

1 9/13/2023 - SEMAC Meeting - Troy, N.Y.

2 NEW YORK STATE

3 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

4 STATE TRAUMA EMERGENCY MEDICAL

5 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

6

7 DATE: September 13, 2023

8 TIME: 11:33 a.m. to 1:27 p.m.

9 CHAIR: Donald Doynow

10 LOCATION: Hilton Garden Inn

11 235 Hoosick Street

12 Troy, New York

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2 APPEARANCES:

3 ALEXA COPPOLA

ARTHUR COOPER

4 BRIAN CLEMENCY

BRIAN WALTERS

5 CHIEF ED MAJOR

DANIEL OLSSON

6 DAVID KUGLER

DAVID MARKOWITZ

7 DONALD HUDSON, Nassau REMSCO

DOUGLAS ISAACS

8

DR. JASON WINSLOW

DR. JEFFREY RABRICH, Nyack Hospital

9

JENNIFER GOLDMAN

10 JEREMY CUSHMAN

DR. JOHN MORLEY

11 JOHN WASHKO

JONATHAN BERKOWITZ

12 KATERINA GAYLORD

LEWIS MARSHALL

13 MARK PHILIPPY

MICHAEL DAILEY

14 MICHAEL MCEVOY

DR. MICHAEL REDLENER

15

RYAN GREENBERG, Bureau of EMS

STEVEN KROLL

16

THERESA ALLEN

TIFFANY BOMBARD

17

VALARIE OZGA, SEMSCO

18 WILLIAM MASTERSON, Suffolk REMSCO

YEDIDYAH LANGSAM

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2 (The meeting commenced at 11:33 a.m.)
3 CHAIR DOYNOW: Good afternoon

4 everyone. We're going to be starting in about two
5 minutes so please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

6 ALL: I pledge allegiance to the flag
7 of the United States of America, and to the Republic
8 for which it stands, one nation under God,
9 indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

10 CHAIR DOYNOW: Before everyone sits,
11 if we can have a moment of silence for Earl Evans.
12 He was one of the founding executive directors of the
13 REMO Region. My kids used to know him as Mr. Remo.
14 He'd been around for years and unfortunately, he died
15 this past week at 89.

16 Okay. Thank you. If everyone could
17 be seated. If we can have approval of the previous
18 meetings of minutes, if somebody wants to make a
19 motion for that?

20 MR. MARSHALL: So moved.

21 CHAIR DOYNOW: So moved. Thank you.

22 Second?

23 MR. MARSHALL: Second.

24 CHAIR DOYNOW: All in favor, raise
25 your hands. Well, that wasn't -- that wasn't overly

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2 enthusiastic. Anybody opposed? Okay. Any
3 abstentions? It passes with a minor majority.

4 All right. Ryan, are you ready for
5 your report? You're next up.

6 MS. ALLEN: Do you want to do roll
7 call first, Dr. Doynow?

8 CHAIR DOYNOW: Okay. We can do -- we
9 can do roll call first, sure, why not? I was hoping
10 to avoid that but go ahead.

11 MS. ALLEN: Okay. Dr. Bart. Dr.
12 Berkowitz.

13 MR. BERKOWITZ: Here.

14 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Barry. Dr. Bombard.

15 MS. BOMBARD: Here.

16 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Cooper.

17 MR. COOPER: Here.

18 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Cushman.

19 MR. CUSHMAN: Cushman here.

20 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Dailey.

21 MR. DAILEY: Dailey here.

22 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Doynow.

23 CHAIR DOYNOW: Here.

24 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Gomez. Dr. Isaacs.

25 MR. ISAACS: Isaacs here.

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2 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Kuglar.
3 MR. KUGLAR: Here.
4 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Lynch. Dr. Markowitz.
5 MR. MARKOWITZ: Here.
6 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Maynard. Dr.
7 Marshall.
8 MR. MARSHALL: Here.
9 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Murphy. Dr. Olsson.
10 MR. OLSSON: Olsson here.
11 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Talbot (phonetic).
12 Dr. Walters.
13 MR. WALTERS: Walters here.
14 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Wizlinski and Dr.
15 Winslow.
16 MR. WINSLOW: Winslow here.
17 MS. ALLEN: Oren Barzilay. Aidan
18 O'Connor. Mark Philippy.
19 MR. PHILIPPY: Philippy here.
20 MS. ALLEN: Marianne Porturo. Dr.
21 Rabrich.
22 MR. RABRICH: Rabrich here.
23 MS. ALLEN: Mike McEvoy.
24 MR. MCEVOY: McEvoy here.
25 MS. ALLEN: Steve Kroll.

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2 MR. KROLL: Present.

3 MS. ALLEN: And John Washko.

4 MR. WASHKO: Present.

5 MS. OZGA: How many?

6 MS. ALLEN: Thirteen.

7 MS. OZGA: Thirteen. We have a
8 quorum.

9 MS. ALLEN: We have a quorum.

10 CHAIR DOYNOW: Excellent. Ryan, are
11 you up?

12 MR. GREENBERG: I'm up. Chief Major,
13 if you can come up as well. It's not just so you can
14 pay attention. I have one thing in our report that I
15 think you're best to speak on. All right. Good
16 morning, everyone, and welcome. Thank you for
17 joining us today. I'm going to try and get through a
18 couple of things here in our report.

19 On the operation side within bureau,
20 we are moving forward in surveillance and
21 investigations. I know many of you have seen us at
22 your local agencies as we continue to do our full-
23 service inspections and getting back on target. Just
24 a reminder, those are on target to be about every two
25 years. So the goal is that we'll be there every two

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2 years.

3 For co-sponsors as well, we're getting
4 to an education to those. Site visits are also
5 going to start back up again as we continue to add
6 some additional staff on that side. So we've had
7 some questions on that as well. So a reminder, when
8 we are there, a reminder for all of our E.M.S.
9 agencies. All the paperwork needs to go in through
10 the portal. We've really moved towards paperless
11 submissions to the point where we're even starting to
12 return paper that shows up in our office. So if you
13 start some things in via paper, there are times now
14 where we are going to start sending back to you and
15 say please send this electronically.

16 The -- or -- we tried the pathway of
17 just saying, we'll send you a nice note, you know,
18 don't send it to us this way again the next time. It
19 doesn't seem to be as effective as maybe returning
20 the paperwork that needs to be done. So just a
21 reminder, almost everything comes in electronically
22 now.

23 So there's something new and this is
24 what I've asked Chief Major to -- to come up with us.
25 We have started for our full service inspections, an

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2 E.M.S. self-assessment survey. And this is something
3 we're happy to share the link so that everybody, you
4 know, here, can see it and we can put it up as -- as
5 a P.D.F. or share it that way. But there's an E.M.S.
6 self-assessment and in -- and in all fairness, this
7 actually came in from another state who was trying to
8 improve E.M.S. sustainability, and foster good
9 conversations, and things like that. And these
10 E.M.S. assessments are sent out when a full service
11 inspection is happening at an agency. And the goal
12 that is actually really just to foster good
13 conversations both while the investigator is there
14 but as well as within that agency, to recognize what
15 is -- how the agency is doing, what they're focused
16 on, and maybe some opportunities for the future on
17 what to focus on in the future.

18 So the reason why I asked Chief Major
19 to step up and -- and talk about this a little bit is
20 there is, you know, a number of these things that
21 talk about quality assurance and talk -- talks about
22 medical directors and talks about medical director
23 involvement, you know, at the agencies. So I don't
24 want it come as a surprise to anybody on here or any
25 other colleagues that you're working on your REMACs,

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2 hopefully, we'll go back and share this with them as
3 well, related to well, what is a survey, I've never
4 heard anything, who's asking the question.

5 All these things aren't necessarily
6 related to a regulatory obligation of, you know,
7 we're going to come in and say, oh, well they didn't
8 do this so they're going to get an S.O.D. This is
9 more about improving your system, strengthening your
10 system and fostering positive conversations.

11 So with that, I'm going to pass to
12 Chief Major, a little bit about the history of where
13 those survey came from, what it touches on, and where
14 some of the results are going to.

15 MR. MAJOR: Is side this okay? Thank
16 you, Director. My name is Ed Major. I'm from the
17 Western Branch. I'm a branch chief. You want me to
18 say my name, you got that, right.

19 The -- the survey actually came from
20 the state of Michigan and -- and there's a couple
21 others that we had looked at. And the coordination
22 from an E.M.S. sustainability standpoint,
23 organization internally from the processes of medical
24 direction, what the recruitment and retention
25 standards were, what the community involvement was.

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2 All sorts of activities related to the Board of
3 Directors make -- make up, what the strengths,
4 weaknesses, opportunities for improvement are, sort
5 of a self-assessment from the perspective of E.M.S.
6 sustainability, funding, agency capability.

7 Looking at the -- the quality of -- of
8 patient care and evaluating the futuristic objectives
9 related to equipment and the ability to -- are they
10 looking at regionalization and some other quality
11 components that are -- that are in this particular
12 survey. So far we've got about fifty to sixty
13 responses back. And some of the information that
14 we've got is -- is pretty eye-opening related to not
15 only medical director involvement and system
16 improvement and what is -- what is identified as --
17 as strengths. And we're looking at this from the
18 perspective of we're going to share this data. We
19 don't have enough to quantify and to really give a
20 quality assessment of what the individual responses
21 are.

22 But if the -- the method that we're
23 using is -- is forms, it's Microsoft Forms, so it
24 does break the data down and gives us graphs and some
25 -- some capabilities to sort of evaluate the

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2 responses so then we can sort of quantify it, look at
3 opportunities for benchmarking. And our objective
4 will be to share that data and get some real quality
5 initiatives that are going because it goes in
6 conjunction with E.M.S. sustainability, quality
7 metrics, and also other components related to not
8 only the medical director involvement but what
9 activities individuals are doing to strengthen
10 recruitment and retention which is really a big push
11 to this too. So I could -- I could talk further but
12 I think that those are really the highlights as
13 director of that and we're going to -- oh, I forget
14 the recap, we will share it with E.M.S. agency
15 briefing and we'll get that link up and I think we
16 could email it out with the correspondents here, if
17 that's okay. Anything else you want me to say?
18 Thank you.

19 MR. GREENBERG: Any questions? All
20 right. Perfect. Thank you so much, sir. Again, I
21 think you'll start to see possible some questions
22 coming from your agencies so we thought it was really
23 important for each of you as the medical directors to
24 understand that. So continuing on, on the operation
25 side, like I said, the inspections are out there.

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2 And one of the big things that we're finding is the
3 way that the oxygen tanks are secured. Both
4 portables and the main tanks are not being fastened.
5 They're not using the straps correctly or they're not
6 using the correct straps. So please make sure, if
7 you are involved in an agency to make sure that
8 they're securing that appropriately for the safety of
9 everybody involved.

10 On the administration side, we
11 continue to finalize some contracts. A big one on
12 this one for your REMSCOs, your REMACs, your program
13 agencies, please make sure that when they fill --
14 when they submit their invoices so that we can spend
15 the money that they're submitting everything
16 appropriately and on time. There's a new pilot
17 program. You heard about four of them at the last
18 meeting. But there's one additional one that's being
19 included this time which is the new recruitment and
20 retention pilot program that came from feedback from
21 the last meeting. And so what this program allows
22 for and their policy statement should be up by the
23 end of this week, if not already. But what this
24 policy allows for is for people who became an E.M.T.
25 and paid for themselves to go become an E.M.T. for

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2 them to work for an agency for a year and to be
3 eligible for reimbursement for the course that they
4 took.

5 So the reason for this and that
6 feedback that we got is, we do a lot of programs
7 where people are becoming E.M.T.s but then they never
8 work on a truck. We are trying to say okay, but the
9 people who took the initiative to get the training
10 ahead of time and maybe paid for it, now they're
11 worked on a truck for year, can they get paid back
12 for them and there is a nod coming from Sean over
13 here that, you know, gives them another opportunity.
14 So this is another great opportunity to make sure, to
15 let your agencies know about a way to get back to one
16 of the members. The agency does have to submit it.
17 The provider can't submit themselves so the agency is
18 submitting for that reimbursement.

19 On the education side, a lot of stuff
20 going on education. We're really excited to have
21 Kevin Lynch join as one of our newest unit chiefs in
22 the education branch. He is out of the Marrow
23 office. Kevin is a paramedic and an A.I.S., C.I.C.
24 He is currently dealing with all reciprocity
25 applications and P.S.I. issues. I know there's no

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2 P.S.I. issues so he's very slow on that part. But
3 no, he's anything on that side so you'll see
4 communications coming from him.

5 We have two new administrative support
6 staff coming starting tomorrow out of the -- the
7 Albany office. so we're excited about. That
8 hopefully some of the timelines and things will be
9 reduced in what we're able to get processed out
10 there. We also just received information that we are
11 going to be able to post for John McNolan's back
12 first for so we have another grade eighteen unit
13 chief that will be posted in the near future that
14 would be based out of, I believe, the central office.
15 But I'm waiting on final confirmation.

16 The paramedic or the online testing
17 with P.S.I., there's been a slight cost increase. It
18 has moved from twenty-eight dollars to thirty-one
19 dollars and that was effective September 1st. If you
20 had vouchers or anything prior to that date, or
21 you're scheduled prior to that date, it won't affect
22 your change and your vouchers should still work. If
23 you have any problems regarding that, you can reach
24 out to Kevin Lynch and he'll be happy to help you on
25 that side to coordinate that side.

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2 We know there's been some issues with
3 P.S.I., with testing, and we know that there's been
4 some issues in scheduling and things of that nature.
5 We're looking at about a thousand complaints a year
6 related to that when we test anywhere between twenty
7 and twenty-five thousand tests a year. So we're --
8 you know, in the ballpark, we're somewhere around
9 that five percent. We want to make sure that we are
10 capturing all the issues that are happening. We
11 think there's a series of issues that might be
12 happening that we're not told about. So please, if
13 you do have an issue with testing, and you get to a
14 site, they tell you that they can't test or whatever
15 that might be. Please make sure to -- to let us
16 know, put in a -- a communication so that we can
17 track that even if it's been resolved already. So
18 thank you for that side and letting us know.

19 We have a large amount of stream exam
20 so -- so just in finding exams, so sometimes there's
21 some issues with the upload. So the exam results
22 coming in. If for any reason that the exam results
23 come in and you don't see it up on the -- on health
24 commerce site or you don't see or you haven't gotten
25 the communication on it. Please make sure again to

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2 reach out. We process those I think two to three
3 times a week right now so, you know, realistically
4 you shouldn't be longer than seven to ten days after
5 you've taken your exam for that to be shown up and to
6 be on our system and to be on the health commerce
7 system. If anybody is having issues related to any
8 of these things, related to testing, they can reach
9 out to us at ems.testingissues@health.ny.gov and
10 we're happy to take a look into those.

11 There's -- again in the transparency
12 side and one of the things we've heard is it took me
13 a really long time to get a duplicate card request or
14 it took me a really long time to -- to hear back
15 about my core sponsors. So we have started something
16 new. On the bureau website, if you click on E.M.S.
17 forms and you click on either of the E.M.S. education
18 pages, dropdowns, it will show you a chart. And the
19 chart shows the function of education, the average
20 time that we think it takes to process, and what our
21 current processing times are.

22 And so we know we're ahead in certain
23 processes. We know we're behind on certain processes
24 from our averages. But that is available to everyone
25 now. Please take a look at the date on the bottom.

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2 It will show you when it was the last updated. Our
3 goal is to keep this, you know, every two to four
4 weeks, we'll update that chart or if there's
5 something that's really an outlier, we'll update that
6 chart. But you can give this to your students. You
7 can give this to your agency leaders, your core
8 sponsors, your C.S.E.s so that they know when to
9 expect to hear something.

10 So if something on there says average
11 processing time is two weeks and it's actually week
12 three or four for you, that's the time to reach out
13 to us. If on there says average processing time is -
14 - or current processing time is six weeks and you're
15 at three weeks, understand it still then takes us a
16 little bit longer to get there. Any questions on
17 education or operations? Yes.

18 MR. OLSSON: Olsson. Could you just
19 reiterate? I missed what that website or webpage was
20 to look at process in times?

21 MR. GREENBERG: Sure. So if you go to
22 that then the bureau of E.M.S. webpage. On the left
23 hand side, second button down, it says E.M.S. forms,
24 and then in the E.M.S. forms page, there's a dropdown
25 if you go to education and certification or the other

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2 education button, that chart will be there on both of
3 those.

4 MR. OLSSON: Okay.

5 MR. GREENBERG: And then the rovers
6 are all the forms system at your staff. Any other
7 questions on education or operations? Wonderful.

8 So there's a lively discussion
9 yesterday about NEMSYS data and three point five and
10 the what the process will be. We talked about
11 reducing some of the standards until three point five
12 was initiated. I think the outcome and I'm going to
13 look towards Peter on this one to get a nod. The
14 outcome is most likely were going to be, we're going
15 to move towards three point five. That standard will
16 be released in the early part of November. And then
17 agencies will be able to transition to three point
18 five on the standard that's released between January
19 and July of 2024 so no later than July of '24, 2024.
20 But preferably closer to January if possible.

21 This is really beneficial for your
22 providers. This reduces the number of mandatory
23 fields. This makes it to where -- I don't want to
24 say it's easier to chart but that they can chart in a
25 manner hopefully that doesn't take as long. I will

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2 tell you personally, as -- as I ride the truck, this
3 summer, Peter got a series of text messages with all
4 sorts of hours when I was frustrated writing my
5 chart. And so we are working to reduce those
6 frustrations and to ease into, you know, a new
7 charting pathway. I know there's been some
8 discussions from the working group who works on these
9 standards to also have them really kind of refresh
10 and look at this from a new way. There were a lot of
11 standards. Just for those who don't know, there were
12 close to nine hundred standards or requirements in
13 the current, in the old standards. The new one will
14 be probably close to two hundred and fifty, so a big
15 reduction in mandatory fields.

16 Stack, our next meeting is the second
17 week in October for anybody who would like to join
18 and the four zero five regulations had an -- an
19 emergency regulatory change in order to allow us to
20 go to the new A.C.S. playbook standards and that just
21 went into effects last week. E.M.S. for children,
22 our next E.M.S. for children's meeting is in December
23 here at the Hilton Garden Inn. They are working on
24 the pediatric education group. I was working on
25 producing some videos and some education and -- and

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2 working on some protocol recommendations. There's a
3 ped stroke group that's gathering data related to
4 peds strokes and discussions is further coming. The
5 grant had some carry-over funds. So we have some
6 additional projects that we'd be working on, excited
7 about that part.

8 We have started on the -- the new
9 ready for Children E.D. Peck Recognition Program. So
10 this is a Peck program for emergency departments. So
11 slightly different than the Peck program that's for
12 E.M.S. agencies. We have a little bit of sad news,
13 is one of our E.M.C. members is departing us, Jacob
14 in the front, wave Jacob, sitting up there. He has
15 been a tremendous part of the bureau. He is taking a
16 -- a fabulous new job but we're sad to see him leave.
17 So hopefully he'll be working on backfilling. His
18 position provides us with a lot of data analysis and
19 data that comes in.

20 The E.M.S. for Children's Program
21 Manager, Amy Eisenhauer is actually working right now
22 on the safe transport pediatric testing standards.
23 And is actually at an E.M.S. for Children's
24 Conference right now and that's why she's not here
25 today.

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2 We're excited about the Vital Signs
3 Peds classes that are being offered for safe
4 transport, de-escalation, as well as disaster
5 planning. And we also are continuing on our peds
6 focus on Vital Signs Academy online. Speaking of
7 Vital Signs, Vital Signs is October 18th to 22nd in
8 Syracuse, New York. Registrations are going up and
9 increasing and really excited about that, hopefully,
10 we're going to start to see some pre-COVID numbers
11 there. The Hotel block closes soon. I don't know
12 when soon is. But I know it closes soon, so if you
13 are joining us there, please get inline. Go on to
14 our website and make sure to book your hotel sooner
15 than later. Sorry, just catching up here on things.

16 The vehicle equipment regs, so these
17 are the regs that are able to -- these are gone here.
18 We were hoping to have emergency reg packet presented
19 to SEMSCO while we're here in order to push forward
20 many of the things that were in place or -- or
21 looking to be in place because they were in place for
22 Executive Order Four and now they are no longer.
23 Unfortunately, timing did not allow, although I think
24 we're really close to the finish line, so much so
25 that there may be an emergency meeting or a -- there

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2 may be a short SEMSCO meeting between now and the
3 December meeting to discuss, review, and approve
4 those emergency regs, if they do come through the
5 approval process. We'll obviously make sure to keep
6 everybody aware if that's happening and when it's
7 happening if that does occur.

8 The equipment regs are in the final
9 process to go out to public comment. So they will go
10 directly out the public comment because they are not
11 under the emergency process. When those go out to
12 public comment, we encourage everybody to take a look
13 at them and also to comment both in the positive or
14 any areas of concerns. We encourage you to do that
15 one. And just a giant thanks to both the education
16 committee and the education -- at the safety
17 committee for helping put those together. And the
18 rural health taskforce meets tomorrow -- the rural
19 health ambulance taskforce meets tomorrow and I know
20 some of our members are around this room. There is a
21 rural health ambulance task force survey that is out
22 right now. It's available on the E.M.S. forms page
23 dropdown to E.M.S. provider surveys. And please feel
24 free to fill that one out. That is based on
25 recommendations that they are working on, what they

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2 think will be some of the things to really help the
3 rural health side of things. We ask everybody to
4 please take the time, take a look at it, and provide
5 your feedback.

6 In addition, on the E.M.S. forms page,
7 there been a lot of surveys lately. So we've sent
8 out a number of surveys. We tried to put those all
9 into one place. That one place is now in the E.M.S.
10 forms page. So on the E.M.S. forms page under E.M.S.
11 provider surveys and feedback, there are currently
12 four surveys that are open. We'd like everybody in
13 this room to spend some time filling those out. Each
14 are probably in the ballpark of eight to twelve
15 minutes to complete. But it allows so many of these
16 working groups that are so active and, you know,
17 under Chairman McEvoy and -- and the work that's been
18 done by the SEMAC and SEMSCO and other working
19 groups. It really allows all providers to have a say
20 in this. So there's one out there on diversity.
21 There's currently one out there in rural health.
22 There's one out there on feedback from Part S.
23 Please take a few minutes and take a look at this.
24 This is how your voice is heard.

25 Last but not the least, we're excited

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2 on some new staff members. As was mentioned, Kevin
3 before has joined us in education. We have new staff
4 member in Vital Signs, really excited about that
5 part. We have Jacob who is unfortunately leaving us
6 but for good things. Gina is -- who is our policy
7 fellow before is our newest district chief
8 investigator, very excited on that. She'll be in the
9 emergency preparedness and response side of things.
10 And in addition, we're excited to report that the
11 bureau is -- is growing.

12 When I first got here, we were just in
13 the mid-thirties or so. We are now north of fifty-
14 five staff in our bureau. And we are charted over
15 the next twelve months or so to add probably between
16 twenty and twenty five positions to the bureau. It
17 does come with some added responsibilities, duties,
18 and assignments so there are not all just things that
19 -- that will help us to support our current functions
20 so there's some new ones. But we're excited to see
21 the growth. We're excited to see the focus, you
22 know, on E.M.S. and -- and things in that. And we're
23 excited to be able to provide additional resources to
24 the SEMAC and the SEMSCO to be able -- to carry out
25 the functions that each of you are doing.

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2 So that is the end of our report.

3 Happy to take any comments, questions, or concerns,
4 and thank you for everything.

5 CHAIR DOYNOW: Okay. Any questions
6 for Ryan? All right. Moving along, Dr. Marshall.

7 MR. MARSHALL: Good afternoon,
8 everybody, well, almost afternoon, sorry. We still
9 got a couple of minutes. So Medical Standards met
10 this morning and we have two action items to bring
11 forward so the first one is the collaborative A.L.S.
12 protocol, update, and changes. And they did a lot of
13 work so we'd like to thank Dr. Cushman and -- and
14 everybody who participated. They had looked at the
15 protocols. They simplified language, reduced
16 inconsistencies, and made it more readable without
17 actually changing the medicine. So a couple of
18 things and everybody should be able to have seen the
19 version twenty-four protocol change log which I would
20 also like to thank them for putting together because
21 this makes it very easy to see what changes were
22 made.

23 Two things came out of the discussion,
24 one is the anaphylaxis protocol was changed to
25 allergic reaction and anaphylaxis which would enable

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2 A.L.S. practitioners to administer Benadryl or
3 steroids to a patient who is not in anaphylaxis. And
4 the second item that came up or that was discussed
5 was that they also looked at scope of practice and
6 removed any inconsistencies and the one that was
7 removed was C.F.R. administering oral glucose and
8 that was removed.

9 There were also some wordsmithing that
10 made it more readable. And this comes forward as a
11 seconded motion and it is protocol change so it will
12 require a roll call vote.

13 CHAIR DOYNOW: Any questions for Dr.
14 Marshall? Okay, none seen. Now, we're going to have
15 a roll call vote.

16 MS. ALLEN: Okay. Dr. Berkowitz.

17 MR. BERKOWITZ: Berkowitz, yes.

18 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Bombard.

19 MS. BOMBARD: Bombard, yes.

20 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Cooper.

21 MR. COOPER: Cooper, yes.

22 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Cushman.

23 MR. CUSHMAN: Cushman, yes.

24 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Dailey.

25 MR. DAILEY: Dailey, yes.

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2 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Doynow.

3 CHAIR DOYNOW: Dr. Doynow, yes.

4 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Isaacs.

5 MR. ISAACS: Isaacs, yes.

6 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Kuglar.

7 MR. KUGLAR: Dr. Kuglar, yes.

8 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Markowitz.

9 MR. MARKOWITZ: Markowitz, yes.

10 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Marshall.

11 MR. MARSHALL: Dr. Marshall, yes.

12 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Olsson.

13 MR. OLSSON: Olsson, yes.

14 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Walters.

15 MR. WALTERS: Walters, yes.

16 MS. ALLEN: And Dr. Winslow.

17 MR. WINSLOW: Winslow, yes.

18 MS. ALLEN: Roll call complete.

19 CHAIR DOYNOW: Okay. Motion passes.

20 MR. MARSHALL: Thank you. So the next

21 item that comes up is revision of the alternative

22 medication formulary policy. So over the years,

23 we've had different medications that have been on

24 shortage and it varies from time to time and

25 sometimes from region to region. So Dr. Winslow and

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2 -- and his team and I thank them for that, put
3 together and updated alternate medication formulary
4 policy which the original one was policy thirteen
5 zero four.

6 This new policy will allow us to
7 continue to use alternative medications. And there's
8 also provisions for notification to the department
9 when these alternative medications are being
10 implemented and when the alternative medications are
11 being terminated from use. The actual list of
12 medications and the alternative medications will not
13 live in the policy as it does now. Will live in --
14 in an appendix so that we don't have to change the
15 policy when we run out of a -- a different
16 medication. So thanks again for putting this
17 together. And I'll answer any questions but this
18 comes forward as a seconded motion as a policy.

19 CHAIR DOYNOW: Any questions. Okay.
20 We'll also need a roll call vote on this, please as
21 well.

22 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Berkowitz.

23 MR. BERKOWITZ: Berkowitz, yes.

24 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Bombard.

25 MS. BOMBARD: Bombard, yes.

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2 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Cooper.

3 MR. COOPER: Cooper, yes.

4 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Cushman.

5 MR. CUSHMAN: Cushman, yes.

6 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Dailey.

7 MR. DAILEY: Dailey, yes.

8 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Doynow.

9 CHAIR DOYNOW: Doynow, yes.

10 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Isaacs.

11 MR. ISAACS: Isaacs, yes.

12 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Kuglar.

13 MR. KUGLAR: Kuglar, yes.

14 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Markowitz.

15 MR. MARKOWITZ: Markowitz, yes.

16 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Marshall.

17 MR. MARSHALL: Dr. Marshall, yes.

18 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Olsson.

19 MR. OLSSON: Olsson, yes.

20 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Walters.

21 MR. WALTERS: Walters, yes.

22 MS. ALLEN: And Dr. Winslow.

23 MR. WINSLOW: Winslow, yes.

24 MS. ALLEN: All right. Motion passes.

25 CHAIR DOYNOW: Okay. Motion passes.

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2 Dr. Marshall.

3 MR. MARSHALL: Okay and thank you.

4 Those -- those are the only two action items. There
5 were some discussion about that Chem Pack and the
6 process so more to come from that. It's probably the
7 shortest Medical Standards Committee meeting in
8 history. So thank you for that as well. And that's
9 my report.

10 CHAIR DOYNOW: Okay. Thank you, Dr.
11 Marshall. Don from Education.

12 MR. HUDSON: Yes, good afternoon,
13 everybody. Don Hudson. So I'll just hit the
14 pertinent points for the SEMAC. The bureau is
15 currently working through a new funding policy which
16 will continue to increase the funds available to our
17 co-sponsors for E.M.S. education so we thank them for
18 that and continue to look towards the future or ex --
19 further expansions in fundings. Instructor
20 certifications for both C.L.I., a continuation on
21 some discussions regarding certified instructor
22 coordinator C.I.C., and then also probably more
23 importantly some cross profession from our fire
24 service healthcare and education compatriots about
25 what some sort of reciprocity process may look like

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2 is ongoing. A new prerequisite policy is forthcoming
3 from the bureau involving not only HAZMAT awareness
4 clarification about what it -- what classes are
5 acceptable and what are not. But also to try and
6 roll up some of the other policies for C.P.R.
7 incident command, incident management system training
8 into one policy rather than the two or three or more
9 that exists today.

10 Current discussions about mentorship
11 or field training officer programs around the regions
12 and around the State so if an agency or region or
13 otherwise has a functioning field training officer
14 program that they think other agencies could benefit
15 from, please let us know and we'll continue to work
16 towards that. There's been an ask of a number of
17 different committees but ultimately it may fall back
18 to training at Ed about looking at some sort of
19 standards for inter-facility transport or critical
20 care paramedic certifications. So that's one of the
21 ongoing discussions just for your awareness. And
22 then most importantly probably to this body is the
23 E.M.T. C.C. to paramedic bridge. We have some
24 numbers crunched from the bureau and from Northwell
25 from the Bridge Program enrollment itself. The two

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2 current bridge programs, Bridge Nine and Ten, each
3 have Statewide about twenty people in them. And in
4 talking to Northwell yesterday, the current Bridge
5 number Eleven which will kick off in October has four
6 applicants Statewide. So I know a number of the
7 physicians have rightfully so wanted a discussion
8 about that and know that discussion is ongoing and we
9 want you involved in that. So those charts and data
10 is posted on Boardable for you to review so that we
11 can make some educated decisions about sunset and
12 timeframes moving forward.

13 Board of Director Ryan mentioned the
14 thirty-one dollar increase for P.S.I. testings so
15 just to again to reiterate that, there's -- it is an
16 increase so that is effective today or as we speak.
17 And then lastly, we do have a seconded motion that
18 comes forth to the SEMAC for I guess, Theresa, can
19 you put that up?

20 This is related to the discontinuation
21 of the primary practical skills exam for paramedic
22 originals and it's to move in concert with the
23 national registry as, you know, the -- the State of
24 New York currently utilizes the national registry
25 format and more specifically the national registry

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2 exam for paramedic originals. As they're going to
3 sunset their exam, we should follow suit and explore
4 what that looks like moving forward. So there are
5 two letters that are put forth to the bureau through
6 the E.D.C.C. process for the next SEMSCO meeting for
7 actual action. I just wanted to bring it up as the
8 committee did as a seconded motion here to keep it on
9 the record and to continue pushing that conversation
10 as we believe sooner to formulate a plan is better
11 than later. We don't want to find ourselves at
12 midnight, the night before, and go when did -- when
13 did this happen? So the motion is, motion to
14 recommend to SEMSCO to eliminate the paramedic
15 practical skills exam by July 2024.

16 CHAIR DOYNOW: Any discussion on that?

17 MR. CUSHMAN: Don, just a question,
18 fully support the motion to -- to align with the
19 national. However, the C.M.E. recertification
20 process still requires skills verification which are
21 fundamentally obsolete. How -- is this or should
22 this be tied to that recertification process?

23 MR. HUDSON: So myself and Chief
24 Chesney me from -- and Michael Bagozzi from education
25 have had and will continue to discuss both paramedic

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2 refresher and C.M.E. with Mr. Myers. The committee
3 felt that the most pressing need and -- and the
4 easiest lift right now is to deal with the imminent
5 paramedic original knowing that shortly thereafter,
6 this group and others needs to struggle with the
7 skills validation exam testing that, you know, not
8 only affects paramedic refresher on C.M.E. but quite
9 honestly, why stop there. Look at everything across
10 all levels of care would be a natural continuance of
11 that conversation. They are tied a lot to the
12 pending emergency education regulations which as
13 Director Greenberg said, we were hoping we would be
14 able to, you know, codify and -- and push forth here.
15 Unfortunately, that didn't work out. So we're on it,
16 just not yet.

17 MR. CUSHMAN: Appreciate it.

18 MS. BOMBARD: Hi, it's Bombard. Why -
19 - I'm still unclear as to why we can't do both at
20 once if we're getting rid -- rid of the original, why
21 -- it's -- it's the paramedic level across the board.
22 Why are we not just taking it away? And actually,
23 your proposal is written the paramedics skills exam.
24 And it's not really written explicitly that it's the
25 original only. So why can't we just get rid of it

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2 all at the paramedic level and we'll deal with the
3 other levels later?

4 MR. GREENBERG: When you say both, are
5 you referring to both original and recertification or
6 original in C.M.E.?

7 MS. BOMBARD: Original and
8 recertification.

9 MR. HUDSON: So thank you for being so
10 astute to pick that up. That was actually one of my
11 recommendations to the committee. And as a
12 committee, we discussed that, step one is the
13 original, step two and three, you know, probably bear
14 a little bit more discussion and planning simply
15 because, you know, as you state, not to speak for
16 anyone else. But my own opinion and my own
17 experience as a co-sponsor has been that we have
18 providers that are now five years without seeing a
19 State written or practical skills exam. And there
20 may be concerns about a student's level of
21 preparedness to once again take those exams and what
22 that might mean from a patient care perspective.

23 So as you continue to read between the
24 lines of what I'm saying, I think we need to have
25 that discussion sooner than later. This is the first

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2 lift and once the emergency regs kick in, then the
3 bureau and -- and ourselves have a lot more
4 flexibility as far as, you know, some wordsmithing of
5 an exam versus an evaluation or a processes or what
6 that may look like. I -- I agree, why not rip the
7 band-aid off all at once but I also, you know, stand
8 with my compatriots who -- who then suggested, no,
9 step one comes first, so. I'll leave to the
10 committee. I mean, it's a -- -- either one's --

11 MR. GREENBERG: I'll bring up one
12 thing --

13 MR. HUDSON: Okay.

14 MR. GREENBERG: -- to think about and
15 we don't want one to delay the other. So I think,
16 you know, and especially in timeline, and between now
17 and July, there might be more work that can be done
18 that -- that could advance this at the same time.
19 But one of the things that -- that comes up and why
20 P.S.E.s on the original are disappearing is because
21 students create a portfolio while they're going
22 through their paramedic program. They are
23 performance skills. They're being validated by
24 someone, they're, you know, with the field training
25 office or preceptor, or whatever that term might be.

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2 And so in some cases and in the -- the
3 new regs or the proposed regs change it from what's
4 called a practical skills exam to a practical skills
5 assessment, whatever that might look like. And the -
6 - the tools and the -- the systems in place today for
7 that original paramedic student to have that
8 paramedic skills assessment, their portfolio that
9 they had built over the course of time. They're not
10 necessarily in place and even if it just means
11 creating what that would look like for the person
12 who's taking a refresher class and during that
13 refresher class, are they doing any clinical time?
14 Are they documenting any assessment? Are they
15 looking at any of those other things that we're using
16 as the validation tool for the original one? And so
17 I think that's just something that needs to be
18 thought about. I think -- I think you can get there
19 but it's not as quick as here's the switch, you know,
20 because the question would then be, well, what is
21 that practical skills assessment because for that
22 original paramedic, it's their portfolio.

23 For the refresher, what would it be
24 and we just don't know today. That doesn't get
25 there. We just -- it's not something that's in

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2 place.

3 MS. BOMBARD: I'm just concerned
4 because the first P.S.E. somebody might take is the
5 one at their refresher is the way we're setting it up
6 which would be a little -- I mean, it just doesn't
7 make a lot of sense to me.

8 MR. GREENBERG: So I would give you a
9 different timeline. Let's say the regs go through in
10 the way that they're written. That person would be
11 certified then for three to four years. This would
12 go into effect in July of 2024. And if by July of
13 2028, we've determined that the P.S.E. shouldn't be
14 eliminated then there's probably a different issue
15 that we have to address.

16 The others who may be affected by this
17 would have taken a P.S.E. prior to because they would
18 have taken it during the original. So I think this -
19 - you know, it gives up a -- a pretty wide buffer
20 span and again, you know, depending on the work of
21 the committee or anything else, that could be
22 eliminated between now and when this would go into
23 effect. But that needs to be determined on what that
24 assessment is, how it is, and also how it affects our
25 programs that are doing refresher programs. We have

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2 co-sponsors who may turn and say no, leave the P.S.E.
3 because we don't have the bandwidth for a refresher
4 student to do these other things to create a
5 portfolio. There could be co-sponsors who turn and
6 say no, we have a solution for that. Here's what it
7 is. They just need to do it at their home agency
8 and, you know, to perform this.

9 And then the question also becomes,
10 well what about the person who's taking a refresher
11 who doesn't practice in E.M.S. or maybe doesn't even
12 practice as a paramedic at all. They work using
13 their skill set doing something else. How do they
14 get assessed for this?

15 So I think those are many of the
16 questions that would have to be answered, that I
17 think could be. But I think the primary goal of this
18 one is to align with National Registry for that
19 original and to get there from that point and then to
20 determine how to handle the others.

21 MR. DAILEY: Mike Dailey. So Don, you
22 talked about ripping off the band-aid. Allow me to
23 give it a slightly different rip. Why do we still
24 have a contract with E.S.I. for testing? Why haven't
25 we just not moved to the registry and do we have a

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2 timeline to just move New York State to the registry?

3 MR. GREENBERG: So no, there's not a
4 timeline to move to the registry. But there is the
5 option again based on standards and regulatory
6 changes to have a registry be an option for an exam.
7 And then if every student chose to take that one
8 versus something else, and they go look at it,
9 there's a financial cost that is significant compared
10 to that of that's administered by the State. The
11 average cost for an exam with registry is anywhere
12 from a hundred dollars to, I think, a hundred and
13 seventy dollars. The exam for New York State is
14 thirty-one dollars.

15 MR. HUDSON: But it was twenty-eight
16 so we are getting closer.

17 MR. GREENBERG: Yes. By like 2050, we
18 should be caught up.

19 CHAIR DOYNOW: Any other questions?
20 Okay. Well, we do have a -- a seconded motion on the
21 floor here so we need to vote on it. This would be a
22 roll call vote as well. Go ahead.

23 MS. ALLEN: Okay. Dr. Berkowitz.

24 MR. BERKOWITZ: Great conversation,
25 thank you, Berkowitz, yes.

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2 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Bombard.

3 MS. BOMBARD: Yes.

4 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Cooper.

5 MR. COOPER: Yes.

6 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Cushman.

7 MR. CUSHMAN: Cushman, yes.

8 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Dailey.

9 MR. DAILEY: Dailey, yes.

10 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Doynow.

11 CHAIR DOYNOW: Doynow, yes.

12 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Isaacs.

13 MR. ISAACS: Isaacs, yes.

14 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Kuglar.

15 MR. KUGLAR: Yes. Kuglar, yes.

16 Sorry. I'm all choked up.

17 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Markowitz.

18 MR. MARKOWITZ: Markowitz, yes, I'll

19 see to it.

20 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Marshall.

21 MR. MARSHALL: Dr. Marshall, yes.

22 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Olsson.

23 MR. OLSSON: Olsson, yes.

24 MS. ALLEN: Dr. Walters.

25 MR. WALTERS: Walters, yes.

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2 MS. ALLEN: And Dr. Winslow.

3 MR. WINSLOW: Winslow, yes.

4 MS. ALLEN: The motion passes.

5 MR. HUDSON: So Mr. Chair, just in
6 closing a question, does this come to the SEMSCO from
7 SEMAC or do I do it from education and training? And
8 forgive my ignorance.

9 CHAIR DOYNOW: And it will come from
10 SEMAC to SEMSCO but we'll probably will be answering
11 questions there, I suspect.

12 MR. HUDSON: Ditto.

13 CHAIR DOYNOW: Okay. All right.
14 Moving along, Dr. Cooper, E.M.S.C.

15 MR. COOPER: Thank you, Dr. Doynow.
16 Director Greenberg I think touched on most of the
17 points that I'd planned to make in the E.M.S.C.
18 report. What I will do at this point is very briefly
19 remind you of the key issues that he raised and give
20 you an opportunity to ask any questions you might
21 have about any of these issues.

22 First, with respect to the pediatric
23 agitation workgroup, that work is ongoing. We had a
24 very fruitful meeting with the E.M.S.C. community
25 last week and the several conference calls before

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2 that and we are in the process of developing
3 potential scripts for -- for videos that may be
4 produced as part of an educational program in
5 pediatric de-escalation techniques which as you all
6 know really the verbal de-escalation really forms the
7 -- you know, the -- the key in the pediatric world to
8 management of -- of agitation with a lesser emphasis
9 on the medication domain.

10 It's come to our attention of course
11 that the safety workgroup of SEMSCO is also dealing
12 with this issue on a brighter level including adults
13 as well as children. And Amy Eisenhower, our
14 outstanding E.M.S.C. coordinator is going to get
15 these two groups together. So we can plan out a -- a
16 joint program that will serve the needs of everyone,
17 adults and children, as well as folks from all parts
18 of the State.

19 The time of triage education group
20 also met. They have made a good deal of progress
21 towards the development of a -- of a guidance that
22 will be used to or to assist various regions in -- in
23 updating providers to the new time of triage
24 protocols, the length-based resuscitation tape group
25 had several meetings over the summer as well. But

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2 due to logistical concerns, these issues were not
3 able to be brought forward at our meeting last week
4 and will be dealt with in the very near future. The
5 additional matter of other methods for determining
6 drug doses in kids such as the Home Tele method and
7 others have also been raised as potential
8 alternatives to a length-based resuscitation tape.
9 That's part of what held up the process because these
10 issues also need to be discussed and we plan to have
11 if you will a final approach on both of these, excuse
12 me, at our December meeting so that they will be
13 ready for the next meeting -- meeting of SEMAC which
14 I believe is in February.

15 We continue to focus on the issue of
16 pediatric stroke and how would the management in
17 field here will differ from that of adult stroke.
18 And there's no formal designation process at the
19 present time for pediatric strokes centers.
20 Pediatric strokes are few in number and they're
21 generally managed in pediatric I.C.U.s, you know,
22 mostly sickle cell anemia related as I'm sure you're
23 aware. So data is being collected to guide our
24 thoughts on that particular area.

25 As Ryan also -- also mentioned, the

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2 pediatric emergency care coordinator program has --
3 has been expanded under federal mandate from the --
4 the pre-hospital room to the emergency department
5 realm, more about that as we go forward. And, of
6 course, Amy Eisenhauer continues to be deeply
7 involved in the safe transport issues, both locally
8 and nationally, doing a terrific job of representing
9 New York State in that venue and in fact, that's
10 where she is today, at the National E.M.S.C. Grantee
11 meeting focusing on many of these issues.

12 I just wanted to highlight again as
13 Director Greenberg mentioned there's a robust
14 pediatric program at the Vital Signs conference this
15 year focusing on safe pediatric transport, de-
16 escalation techniques for kids, and pediatric
17 disaster planning and, of course, I hope that all of
18 you will be able to attend the Vital Signs
19 conference. I do myself plan to be there and we're
20 hoping that it will be the success that it has always
21 been in the past and will continue to be in the
22 future so thank you for the organizers -- to the
23 organizers of that conference. And thanks to Amy for
24 putting together everything with respect to the
25 pediatric programs at the conference.

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2 I'll stop there and I'd be happy to
3 answer any questions folks might have. Thank you.

4 CHAIR DOYNOW: Does anybody have any
5 questions for Dr. Cooper? Okay, Doctor.

6 MR. COOPER: Thank you, Dr. Doynow.

7 CHAIR DOYNOW: Thank you. Thank you
8 for the report. Moving on to old business, Dr.
9 McEvoy.

10 MR. MCEVOY: I just want to let people
11 know I'll discuss this more at SEMSCO but a motion
12 that originated here couple meetings ago to allow
13 REMACs to credential providers came back to SEMSCO
14 through D.L.A. with some concerns. So at SEMSCO this
15 afternoon, we'll address the concerns and -- and form
16 a group to resolve that issue.

17 CHAIR DOYNOW: Thank you, Dr. McEvoy.
18 Any other old business that anybody wants to bring
19 up?

20 MR. WALTERS: Excuse me, Dr. McEvoy.
21 Just because that discussion happened here at SEMAC,
22 could you elaborate on that a little bit for us?

23 MR. MCEVOY: Let me find my note here.
24 So essentially, what happened with Division of Legal
25 Affairs is to tell us that the motion has no standing

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2 in statute or regulation. And the responsibility for
3 credentialing belongs at the agency level. Which our
4 perceived solution to that is that this body and/or
5 people from Systems can create some templated
6 credentialing requirements for agencies to use. And
7 like anything else that we create here, regions would
8 then have the capability of enhancing those with the
9 approval of the SEMAC and SEMSCO. So my intent this
10 afternoon would be to put together a -- a working
11 group that would consist of people from here and
12 people from Systems to start to resolve that issue.

13 Does that answer your question?

14 MR. WALTERS: Yeah. Yes. I guess my
15 question is, I thought that that discussion
16 originated from SEMAC, so I guess I was just curious
17 why it's coming up at SEMSCO but not SEMAC.

18 MR. MCEVOY: The process of how
19 motions move through the system is that it comes from
20 here, which is the subcommittee of SEMSCO, and then
21 SEMSCO gets told once they vote on something whether
22 that's acceptable or not or when it is not acceptable
23 we hear from D.L.A. about it.

24 CHAIR DOYNOW: Any other discussion?
25 Any other old business before we move to new

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2 business? Okay. All right. New business just for
3 SEMAC members, if you have interest in subcommittees,
4 please see Dr. McEvoy. We would like to get some
5 folks involved in some of the subcommittees if we
6 can. We do have a presentation from Dr. Jennifer
7 Goldman, who's a psychiatrist, on mental health
8 issues and you know, are now affecting E.M.S. and I'm
9 not sure where she is at the moment.

10 MS. ALLEN: Over there to the right.

11 CHAIR DOYNOW: Huh, over there. Hi.
12 And I believe you have presentation we need to put up
13 on the screen.

14 MS. GOLDMAN: Yes. Hi. Thanks,
15 everyone. Yes. My name is Jennifer Goldman. I'm a
16 psychiatrist with the Office of Mental Health. And
17 I'm here with my colleague, Alexa Cappola. And we
18 really appreciate your time today and the opportunity
19 to tell you a little bit about this new program that
20 O.M.H. and Oasis are working together on developing
21 throughout New York State. I'll turn it over to
22 Alexa to say a few words and we'll walk you through
23 the -- the basics around this new program and then
24 talk a little bit about where we see the touch points
25 between these new centers and E.M.S. Thank you.

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2 MS. CAPPOLA: Thank you. My name is
3 Alexa Cappola. I also am with the New York State
4 Office of Mental Health within the Bureau of Crisis
5 Emergency and Stabilization Initiatives. I do want
6 to give a quick shout-out. We also have someone else
7 here today, Katerina Gaylord who is our Deputy
8 Director within our bureau. And just a shout-out,
9 she does have some stickers for 988. This isn't
10 about 988. But if you would like to see them and if
11 you would like some 988 materials, you can also use
12 the email at the end of this slide to request those
13 as well.

14 If you can go to the next slide,
15 please. And on this slide, we just have a few of our
16 agency representatives who have also been working
17 very diligently on the development of these centers
18 and who have assisted in the development of this
19 presentation. So as Jen said, with the permit --
20 with the primary part portions of our discussion are
21 going to be the core components of the crisis
22 stabilization centers and how they impact E.M.S.
23 providers or how they may impact E.M.S. providers.
24 And I'll pass it over to Jen just to talk a little
25 bit about how they're connected to the comprehensive

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2 crisis response system. Thanks. Next slide.

