

# Emergency Medical Services Agency Emergency Medical Advisory Group Meeting Minutes



Date and Time: **June 11, 2026, 2:30 PM-4:00PM**  
Location: **9616 Micron Avenue, Suite 100,  
Sacramento, CA 95827**  
Staff: **Katey Cloonan, EMS Coordinator  
Jenna Jimenez, EMS Specialist**

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## **ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS:**

ALS Ground Transport Providers, Public – Robert Kasparian, Cosumnes Fire

ALS Ground Transport Providers, Private – Gabe Cruz, AMR

BLS Provider, Private - James Pierson, Medic Ambulance

Hospital System – Rachel Wyatt, Kaiser Permanente

Hospital System – Dr. Joseph Galante, M.D., UC Davis Health System, CA

Law Enforcement Agency – Eric Frizzie, Detective, Sacramento Sheriff Dept.

Training Providers – Jason Hemler, California State University of Sacramento

## **EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:**

County Public Health Division - Dr. Phuong Luu, M.D.

County EMS Coordinator – Kristin Bianco

County EMS Medical Director – Dr. Gregory Kann, M.D.

**Advisory Group Members in Attendance:** 7 (*Quorum present (50%+2)*)

**Public/Guests in Attendance:** 6

**Staff:** Jenna Jimenez, Katey Cloonan

## **Sacramento County Emergency Medical Advisory Group**

### **Welcome, Dr. Kasirye & Dr. Luu**

Welcomed advisory group members, guests, members of the public. Dr. Luu was introduced as the new Sacramento County Health Officer and Public Health Division Director effective June 1, 2026. Dr. Luu summarized her background, which included prior service as the Bi-County Health Officer for Yuba County

and Sutter County, Board certification in internal medicine, and extensive collaboration with EMS and fire departments in previous roles.

### **Roll Call, Dr. Luu**

A. Roll Call Conducted:

1. Quorum was established by count.

B. Agenda Review:

1. April 2026 Meeting Minutes, EMS Committee Updates, APOT and Open Discussion.

C. Materials:

1. April 2026 Meeting Minutes.

D. Agenda Items for Discussion:

1. None.

E. Other Announcements:

1. Dr. Phuong Luu officially commenced her role as County Health Officer

F. Meeting Minutes Approved:

1. Advisory Group members had no changes to April 2026, draft meeting minutes. Meeting minutes were approved on a motion by James Pierson and second by Rachel Wyatt.

### **EMS Committee Update, Dr. Kann**

A. MAC/OAC:

1. Updates from the MAC/OAC were provided. Specific policies were identified for further review and are scheduled to be brought back to the committee in September 2026. A Key initiative was the transition of agency policies from prose to flow chart formats. The county's Ebola posture was discussed at OAC, focusing on communications and monitoring individuals returning from affected regions, with recognition that preparedness varied across agencies.

B. STEMI/Stroke:

1. Discussed in last month's meeting was regarding new data presentation capability. Dashboards were finalized pending data quality assurance by Dorothy Rodriguez and were planned for rollout after completion of quality checks. This will ensure data that comes through the dashboards is true to what we're seeing in our whole PCR from the EMS System as well as the specialty care data from our hospitals.

C. Trauma Improvement Committee (TIC):

1. The committee rotated its venue meeting to Cosumnes Fire Department, reinforcing a 2023 decision to foster better inter-agency relationships, and had an opportunity to visit other agency's places of work.

D. Prehospital Blood:

1. The prehospital blood program has been active since January 1, 2026, with remarkable success, is now facing a funding crisis. Sac City Fire completed 12 transfusions, resulting in 8 survivors, patients who were not expected to survive without access to this blood. Despite the outcome, Sac City Fire was served a "cease and desist" notice due solely budget limitations rather than regulatory. During Dr. Kann's monthly "Cal Drop" consortium call which includes the five counties currently operating blood programs, an hour dedicated to discussing how to bring Sacramento back online. The conversation prompted exploring mutual-aid and resource sharing options in Riverside County where distributing blood resources across a larger region may increase cost efficiency. Dr. Kann emphasized the need for continued discussions to ensure long-term sustainability of these programs. Along with Dr. Galante, James Pierson, and Detective Eric Frizzie, he noted a major cost driver is the absence of a "recycling pathway", which requires agencies to purchase every unit of blood outright. Even so, an economic analysis indicated the value of the eight lives saved far outweighs program expenses, particularly given that packed red blood cells cost approximately \$200-\$300 per unit.

E. Technical Advisory Group (TAG):

1. Next meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2026, concentrating on ImageTrend implementation and integration. Variability is being seen upon how various pieces of patient care are being documented across the stakeholder group. Once ImageTrend is up, priority is standardization.

F. EMS Buprenorphine:

1. Last week (June 3, 2026) the decision was made by stakeholders to push the hard launch date of July 1, 2026, to November 1, 2026. This launch date ensures Sacramento County Paramedics are trained appropriately, and providers have an opportunity to manage patients with substance abuse disorders in the field and to get them the follow up care they need.

