, MWH Pharmacy

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kevin Dillard at 10:00 a.m. at the REMS Council Training Room in Fredericksburg, Va. Minutes of the May 3, 2005 meeting were approved as submitted.

The agenda as follows:

1. One for One Medication Exchange. This program was presented at the June meeting of the REMS Board of Directors for approval by Kevin Dillard. There were a few questions about the program from board members that were answered by Kevin. Following a discussion the BOD voted to unanimously accept the One for One Medication Exchange. This will now be sent to the Medical Direction Committee with a vote of confidence. The importance of this program was expressed to the OMD's that attended the BOD Meeting. REMS Staff will follow through by contacting Dr. Garth about holding the Medical Direction Committee Meeting prior to the next REMS BOD Meeting.
2. Storage of Critical Care Medications. Don Taylor's team is currently working on a draft of a protocol for the Critical Care Medications. This item is tabled until the next Pharmacy Committee Meeting. Following

acceptance by this committee it will then be sent to the Protocol Committee for review and then onto the Medical Direction Committee.

3. Needle Stick Safety Program. Don Taylor's team is currently working a protocol and policy for the Needle Stick Safety Program. The current REMS protocol will have to be modified to incorporate this new program.
4. RSAF Grants for the standardized narcotic boxes – Linda Harris reported on her research on a new narcotics container. She found a clear plastic hinged container with adjustable dividers that will accommodate the narcotics that are currently supplied by Mary Washington Hospital. The plastic box will require 2 seals to prevent lifting of the corners of the box. The box was ordered from Tap Plastics on the West Coast at the cost of \$3.65 each plus shipping. The manufacturer was a company in the Mid West. We will look into purchasing directly from the manufacturer. This box will require a Nox Box locking system that measures 8" x 12". It can be purchased through Professional Lock locally and costs approximately \$57.00 each. There was a discussion on using 2 plastic seals on the plastic narcotic container verses a one-time use clear security bag. The decision was made to place a grant for the clear plastic boxes, sealable security bag and Nox Box security systems. Bill Yeatman will contact Mary Washington Hospital Pharmacy for the number of Narcotic boxes currently in the system and an estimate on the number of boxes exchanged per year. This will give us a baseline on the number of boxes to order and the number of bags that would be used in a year. Linda will contact Chris Simmons at Culpeper Hospital since this grant will include all hospitals within the REMS region. Kevin asked that REMS send a letter to Fauquier on his behalf, asking for their participation in the committee and in this regionwide grant. This grant will be submitted in September 2005 for 100% funding.

Kevin asked that we contact manufacturer and ask if they could place the REMS logo on the top of the plastic box. The metal Nox Boxes should be numerically engraved. Don offered to have his crews complete the engraving.

There was a discussion on the installation of the Nox Boxes. Suggestions were to hire a parttime employee that has a mechanical background to travel to the various agencies and install boxes on units. Another suggestion was for REMS to host EMS Appreciation days in various counties. Hotdogs and hamburgers would be offered while the boxes are installed. The numbered keys for these boxes will be issued to the designated person in each county by REMS.

When the REMS Grant Review Meeting is held the grant will be presented by Linda Harris and Don Taylor. Any committee member is welcome to attend this meeting.

Kevin Dillard proposed that the Pharmacy Committee Meetings now meet quarterly in January, April, July and October on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. If the need arises a special meeting will be held anytime.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be Tuesday October 11, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Training Room of the REMS Council Office, 2301 Fall Hill Avenue, Fredericksburg, Va 22001