3 MS. CAPPOLA: Thanks.

4 MS. GOLDMAN: So the development of
5 these new centers, the crisis stabilization centers
6 falls within an overarching vision that O.M.H. has
7 been working on for New York State. O.M.H. and Oasis
8 together are trying to develop a Statewide crisis
9 system for behavioral health crises, rather than kind
10 of siloed services or programs throughout the State
11 that come together based around 988. So you have the
12 telephonic triage through 988. We are developing and
13 expanding mobile crisis response throughout the
14 State, crisis residences, CPEPS, Comprehensive
15 Psychiatric Emergency Programs, which many of you are
16 probably familiar with, and then a new program,
17 Crisis Stabilization Centers, which is what we will
18 discuss today.

19 Next slide. And this slide just
20 touches on the overarching vision that O.M.H. has for
21 the future of behavioral health crisis system
22 development with the idea being someone to call.

23 So having those ninety-day -- regional
24 ninety-day crisis call centers available, soon to
25 come. Ideally, that's mobile crisis teams and then

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2 somewhere to go. Seven Crew is a crisis residences,
3 comprehensive psychiatric emergency programs. And
4 then the new program that we're going to discuss
5 today, Crisis Stabilization Centers. Next slide.
6 And, you know, if we build out this system in the way
7 we're envisioning, ideally that hopefully will be
8 less burden on ambulances because if you look at
9 studies and it's probably really hard to see here the
10 -- the fine print. But -- so easy of showing it,
11 approximately eighty percent of crisis calls end up
12 being able to be resolved over the phone when
13 answered with a crisis line, with a trained crisis
14 counselor. Of those that get an in-person response
15 from the mobile crisis team, seventy percent of those
16 -- on those calls are responded in the field and
17 don't need further referral to a hospital or to a
18 higher level of care. Of those that -- of those
19 individuals that are treated in a crisis facility, so
20 that would be like our crisis residences or
21 potentially these future Crisis Stabilization
22 Centers, approximately sixty-five percent of those
23 individuals are discharged into the community and
24 eighty-five percent are then stable in the community.
25 So our goal is really to be able to

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2 build out the full continuum of behavioral health
3 crisis services. So that E.D.s are no longer kind of
4 burdened as the default provider for individuals that
5 are experiencing behavioral health crises. So I'll
6 turn it over to Alexa who will go into some greater
7 detail about these centers.

8 MS. CAPPOLA: Thank you and you go to
9 the next slide. So as -- as Jen noted, these are
10 completely new programs in New York State. There are
11 no currently licensed Crisis Stabilization Centers.
12 We're in the process of reviewing licenses to provide
13 operating certificates. But it's important to note
14 that this is a joint authorization and certification
15 between both the Office of Mental Health and the
16 Office of Addiction Services and Supports.

17 And this is a completely joint effort
18 so we do have a joint -- joint regulations which are
19 under part six hundred and a joint program guidance.
20 Both of these documents encompass two types of Crisis
21 Stabilization Center. So there are supportive
22 centers and there are intensive centers. And we'll
23 talk a little bit about the differences between the
24 two. But before we do that, I just want to talk
25 about the similarities that everything that they both

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2 encompass before we talk about the separation in
3 their services. Thank you.

4 So it's important to note that these
5 are completely voluntary programs. So you could
6 access a Crisis Stabilization Center through a walk-
7 in depending on the partnerships with law
8 enforcement. Law enforcement may be able to
9 transport somebody to these facilities. There is a
10 requirement for these facilities to have a separate
11 triage and entrance base for law enforcement, for
12 privacy of that individual. But it is a completely
13 voluntary program. And with the goal is to provide
14 person-centered services with a strong emphasis on
15 peer and recovery-oriented supports. They provide
16 rapid intervention to individuals across their
17 lifespan. So they are all required to serve both
18 adolescents, families, and adults. They also serve
19 individuals experiencing both mental health and
20 substance use crises.

21 So we're looking at a very overarching
22 umbrella of services that can be provided.
23 Essentially, what these centers looks like, we are
24 not -- the -- the intent was not for them to be
25 emergency room programs or emergency like programs.

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2 So we're really focusing on having these spaces look
3 safe, therapeutic, and be very welcoming. They are
4 an outpatient service or considered an outpatient
5 service so recipients can receive services for up to
6 twenty-three hours and fifty-nine minutes ideally.
7 And they operate 24/7 and also, the biggest part of
8 these is that we hope that they will assist with
9 diversion from higher levels of care as Jen noted.

10 And in many communities, in the
11 emergency department is the only twenty-hour crisis
12 option for individuals. And in many cases,
13 individuals who are seeking services may not meet the
14 requirements for an inpatient stay. So this is an
15 option for those individuals in their communities.

16 Next slide. We're going to skip over
17 that slide. But it will be available -- it will be --
18 - it will be available on the website. So we'll talk
19 about the primary differences between the supportive
20 and intensive services. So on the left-hand side,
21 you'll see all of the services that every Crisis
22 Stabilization Center supportive and intensive must
23 provide. So this is from triage, screening, and
24 assessment all the way to discharge after -- and
25 aftercare planning. This is also inclusive of a

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2 follow-up component in order to connect individuals
3 to make sure there's a direct connection with their
4 wrap-around services. And everything on the right-
5 hand side, these services are what intensive Crisis
6 Stabilization Centers will specifically provide. So
7 really the only differences between supportive and
8 intensive is obviously community planning based on
9 the provider needs and the area needs if you need
10 assist -- if the provider is looking to open a
11 supportive or intensive based on the crisis that
12 they're experiencing in their communities but also
13 what partnerships are available. So an intensive
14 center will offer this -- these additional subset of
15 acute services. So that spans from psychiatric
16 diagnostic evaluation and planning all the way to
17 mild to moderate detox services as well as medication
18 management.

19 And it's important to note here that
20 the support of Crisis Stabilization Centers, while
21 they're not offering those specific services onsite,
22 they are required to have partnerships and linkages
23 to those services or providers who offer those
24 services within the community. So if somebody
25 presents and it's assessed that they will need one of

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2 these services, that there's a direct immediate
3 connection to those services. Do you want to add
4 anything to this? You aren't the only --?

5 MS. GOLDMAN: The only thing that I
6 add is just that we see this as a very important
7 piece of the puzzle that does not currently exist,
8 which is that an individual that is looking to seek
9 treatment at whatever intensity of a crisis can walk
10 in the door of one of these centers and get help.
11 They don't have to wait until business hours. They
12 don't have to, you know, walk into an E.D. if all
13 they need is to be able to be connected to resources
14 in the community. If they need more urgent help or
15 they need medication started right away especially if
16 they're experiencing withdrawal from substance use.
17 The goal is these centers will be able to start, you
18 know, 24/7, initiate buprenorphine, be able to
19 address mild to moderate withdrawal symptoms. There
20 will be, you know, resource in such a way. There
21 will be a nurse onsite 24/7. The intensive programs
22 have prescribers available 24/7. So that, you know,
23 this is openly accessible to individuals at the time
24 that they need it.

25 MS. CAPPOLA: Thank you. You can go

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2 to the next slide. So I just -- I'll touch upon the
3 importance of the peer services here and I won't go
4 through the -- the next slide and we'll probably skip
5 over. But you'll have it for your -- accessible to
6 you. This is really important to the vision and
7 philosophy of these programs.

8 And essentially really to
9 differentiate them as well from emergency room
10 programs is the focus on peer support and utilizing
11 individuals with lived experience to not only provide
12 direct services in these centers but to build out the
13 programs themselves. So we've been having these
14 conversations ongoingly with the providers on the
15 importance of peer specialists and looking at our
16 peer network across the State. But ultimately, peers
17 have this shared lived experience with individuals
18 and families across the lifespan who are experiencing
19 both mental health and substance use crises in their
20 various disciplines. And we really do think that
21 they are the leading experts on the resilience and
22 recovery-oriented support services. So like I've
23 said, part of this philosophy is building in
24 individuals with lived experience throughout the
25 program model to ensure that the vision and

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2 philosophy of these hold true. Thank you.
3 And another important component that I
4 touched upon is that all Crisis Stabilization Centers
5 will provide services to individuals across their
6 lifespan. So there is an expectation for there to be
7 staff available with expertise and training in child
8 and adolescent development. And we are expecting
9 these staff to be available 24/7. And we've also
10 been talking about -- with providers about how to
11 build out this space. We -- there's -- will not be
12 commingling of adults and children. But how do you
13 create a space like this without separating into two
14 separate spaces. So we've been talking about this.
15 But ultimately, utilizing different methods within
16 the premises to limit commingling as much as
17 possible. And that's what we've been talking about.
18 So there's also an expectation to collaborate with
19 providers in the community who provide services to
20 adolescents including younger adults. So this
21 includes schools, pediatrician offices, and whatever
22 is available in the community in order to make those
23 direct linkages to care. As we all know there --
24 there is a shortage of services for -- for children
25 so that'll be important. Thank you.

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2 Okay. If you can go to the next

3 slide. So I'll just quickly touch upon the staffing

4 requirements. And I think Jen touched upon this a

5 little bit. But in it -- for an intensive Crisis

6 Stabilization Center, there will be oversight of a

7 medical director and as well as twenty-four access to

8 a prescriber. For all crisis stabilization centers,

9 they are required to have a program director as well

10 as at least one psychiatrist -- psychiatric or a

11 psychiatric nurse practitioner as well as a KSAC and

12 a certified peer specialist. And these individuals

13 are required to be onsite or have the ability to come

14 onsite as needed. And as well, they must have a

15 registered nurse available 24/7. So these are the

16 minimum requirements. And we continue to talk about

17 the build-out of the multidisciplinary team within

18 these settings really looking at what the community

19 needs in order to make these projections for how many

20 staff will be needed in their various disciplines.

21 So looking at the population that these centers are

22 planning to serve and so on. And a very large

23 component of a Crisis Stabilization Center in order

24 for it to be successful is very strong community

25 partnerships and collaboration which is why we're

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2 very thankful that you're having us here today
3 because part of the requirements of the crisis
4 stabilization centers are not only to have
5 partnerships with the local government units. But to
6 reach out to all providers within their crisis
7 response continuum. And to establish partnerships
8 with law enforcement as well as emergency medical
9 services in order to discuss how transportation may
10 happen and how drop-off may happen. But also to
11 understand where this service fits into the larger
12 community system.

13 Next slide, please. Thank you. Can
14 you go to the next slide please? Thank you. So just
15 so that we can talk more about the larger impacts
16 this will have on E.M.S. providers, I will just note
17 a little bit about the development across New York
18 State. We have provided funding for the development
19 of -- of supportive and Crisis Stabilization Centers
20 across New York State. Specifically, at this time,
21 twenty-two Crisis Stabilization Centers are -- are in
22 the full swing of development, and at your leisure,
23 in your time, we do have the specific providers
24 included on these slides and the counties that they
25 plan to operate in. If you can go to the one that's

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2 like the (inaudible) slide. Okay. Thank you. All
3 right. Thank you. I'll pass it over to Jen.

4 MS. GOLDMAN: Thank you. So we just
5 want to take a few minutes to discuss a little bit
6 more about where this fits in to sort of the -- the
7 crisis system emergency medical services which we
8 recognize will vary regionally throughout the State.
9 But generally speaking, there'll be a potential
10 variety of touchpoints. One of which is ideally if
11 we are messaging this out to the community, though it
12 would be, you know, ideally clear to individuals, and
13 to providers, and to agencies that, you know, when
14 someone should be going to an emergency, you know,
15 department versus when -- when someone might seek
16 treatment at a Crisis Stabilization Center. One
17 major differentiating factor as -- as Alexa had
18 mentioned, these are voluntary settings.

19 So individuals that are voluntarily
20 seeking help for a condition, you know, and are not
21 at an imminent risk to hurt themselves or others
22 would very well be served in a crisis stabilization
23 center. And there are going to be times likely where
24 if someone may present to a Crisis Stabilization
25 Center and -- and start in that condition and then

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2 something may change. Maybe they end up getting, you
3 know, having -- experiencing a complicated withdrawal
4 or maybe there's an unrealized medical condition. So
5 we're -- there may be touch points which an E.M.S.
6 and these centers is a medical emergency or an issue
7 arises at one of the centers. And it turns out the
8 center realizes this person needs to be referred to a
9 hospital for a higher level of care. And I mean, in
10 which case they would be calling 911 and they would
11 be activating that response. It -- we think it'll be
12 great though for E.M.S. to be familiar with these
13 centers to know what their, you know, responding to,
14 what staff is on board. And -- and ideally as Alexa
15 had mentioned, the providers of these services are
16 going to be expected to be reaching out to their
17 local emergency medical service providers to be able
18 to build those relationships prior to even opening.

19 You know, we hope that in the year or
20 years ahead, we can partner with all of you here to
21 discuss other ways that there might be connections
22 potentially to help foster this goal of where
23 diverting individuals away from that default, kind of
24 going or calling 911, going to the -- going to the
25 E.D. to receive support for a behavioral health

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2 crisis. There -- you know, the potential for there
3 to be E.M.S. transportation to a crisis stabilization
4 center when appropriate we think would be a great
5 option. It might be the case that these centers are
6 closer than, you know, in neighboring hospitals. It
7 may be the case that it can offset some of the burden
8 for those E.D.s. So that's sort of -- we just wanted
9 to have this introductory discussion to open the
10 door. We -- we look forward to collaborating with
11 you in the future and getting feedback about how you
12 see this potentially developing, how this can be most
13 helpful to all of you. And, you know, potential
14 future directions from there.

15 MS. CAPPOLA: Thank you.

16 CHAIR DOYNOW: Well, thank you for a
17 very interesting presentation. Does anybody have any
18 questions?

19 MR. MARSHALL: I have a question.
20 Thank you very much. Hi. My name is Lewis Marshall.
21 So this is a -- a voluntary program so a person would
22 voluntarily say I'm -- I'm in crisis and I need to go
23 there, right? As opposed to, you know, being --
24 calling 911 and being picked up. And then 911
25 services having to decide where they should go,

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2 correct? Is that --?

3 MS. GOLDMAN: Thank you. That's
4 exactly right. So an individual that would not be
5 appropriate for this setting would be, for example
6 someone maybe that's agitated in the community and a
7 passerby is saying this person needs help. And the
8 person is not interested in, you know, receiving
9 help. And there's concerns for things escalating or
10 violence or an acute medical condition or
11 intoxication where they think, you know, that the
12 person needs a full medical evaluation before
13 determining the etiology of what this crisis is.
14 That would be someone that would -- would continue to
15 go to the traditional so -- sort of process.

16 MR. MARSHALL: Okay. Yeah. And I
17 think one of my concerns is that because of the
18 overlap of symptoms caused by medical conditions and
19 those caused by behavioral health conditions that
20 patients may wind up in the wrong place but, you
21 know, so. Okay.

22 MS. GOLDMAN: Yeah. I think that's
23 where we really want to proceed slowly before we
24 consider, for example, having ambulance drop off to
25 these centers. I think that to start, this would

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2 mostly be voluntary, people walking in of their own
3 volition and seeking care, potentially police drop
4 off, if there's a police touch point, and police, you
5 know, as a diversionary option ideally to move away
6 from arrest or other things, to be able to drop them
7 off to the Crisis Stabilization Center. I think we
8 feel, when it comes to that decision of potentially
9 am -- you know, E.M.S. or ambulance involvement. I
10 think that that would have to be very thoughtful
11 discussion because it's a very -- you know, there's a
12 snippet of what you're seeing in the field to then
13 determine whether someone does need that full
14 hospital evaluation verses a community-based
15 voluntary program. So I think that that would be a
16 great future direction. But I think to start, we see
17 this more as what -- you know, and you're just
18 walking in, being dropped off by loved ones. There
19 still likely could be situations where, you know, as
20 -- as the C.S.C.T. is assessing and triaging an
21 individual, you know, the vital signs are concerning
22 or, you know, someone gets agitated and that's why we
23 really want them to have strong relationships with
24 neighboring hospitals in the event that there has to
25 be an escalation and a referral to a higher level of

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2 care.

3 MR. MARSHALL: But I think that we
4 would all appreciate anything you can do to help
5 reduce the burden of behavioral health in our
6 emergency department so thank you for that.

7 MR. MCEVOY: Could I -- I ask a few
8 questions. So this seems like a really good referral
9 source where there's many times when we refer people
10 rather than transporting them so this seems like a
11 really good program. Do you have an anticipation of
12 making more than twenty-two of them?

13 MS. GOLDMAN: At this time, the
14 funding that was available was for the development of
15 twenty-four. And at this time, twenty-two providers
16 had interest in opening them and were awarded and had
17 some competitive funding for it. But the
18 certification process is open to any provider who
19 would like to operate a Crisis Stabilization Center.
20 The twenty-two who are -- who are developing just
21 happen to be providers who were provided some State
22 aid to open these.

23 MR. MCEVOY: Is there a place to get a
24 list of where they actually are?

25 MS. GOLDMAN: I did include them on

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2 the slides so the slides will be available. But
3 they're not publicly available anywhere else. So if
4 you have access to these slides which I know will be
5 public facing that has the list of providers and
6 counties they're willing to operate in.

7 MR. MCEVOY: Okay. Is it just like
8 there was listing of counties, not really location
9 specifically?

10 MS. GOLDMAN: As they get closer to
11 opening, I think we're going to be doing a lot of --
12 trying to do a lot of -- outreach to communities and
13 providers to make sure that everyone is aware. The
14 other thing is that there is -- that these services
15 are billable -- are Medicaid billable services. So
16 the hope is that they've been designed in a way that
17 can be self-sustaining so that even providers that
18 may not have been awarded these -- that start-up
19 funding, you know, if they decide they want to pursue
20 this, that there's the opportunity for -- for
21 additional centers to develop over time.

22 MR. MCEVOY: Okay. And then I guess
23 down the road, important to us, is are any or all of
24 these Article Twenty-eight facilities?

25 CHAIR DOYNOW: You may want to explain

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2 that to them, Larry.

3 MR. MCEVOY: Licensed under Article
4 Twenty-eight of Public Health Law.

5 MS. GOLDMAN: New license under
6 Article Thirty-six.

7 MR. GREENBERG: What's the capacity of
8 these centers? Are we talking they would see ten
9 patients a day or are we talking they'd see a hundred
10 patients a day?

11 MS. GOLDMAN: It's going to devot --
12 depend on the region and the other I think available
13 services. We, as part of the R.F.P., the providers
14 were asked to include a projection of what they
15 anticipated they would have -- you know, the number
16 of individuals they would anticipate to serve. But
17 we do -- though this will be a learning process. I
18 mean, this is the first time that this service has
19 been developed. And so I think we want them to be
20 developed in a way that can grow depending on the
21 need. And I think it'll -- it'll also depend on how
22 well we do to messaging to communities that they
23 exist and to providers to make sure that they're
24 actually being utilized to the maximum that they
25 could be.

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2 CHAIR DOYNOW: Do you have a timeline
3 as to when you're going to be up and running and --?

4 MS. CAPPOLA: Based -- based on the
5 provider and where they are in the process, it's at
6 various stages. We do expect a number of them to be
7 fully operational by quarter three of 2024.

8 CHAIR DOYNOW: Anybody have any other
9 questions? Go ahead, guys. Dr. Cushman.

10 MR. CUSHMAN: Oh, Jerry, oops, sorry.
11 Brian, would you -- okay. Jeremy Cushman, we just
12 met. Yeah. A -- a couple of things just having --
13 having been a part of a -- an O.M.H. pilot that will
14 soon become a Crisis Stabilization Center and frankly
15 that's going to disappointment me because right now
16 they are receiving Nine forty-ones which is -- which
17 is incredibly important for our community given --
18 given that status. With -- with all of that being, I
19 -- I fully agree with -- with Dr. Marshall. Anything
20 that we can do to identify more patient-centered
21 sources of care for those with mental health,
22 substance use, or other crises is really imperative.
23 But always based on my experience and -- of a good
24 friend down the table here of navigating this process
25 for the last four or five years. I am really happy

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2 that you're here. I do think however that whatever
3 O.M.H. can do to frankly force these C.S.C.s to
4 engage and at least notify the program agencies
5 within the communities, within -- that they operate
6 in the E.M.S. agencies within -- which they operate.
7 So that we actually know that they even exist.
8 Because its -- its frankly a little concerning that
9 if they need to go the hospital, they're going to
10 call 911. That -- that's not good continuity of care
11 and many of these patients don't need an ambulance at
12 all particularly if they are voluntary going in for
13 an in-patient admission. And that -- that is not a
14 problem unique C.S.C.s. It is a problem everywhere.
15 But the vast majority of these individuals should not
16 be in the back of an ambulance for a lot of different
17 reasons. Medical needs notwithstanding, I think
18 there's some opportunities there. I, personally look
19 forward to working with you in the hope that we can
20 bring things back here to identify what are clinical
21 standards that are reasonable and appropriate for
22 individuals going to this, if you will, class of
23 facility, just as this body makes those decisions for
24 strokes, STEMIs, and any other clinical indication,
25 understanding that there's a tremendous heterogeneous

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2 and difficult to diagnose population within there.
3 You also mentioned the ability of law enforcement to
4 potentially bring these, you know, again as the
5 System's E.M.S. Medical Director, that falls to me
6 too. And they're going to be looking for guidance.
7 So the more -- the more consistency in the -- the
8 guidance that we can provide Statewide and
9 understanding that there maybe some regional
10 variations is going to be absolutely critical.
11 Because the other thing that can very well happen is
12 that the cop calls E.M.S. to get an eval for medical
13 clearance before they take them to the crisis center
14 which frankly maybe completely appropriate. But I
15 don't think we have much guidance across most of our
16 systems as to how to do that and that gets into a
17 resource allocation issue that none of us have the
18 resources to be able to do to begin with.

19 So, you know, kind of with -- with all
20 that being said, alternate destination is also huge.
21 E.M.S. gets a lot of voluntaries. They're not all
22 nine forty-ones and nine forty-fives that are getting
23 transported by an ambulance or nine fifty, whatever
24 it happens to be. We get a lot of voluntaries. So
25 again, the -- the sooner, we can look and maybe it's

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2 at a community level decision based upon the capacity
3 of that -- that facility because frankly, I don't
4 want to lose the ability to have -- its not huge
5 numbers. But have small numbers of our patients that
6 are either voluntary or actually under nine forty-one
7 going to our future C.S.C. Sorry. It was more of
8 statements but just like yeah, we got to work
9 together on this one because its --.

10 MS. GOLDMAN: Very, very helpful
11 statements. You might have noticed all of us jotting
12 things down as you were saying them. But I think you
13 bring up very good points. And also, you know,
14 important lessons learned from the work that you have
15 done, you know, it would -- the center that you're
16 working with. And I think that as you had described,
17 we -- we really are looking to make some statewide
18 standards, guidance around who would be the
19 appropriate, you know, and -- and what type case or
20 what type of individual would be most appropriate for
21 this setting and those that would not. And really
22 try to distill it down in a way that knowing in an
23 emergency response setting, you know, you're not
24 going to go through twenty different questions to try
25 to streamline. And you're really trying to, you

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2 know, distill it down, ensure that that person gets
3 to the safest, most appropriate, you know, receiving
4 center as quickly as possible. I think you bring up
5 a good point also about the regional variability.
6 And I think that's where we do see a lot of this work
7 hopefully over the course of the year is then
8 thinking about what is potentially currently working
9 in one region. You know, our goal is not to undo
10 systems or processes that are working, it would only
11 be to augment or to add to. So I think that while
12 there might be some standards that we have put forth
13 already about, you know, the -- the types of
14 individuals that these centers are receiving. If
15 there's a system that is working, I think that O.M.H.
16 and Oasis will be very open to thinking creatively
17 around how to, you know, support that system to
18 continue to work.

19 MS. CAPPOLA: And I just -- I just
20 want to note and bring back Jen's comments about this
21 being a learning experience for providers who are
22 opening them as well. So and I -- I want to second
23 your last comment that there will be -- if there --
24 if there is something that is happening and its
25 working well that providers are very open to looking

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2 at that as well. We have started a monthly learning
3 collaborative with these providers who are in
4 development. And we're still talking about the early
5 phases of what -- what did they want to see come to
6 these discussions in order to have these
7 conversations. So this is a great point and they are
8 also looking for what's working well across the State
9 to have ideas. So at this point, having them all in
10 a space to be able to collaborate is good. And I
11 think being able to incorporate various E.M.S.
12 providers and law enforcement officers who are doing
13 some of this work currently to come in and have these
14 open discussions is -- well, it sounds like the
15 providers are looking for and what we're definitely
16 hoping to facilitate.