**APOT, Dr. Kann**

**A. Project/Meeting Updates:**

1. Sacramento County continues to lead the way on a statewide level are improving and was presented to the San Francisco EMS Agency APOT Summit which Dr. Kann attended a couple of months ago. UC Davis was commended on the work they have done reporting 70 minutes to 30 minutes (Dr. Galante corrected 30 to 27 minutes) patient offload times.
2. APOT parallel groups – Next meeting is scheduled for June 25, 2026. The group continues to work with Dale Ainsworth. Dale, along with Dr. Schmittlein's (Information Analyst from California State University of Sacramento), and Dr. Kann, identified data on skilled nursing facilities and board-and-care homes to determine where patients are originating from. This information will be incorporated into the APOT data analysis. The goal is for the analysis to provide an address-level detail, which will help highlight specific areas in the county where additional resources may be needed, either in the community or within the facilities themselves.
3. May 2026 APOT performance averaged right at thirty (30) minutes, and currently June 2026 Sacramento County is trending thirty and a half (30.5) minutes. Stakeholders were challenged to identify opportunities to get over the hump of the "last mile". As of now, Dr. Kann discussed the need to do some of the fine tuning, and ongoing work using traditional therapy as an example.

**Open Discussion, Dr. Gregory Kann, Dr. Luu**

**A. Data Exchange (DxF Mandate)**

1. Dr. Luu provided the impact of SB 660, which now requires EMSA, all EMS providers, LEMSAs, fire departments providing ALS care, and contracted EMS vendors to sign the state's Data Exchange Framework (DxF) Data Sharing Agreement by July 1, 2026. She emphasized the agreement cannot be redlined or changed and encouraged the group to review and execute it in a reasonable timeframe, noting that CEMSIS can serve as the EMS data-exchange mechanism. The state's broader vision is a unified system in which all healthcare entities, including EMS, clinics, hospitals, and eventually public health and social services, share patient information across connected Qualified Health Information Organization (QHIO) hubs. Joe Pierson highlighted provider concerns, including the risk of losing Medi-Cal billing status for non-compliance and the ongoing statewide ambulance provider audit tied to fraud, waste, and abuse oversight. Dr. Luu acknowledged these pressures,

offered assistance with state portal issues, and reiterated the importance of timely Dx F DSA compliance as part of emerging statewide program-integrity expectations.

B. Revenue Analysis:

1. Dr. Kann reported continued progress on the ongoing revenue cost-analysis project, supported by former EMS administrator, Dave Magnino brought back to assist with developing a comprehensive cost structure for SCEMSA. Work is ongoing with the Department of Finance, which is requesting detailed information and will require additional time before approval. Once the analysis is closer to completion, the county will review the findings with stakeholders to ensure transparency and understanding. Further updates and more detailed information are expected at the next meeting.

C. ImageTrend Update:

Dr. Kann reported that the county's ImageTrend implementation is progressing well, supported by state expert Mark Roberts, and is expected to be fully operational within the next few months. Some provider PCR data is already visible, and staff are working to resolve remaining reporting gaps and data anomalies. The upcoming launch will include the new data work module, expanding analytics and reporting capabilities for quality improvement and future projects. This system will also enable near real-time APOT data reporting to hospitals. Overall, this is considered one of our major initiatives this year, with a target of having all providers submitting visible PCRs by July 1, 2026.

D. Advanced EMT Program

1. Dr. Kann reported progress on the AEMT pilot program developed with AlphaOne and EMSA, which tests an expanded local scope allowing Sacramento County AEMTs in the IFT system to perform skills aligned with the national AEMT scope including EKG, Co2 monitoring, and select medication administration. The pilot is nearing completion, and findings will be presented at EMS Commission meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2026. Dr. Kann highlighted the statewide shortage of AEMTs and emphasized the program's potential to strengthen the EMS workforce, expand care capabilities in underserved areas, and serve as a model for broader statewide adoption.

E. TAD Program Update:

1. Dr. Kann reported continued progress, noting that more than 80 paramedics have been trained and accredited: 51 from Sac City Fire and 32 from Cosumnes Fire over the past 18 months. In 2026, there have been 75 successful field redirections to contracted behavioral health, detox, or sobering facilities, with an estimate of 246 additional potential missed opportunities. Training improvements now allow TAD accredited medics to hand off transports to BLS crews, resolving earlier challenges where captains and engineers had to ride in, pulling engines out of service. New fire academy classes are now incorporating TAD training as standard onboarding. The program continues to expand, with pending contracts (Heritage Oaks) needed to support Sac Metro participation. A review of PCRs will track missed opportunities and ensure medic engagement, with the program showing potential to reduce ED crowding and APOT delays.

F. Open Discussion/Key Items - EMAG Participants

1. Dr. Kasirye wished everyone the best as this was her last meeting as she transitions into retirement.

**Roundtable – Member Comments**

Public Comment: None

Staff Comments: None

**Closing Remarks/Adjourn:**

- A. Dr. Kasirye thanked everyone for participating in today's meeting.

**Next meeting** – Thursday, August 13, 2026 / 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM