

The Medical Director is on the Scene
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Fire EMS Medical Director

The role of the fire EMS medical director is evolving in this post-pandemic era. There are old and new challenges to providing safe and effective care in an “all hazards” environment. The medical director is a valuable addition to the response resources. This session will feature 10 great cases that are instructive of the role that a physician can play in scene management. This unique insight will deliver lessons in improved operations for all types of agencies. Thanks for requesting this information.

Interesting cases in Medical Direction

Discuss current roles of EMS Medical Directors in administrative, quality, and legal issues

Present timely issues in Medical Direction involving clinical matters

Discuss communications resources that enhance ability to facilitate the “Medical Director on the Scene”

Technology enhancements for on-line medical direction and input to the Electronic Health Record for the patient

Share insights into the challenges of MIHC and non-transport patient interactions

A New Millennium for Prehospital Care

Communication with linking technology, videolinks, virtual reality becoming augmented reality, radio, text, and tablet links

Virtual Presence Includes:

- Leadership of prehospital health care delivery team
- Lead efforts to develop progressively enhance quality of care
- Set standards for care delivery through medical guidelines, training, ongoing education, professional development, and quality improvement overhead
- Provide direct oversight, and assure high quality indirect medical oversight
- Oversee “R&D” which includes both definitions
- Liaison with the health care community
- Major Incident Preparedness Network
- Staff member health - COVID was an Operational Medical Director issue

Roles

Dyad with the Chief of the Office of the Medical Director

Line to the Fire or EMS Chief

Line to the Occupational Medical Director

Product recommendations

Enhanced diagnostic capability and opportunity to deliver medical clearance

Improve Major Incident Preparedness

Managing into the Coming Years, the Role of the Fire EMS Medical Director

What are the most important takeaway/lessons?

The successes (and lessons learned) from Fire EMS Medical Directors across the country.

MD at the Scene Outline of Ten Cases

1. Addressing Diversion and Capacity
2. Managing EMS QI issues
3. Simplifying Outside the Protocol and Complex Pts/Devices
4. Smoothing Hospital and Outpatient Center Issues
5. Preparing for and Attending Special Events
6. Serving the Members who are Exposed or Hurt
7. Preparing for the Range of WMD Events that are a Risk
8. Serving Members through Rehabilitation Operations
9. Making Palliative Care a Critical Element of EMS Care
10. The Crises Incidents – Man and Machines

For Agencies Breaking in a New Medical Director

Scene time is critical for the Medical Director to gain credibility with line staff. There are no better learning opportunities for the physician, no better time for training then during or immediately after the call, and no better way to build materials for ongoing education and protocol development

Have been doing scene responses for 42 years. My major roles, as I describe frequently to our providers, is two-fold:

- Confirm that they are doing a great job
- Get teaching material for the education I provide back to them

Some providers otherwise get nervous, or think that the physician has to take charge at every scene where they appear. There is an art to when the doc needs to intervene, or “offer suggestions”, or take charge completely. Critical to do the most mundane tasks that no one else does, like humping equipment, or moving furniture, so that I am still in the room, and listening, but not looking like I want to take control

Doesn't take long for most EMS providers to get comfortable with a humble doc doing basic task work

There are scenes where it is obviously the doc opportunity to talk to the family, or phone ahead to the ED with a precise report

Like others, documentation takes place when doc has taken an active role or significantly changed therapy

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