17 CHAIR DOYNOW: Dr. Walters.

18 MR. WALTERS: Just real quick. I was
19 going to say many of the same things that Dr. Cushman
20 had mentioned so I appreciate that. Thank you. But
21 I guess I would just come back to the point of a lot
22 of people, no matter how you roll this out and how
23 much education you do, a lot of these patients or
24 their families at the time of crisis will still
25 access healthcare through the 911 system, right?

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2 Because it's familiar and it's what they know. And
3 whether that -- that patient then encounters law
4 enforcement or E.M.S., I guess, you're -- you're
5 talking about taking -- having law enforcement
6 potentially drop them off to these C.S.C.s but not
7 E.M.S. And I know -- I understand the slow rollout
8 in wanting to try to put systems in place before you
9 kind of start accepting all these ambulances. But I
10 guess from a medical director perspective, I'm not
11 sure a lot of times if it matters whether its law
12 enforcement or E.M.S. that first encounters that
13 patient and/or transports that patient because
14 they've accessed this system the same way. And I
15 don't know if differentiating and parsing those out
16 clinically makes a lot of sense from the types of
17 people that we see in the community. I do agree
18 patient selection becomes hugely important to make
19 sure we're getting the right patient to the right
20 resource because they -- some of them will need more
21 in patient, longer stay, psychiatric hospitals,
22 right, as supposed to a C.S.C. But I guess those are
23 just things that I would consider looking at a little
24 more closely or implementing in short order because I
25 think that would directly impact and offload both

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2 E.M.S. and the overcrowding we see in the emergency
3 departments.

4 MS. GOLDMAN: Thank you. And I mean,
5 I think that this -- the development of this program
6 is in parallel with some of the other work that
7 O.M.H. is doing and nationally around the development
8 and expansion of 988 as alternative call center. I
9 think, you know, ideally over time the needle moves
10 and people are calling 911 less for a behavioral
11 health crisis and calling 988 more especially as we
12 can build out that mobile crisis response. So there
13 is an alternative sort of response entity that will
14 go assess the scene and then potentially bring the
15 individual to a Crisis Stabilization Center, if
16 that's appropriate. I think that what you described
17 is absolutely correct, you know. When you think
18 about someone calling 911, it may be police
19 responding or police plus E.M.S. Its then -- then
20 it's sort of no different if they're then going on to
21 the center. I think where at least locally in New
22 York City where we've seen some of the police drop
23 off has been more about touch points in the community
24 where there may be, you know, it's not through 911
25 activated response. It's more of police is engaged

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2 with an individual. They -- they feel it's possible
3 that there's a mental health component to this. They
4 don't want to necessarily pursue the criminal justice
5 route. But they also want -- don't want this person
6 staying in the community without having some sort of
7 an evaluation. So I think that's more of where we
8 see the police drop off piece. But for a 911 call
9 with a response, I think you're exactly right, like
10 whether that ends up physically being the police or
11 E.M.S., it's still that same question that there was
12 a crisis that raised to the threshold of 911 being
13 called and wanting to really do your due diligence
14 before you're not taking the person to the hospital.
15 So yeah, I think that's a very good point. And --
16 and as I said, I think, you know, there's work being
17 done for -- you know, between 911 and 988 as well to
18 be thinking about how to potentially, appropriately,
19 and safely move or divert some of those calls that
20 are coming into 911 over to 988 at the start. So
21 that, you know, because at this -- at this time in
22 most locations, if someone calls 911 and you've got
23 just a few options, you know, you have police
24 response. You've got a police and E.M.S. -- E.M.S.
25 response. So I think that if you can divert from the

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2 top over, then you have more ability to then utilize
3 those other options without and always having to, you
4 know, fall on E.M.S. to be bringing someone to a
5 hospital.

6 MS. GAYLORD: And Jen, do you want to
7 say something?

8 MS. CAPPOLA: Yes.

9 CHAIR DOYNOW: So -- I'm sorry. Go
10 ahead. Any other questions?

11 MS. CAPPOLA: I just wanted to add on
12 to that, if I can. Okay. Thank you. There have
13 been ongoing conversations as well with the 911
14 Coordinators Association for about two years just
15 trying to understand the nuances of what it is for
16 them to receive behavioral health calls into 911 and
17 how that can coordinate with the 988 system. And we
18 have some contact centers who have started pilots, if
19 you will, with their 911 locations where they're co-
20 located. And so that there are some protocols that
21 have been developed for these certain centers to do
22 some triaging of calls from 911 to 988 and then 988
23 to 911 based on what they have seen for their volumes
24 and presentation of callers. So we continue to
25 assess this as part of the developing comprehensive

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2 crisis into one system. This is all information that
3 will be shared for the other components as well.

4 CHAIR DOYNOW: Dr. Winslow.

5 MR. WINSLOW: Yeah. I just want to
6 say thank you for your presentation. In Suffolk
7 County, we've had one of these since 2019. And they
8 filter out hundreds of calls that otherwise would end
9 up in the 911 system. But the way we separate it is
10 between 911 and 311. So if 311 is called for someone
11 who has an issue of depression, mental disorder,
12 substance abuse, they're directed if they may, self-
13 direct to this facility. It works quite well, also
14 schools because a lot of these are adolescent and --
15 and young adults. So school and colleges also have
16 programs where they can refer to this program and
17 it's been very successful.

18 CHAIR DOYNOW: Go ahead.

19 MR. WASHKO: Yeah, Mr. Chair.
20 Jonathan Washko. So thank you guys for this work.
21 This is -- this is awesome. Its fan -- it's great to
22 see the State catching up. Really the issues that
23 were discussed here, these -- these programs exist in
24 many other states already. Ambulances are taking
25 patients to these types of facilities in other parts

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2 of the country. I don't think we need to reinvent
3 the wheel. I would ask as you guys were building
4 these facilities out, that you consider the intake
5 process and the logistics associated with an
6 ambulance coming to a facility to drop a patient off
7 like that. And -- and how their -- you're -- you're
8 -- whatever the requirements are for your facility
9 and one of the things we noted in E.T. Three, you
10 know, in our participation of that and working with
11 alternative destinations. Those were some important
12 things, you know, to consider as well as the ability
13 to communicate with the E.M.S. system if their
14 dropping patients off and things like that. Like I
15 said, I think -- well, in -- in Innovations and
16 Research Committee, we made a motion that hopefully
17 will be coming to this body today about building a
18 framework for alternative destinations because
19 ultimately we need something. This would be I think
20 a subset of that whether its, you know, taking
21 patients to an urgent care or taking patients to a
22 crisis facility like this is clearly going to be part
23 of I think the future for E.M.S. as well as, you
24 know, the -- the movement of 911 calls over to the
25 988 centers and vice versa. I mean, it's all good

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2 stuff. I think we should be ahead of this or working
3 in parallel. And like I said, I will ask this body
4 to consider putting, you know, either tied together
5 or a special group to be able to start working on
6 what does that protocol look like from an operations
7 perspective, from a clinical perspective. You know,
8 some guidance maybe for the regions because
9 ultimately I think we would want have a standardized
10 approach to -- approach to this versus, you know,
11 variability all over the place, so thank you.

12 CHAIR DOYNOW: Dr. Cooper then Don
13 Hudson.

14 MR. COOPER: Thank you, Dr. Doynow,
15 and thank you for the presentation. I have the honor
16 of chairing the Emergency Medical Services for
17 Children Advisory Committee to the State Department
18 of Health. I know you did mention that you're
19 incorporating planning for pediatric patients and --
20 and -- and in these -- you know, in your process. I
21 think, first, that as has been suggested, patients
22 who are significantly agitated are -- are going to
23 constitute, you know, a large percentage of the -- of
24 the patients that E.M.S. will be called to -- to see.
25 And of course, as I'm sure you're aware as a

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2 psychiatrist that the issues are, you know, a little
3 different for the kids than they are for the adults.
4 But not, you know, entirely different but different
5 enough. But I -- I -- given that we are embarked on
6 a major project to develop both adult and pediatric
7 de-escalation, not protocols exactly but guidance's
8 in terms -- and education as to how to deal with
9 agitated adults and children. I -- I wondered if in
10 addition to speaking here, we could invite you to
11 come to the December Emergency Medical Services for
12 Children Advisory Committee meeting and layout your
13 plans. And I think you may get some -- some good
14 feedback from some of the pediatric critical care and
15 emergency medicine physicians who serve in that
16 committee. And I think that may help all of us, you
17 know, come to a place where we can ensure that --
18 that kids are fairing well within the system
19 particularly with respect to the individual staffing
20 at those centers that may not be as familiar with
21 pediatric issues as they may or may not be familiar
22 with adult issues. Thank you.

23 CHAIR DOYNOW: Don Hudson.

24 DR. HUDSON: Yeah. Two minutes, I
25 promise. So just to put some color to this from the,

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2 you know, E.M.S. coordinator or the program agency
3 perspective as Dr. Cushman mentioned. So literally
4 two weeks ago in the office the phone rings and I
5 answer it. And the first thing they say is hi, how
6 wide at the doorway can your ambulance stretcher get
7 through, and, you know, obviously, hi, who is this.
8 What are you asking for, you know. And it turns out
9 it was Central Mesa Guidance who just got a ton of
10 money through a grant that they're renovating one of
11 their facilities for this. And in doing so, they
12 want to make sure that for future, you know, years
13 down the road, reception of ambulances that their
14 facility is commensurate with our logistical needs.
15 So thank you for coming here and thank you for
16 putting us together in the infancy of this. And
17 those questions are going on. And I just want to
18 make sure we get the right people together to
19 continue those and building out this thing for the
20 benefit of everyone, so thanks.

21 CHAIR DOYNOW: Any other comments?
22 Well, thank you very much for your presentation.
23 Oops. Dr. Dailey.

24 MR. DAILEY: No. I was -- I was going
25 to say thank you. That was actually my follow up

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2 was to Don just to say how exciting that was to have
3 someone reaching out asking about ambulance stretcher
4 dimensions because municipal building codes still
5 does not require -- municipal building codes still
6 does not require ambulances to fit in the stretchers
7 for multi-story buildings. That would be nice.

8 CHAIR DOYNOW: As well as the
9 elevators and --

10 MR. HUDSON: And, you know, just to
11 plant the seeds so they literally on a hunch did a
12 Google search to try and find that out. And then,
13 you know, this E.M.S. coordinator, they came across
14 my phone number. So, now is a nice time -- if the --
15 if somebody hasn't reached out to you and then
16 there's a place on your list, you know, or in your
17 county that is being built out maybe introductory hi,
18 who are you. This is who we are. Its -- its time.

19 MR. GREENBERG: I got to take this
20 moment to ask -- or ask how did they figure out that
21 you were the E.M.S. coordinator or even to look for
22 an E.M.S. coordinator position?

23 MR. HUDSON: Well, the same way I
24 never heard of the 911 Call Center Association or
25 anything. I mean, just by sheer happenstance,

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2 literally a Google search. So, you know, people are
3 at least mindful that E.M.S. exists. And we have a
4 stake in this game which I don't know if it's -- has
5 ever really happened before, so. I guess I'm just
6 excited that they figured out what an E.M.S.
7 coordinator was. And is there more things that we
8 can do to kind of promote that. So when people have
9 questions or trying to make that link, they know a
10 person to go to in each county. And they're even
11 more excited when I just sent them the product
12 specifications from the stretcher manufacturer, they
13 go oh, we'll show this to our contractor. Thanks.

14 CHAIR DOYNOW: Okay. Thank you. We
15 appreciate the presentation. Before I move on, any
16 other new business anybody wants to bring up? Go for
17 it Mike.

18 MR. GREENBERG: Mr. Chair, just two
19 things. One, the funding policy and the new pilot
20 program policy are up. They're on the bureau's
21 website for anybody who would like to as well as also
22 I'll put the plug back out there for anybody who
23 wants to do a survey. It's on the E.M.S. forms page.
24 And the E.M.S. advisory related to equipment
25 selection, that has to be approved by the medical

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2 director at the agency. It's also up. That is under
3 the -- on the -- and bureau of E.M.S. page, under
4 protocols and advisories, under SEMAC advisories. It
5 is 23A and it is that protocol or that advisory as
6 well.

7 CHAIR DOYNOW: Thank you, Mike. Dr.
8 Dailey.

9 MR. DAILEY: So there's a paper that's
10 recently written that I want to bring the attention
11 to this body on, unless because of our role in
12 advising the Commissioner about E.M.S. and more about
13 our role in advising the Commissioner on emergency
14 departments. But it was a paper written by Jeff
15 Kamta, et.al and the folks in Rochester including our
16 own Dr. Cushman and Dr. Dorset who have been
17 extremely valuable obviously as we've discussed. And
18 this paper actually was really interesting because
19 what they focused on was information transfer between
20 ambulance crews and the physicians and providers
21 caring for patients in emergency departments. And
22 the title, improving emergency medicine clinician and
23 awareness of prehospital-administered medications.
24 And what they did is they looked to see how many
25 people that received dexamethasone pre-hospitally,

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2 received additional dexamethasone in the hospital.
3 And they found out that about thirty or thirty-five
4 percent of people receive the same medication again
5 without any clinical indication for a second dose.
6 So they went through a series of P.D.S.A. cycles,
7 exactly the way you're supposed to do, a really good
8 quality initiative, and tried a couple of different
9 solutions to try to improve the process of
10 information transfer so that the ordering clinicians
11 wouldn't re-order a medication the patient had
12 already received. And after two very well structured
13 P.D.S.A. cycles that they described very nicely in
14 here, they still had thirty to thirty-five percent of
15 the patients getting dexamethasone again. And the
16 problem is something that I think that we have the
17 potential to start considering solutions to. We are
18 moving towards electronic health records. We are
19 moving -- moving towards actually rather robust
20 electronic health records but we're doing that in a
21 silo. In some cases, its agency silos when ambulance
22 agencies decide they will just randomly have their
23 own medical record. In some, it's just a silo within
24 E.M.S. itself. And we have our image trend bridge
25 that ultimately brings these siloed records together.

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2 But those siloed records don't ultimately become

3 discrete information at the hospital end. In many

4 cases, they still remain flat P.D.F. files somewhere

5 hidden within a record system. One of the things

6 that we're doing locally right now is building out

7 EPIC across one of our health systems. That health

8 system is looking to integrate E.M.S. data as real

9 data as opposed to flat files. And that gives us the

10 opportunity then for those medication administrations

11 to be actionable information in the hospital. So

12 that while I understand that with an EPIC build, you

13 have the potential for lots of little pop ups all

14 over the place. This would give you the opportunity

15 to get a pop up when you order dexamethasone for

16 someone who already received it from E.M.S.. I bring

17 this up as new business just because I think we can

18 do things better. Dr. Goldman and her team came here

19 to give us new ideas about how to handle crisis,

20 which is fantastic and some of the things that are

21 being done there. This is something where our -- our

22 hospital systems are implementing new electronic

23 health records. They are very frequently choosing to

24 save money in that implementation by not integrating

25 E.M.S. records as discrete data but as flat files.

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2 And we can as a body recommend ultimately to the
3 Commissioner that we encourage our hospital systems
4 as they look to improving their delivery of care
5 through electronic health records, that they make
6 sure that E.M.S. data system or E.M.S. data is
7 included within the patient's record because at the
8 end of the day, it's not the hospital's record. It's
9 not the E.M.S. agency's record. It's the patient's
10 record so we can care for the patient as optimally as
11 possible. So I bring that here just for us to start
12 thinking about to see how we could impact that within
13 our -- within our mandate to advise the Commissioner
14 on emergency department integration for E.M.S. And
15 just to keep out there as an idea we'll consider.

16 MR. GREENBERG: Just a quick question
17 on that one. I -- I honestly don't know the answer.
18 When information goes through a RHIO, does it come to
19 the hospital as flat or does it come as dynamic?

20 MR. DAILEY: So one of the problems
21 with the Regional Health Information Organization is
22 that that is information you actually have to go and
23 seek. It's not information that automatically
24 integrates. As long as you have to pull things
25 rather than it being pushed to you, it is less

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2 actionable at the time of -- of care unless you did
3 make a volitional decision to go and seek that out.

4 MR. GREENBERG: But if you don't seek
5 that, does it come across as flat or does it come
6 across as dynamic?

7 MR. DAILEY: It can come across both
8 ways depending on the information itself. Usually,
9 it's a flat file.

10 MR. GREENBERG: Usually it's a flat
11 file, okay. I was trying to figure out if maybe some
12 of the work for what you're referring to has been
13 done and we can look at it from that point of view.

14 MR. DAILEY: Actually, most of the
15 work has been done already. Other EPIC builds in
16 other parts of the country already have these
17 integrations done. In the trend, E.S.O. and -- and
18 E.M.S. charts for three examples I know of, all have
19 robust systems that can actually bring discreet data
20 across into hospitals themselves rather than just
21 flat files. It's a question more of how the hospitals
22 are recording this information and how they are
23 choosing -- more accurately, how they are choosing to
24 consume that data. And the easiest way to do it is
25 as a -- as a flat file because it's just like any

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2 other facts.

3 MR. GREENBERG: Sure.

4 MR. DAILEY: But the more we can get
5 that information to be actionable, real data that can
6 fit in to the hospital systems, the better off we'll
7 be.

8 MR. GREENBERG: Who do you think your
9 recommendation or component would be for that? I'm
10 not saying to make it -- or, you know, automatically
11 how do we get here from here to a finish line. But
12 what do you think that first step in discussion or
13 things that, you know, from others around the table
14 have done in order to help results data get pushed
15 up?

16 MR. DAILEY: I think the first step is
17 what Maya and her team and Jeremy's team out in
18 Rochester did which is study the problem and see that
19 we really do have a problem and what that potentially
20 could mean. I think the next step after that is for
21 some of the E.M.S. leaders at this table and
22 particularly the emergency medicine leaders from
23 their hospitals take this back home and look at how
24 their systems are -- are using this. And then for us
25 to come back together usually at the break between

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2 meetings. And talk about how this ultimately can
3 impact us. This may have to be something that the
4 Public Health Planning Council deals with more than
5 we do. But we actually have a mandate to work on
6 emergency departments. And it maybe something that
7 needs to fall to this stack, into the cardiac
8 advisory committee for STEMI and stroke and all the
9 other places this information becomes extremely
10 valuable in the hospitals themselves. But I think we
11 just have to start thinking about it and talking
12 about it.

13 MR. GREENBERG: I'd be happy to have a
14 first conversation either in between meetings or
15 schedule a meeting in between, actual meeting dates
16 to see what we can do to -- to kind of push that
17 forward. If you think that's an important one, then
18 I think it's something that, you know, reality isn't
19 -- won't happen overnight. But if we don't start the
20 conversation at some point, it's not moving the
21 process forward either. I would also say that, you
22 know, we strive just to get the flat file over and
23 let alone that dynamic file and that's challenging in
24 itself in each region, you know. And then like the
25 17 P.C.R. run -- E.P.C.R. vendors that we have in New

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2 York State today, hospitals have a similar issue of,
3 you know, well, what -- you know, electronic health
4 record are they using granted fifty percent being on
5 EPIC. But -- so I think there's some dynamics. But
6 no, I think it's a great thing. And I think we
7 should move forward on that.

8 CHAIR DOYNOW: Dr. Cooper.

9 MR. COOPER: Thank you, Dr. Doynow. I
10 think Dr. Dailey in citing Dr. Cushman's work has
11 really touched upon an issue that I think has, you
12 know, concerned all of us for many, many years which
13 is, you know, the -- the weakness of the interface
14 between E.M.S. and emergency departments, you know,
15 across the board. We all know that there is a
16 provision in regulation that -- that emergency
17 departments are required to have interface with
18 E.M.S. on a -- on a regular basis. There's also a
19 provision in Article Thirty that gives the SEMAC a
20 role in helping to develop appropriateness review
21 standards for emergency departments and one of which
22 could be focused on -- on the issue of, you know, the
23 interface between -- between pre-hospital and -- and
24 in-hospital emergency care. There was a workgroup
25 that met briefly, maybe fifteen years ago now when

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2 Mr. Ronski was the director that began to think about
3 these issues and Dr. Marshall may remember that
4 workgroup. I think he was part of it and it might
5 even have been before Dr. Doynow's time. I don't
6 know. But -- but it is an issue that has never been
7 really addressed as well as it could be. And -- and
8 I certainly do think that the better integration
9 between pre-hospital and in-hospital care is a -- an
10 important facet of the, you know, the -- both the
11 original and the follow up E.M.S. agenda for the
12 future and at a national level. And I think it's
13 something that -- it really behooves us to try to,
14 you know, focus on in some way or in the future. I
15 think that focusing explicitly on the interface, I
16 think is a -- between the two phases of care is a
17 really good way to -- to -- to start. And I would
18 urge that the bureau consider pulling together a
19 workgroup to start thinking about these issues.
20 Thank you.

21 CHAIR DOYNOW: Thank you, Dr. Cooper.

22 MR. WASHKO: So John Washko again.
23 There is a project going on Downstate in New York
24 City where the hospitals are working together with
25 Health Fix and C.N.C.R. or Health E.M.S. in order to

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2 try to bring X.M.L. level data and not just C.C.D. or
3 a flat file data into the actual E.M.R. systems.
4 We're been going through an EPIC build. We'll be
5 doing the same thing as Dr. Dailey mentioned, trying
6 to bring E.M.S. data in. These -- these exchanges
7 already exist. Ultimately, like you said it's a --
8 often times, it's a budgetary issue on the hospital
9 side and then, you know, I think -- I think that the
10 technology is there and it's easy to get done. The
11 hard part is finding the dollars to do it. We
12 already have a standard. It's NEMSYS, right? So
13 it's easy for us to get, I think, our data to other
14 places. Other places like, you -- you know, while
15 H.R. Seven and some of the -- and was it Fire I think
16 are the other -- other languages on the hospital
17 side. I've seen that it's a lot more challenging to
18 get hospital data out in a discreet and structured
19 way than it is. You know, E.M.S., I think we've done
20 actually a really good job. And we're actually kind
21 of ahead of a -- the power curve when it comes to our
22 ability to move data and have it in a structured way.
23 And -- and its one language across all E.M.S.
24 entities. So I think we're well on our way. And
25 but, you know, it will require some funding as well.

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2 CHAIR DOYNOW: Any other discussion?

3 Doc -- thank you. Would you be willing to form a
4 workgroup maybe with Dr. Cushman and New York City
5 and come back to the committee maybe in -- in
6 December and at that point have a motion that we can
7 send up to the commissioner. It's certainly an
8 excellent idea and it certainly can be built in. I'm
9 a long term user of EPIC. I know all the pops up
10 that come up, so this would be a great pop up to have
11 to know that the medication be given if you're trying
12 to order it and its already been given.

13 Okay. Any other questions now before
14 we move on? Any other new business? Okay. Our next
15 meeting is December 6th. And just one thing I do
16 want to mention to the physicians who have attended
17 today, thank you for coming. We do have an
18 attendance issue. Please remember that we are one of
19 the four meetings a year. And -- and also that we
20 try to help everyone out by moving the physician
21 meetings to one day rather than two days. Whose --
22 who's come? I mean, we have -- we need thirteen
23 people for a quorum and we had that today. There are
24 only really a couple of physicians who do not show up
25 on a routine basis. So I will talk -- I will reach

1 9/13/2023 - SEMAC Meeting - Troy, N.Y.
2 out to them. But we do publish the dates for the
3 meetings now a year in advance and we really need you
4 to come. Missing a meeting can potentially give us a
5 -- a problem with having a quorum which is -- is a
6 problem. So please, please come to the meetings.
7 All right. On that note, I will adjourn the meeting.
8 Oops, Dr. Cooper.

9 MR. COOPER: I would like to -- like
10 to make a motion to adjourn, please.

11 CHAIR DOYNOW: Thank you. Any second,
12 anybody a second? All right. Anybody against?
13 Good.

14 MR. COOPER: I'm against it.

15 (The meeting concluded at 1:27 p.m.)

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1 9/13/2023 - SEMAC Meeting - Troy, N.Y.
2 STATE OF NEW YORK
3 I, DANIELLE CHRISTIAN, do hereby certify that the
4 foregoing was reported by me, in the cause, at the time
5 and place, as stated in the caption hereto, at Page 1
6 hereof; that the foregoing typewritten transcription
7 consisting of pages 1 through 97, is a true record of all
8 proceedings had at the hearing.

9 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
10 subscribed my name, this the 10th day of October, 2023.

11

12

13 DANIELLE CHRISTIAN, Reporter

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