

## Northern Virginia Emergency Medical Services Council

Stroke Committee Meeting  
Monday March 26, 2018  
10:00am



City of Fairfax Fire Station 403  
4081 University Drive  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Those present were:

Dan Avstreh, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Asst. OMD, [avstreh@gmail.com](mailto:avstreh@gmail.com)  
Amy Baker, Inova Loudoun Hospital, [amy.baker2@inova.org](mailto:amy.baker2@inova.org)  
Jamie Barteau, Physicians Transport Service, [jbarteau@ptsems.com](mailto:jbarteau@ptsems.com)  
Jalil Bentaleb, Inova Alexandria Hospital, [abdeljalil.bentaleb@inova.org](mailto:abdeljalil.bentaleb@inova.org)  
Rick Bonnett, MWAA, [Richard.bonnett@mwa.com](mailto:Richard.bonnett@mwa.com)  
Duane Campbell, MD, Novant/UVA Health, [duane.campbell@novanthealth.org](mailto:duane.campbell@novanthealth.org)  
John Chesek, Sr., Fairfax County Fire & Rescue, [john.chesek@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:john.chesek@fairfaxcounty.gov)  
John Cochran, MD, Inova Health System, [jack.cockran@inova.org](mailto:jack.cockran@inova.org)  
Jamie Cooper, Loudoun County Fire & Rescue, [Jamie.cooper@loudoun.gov](mailto:Jamie.cooper@loudoun.gov)  
Valentina Daly, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue, [valentina.daly@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:valentina.daly@fairfaxcounty.gov)  
Peter DeRosa, MD, Inova Neuroscience, [peter.derosa@inova.org](mailto:peter.derosa@inova.org)  
Hillary Dussler, Alexandria Fire Department, [Hillary.lindsay@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Hillary.lindsay@alexandriava.gov)  
Craig Evans, Northern Virginia EMS Council, [craig@vaems.org](mailto:craig@vaems.org)  
Tiffany Fischer, Novant/UVA Prince William Medical Center, [tdfischer@novanthealth.org](mailto:tdfischer@novanthealth.org)  
Matt Fox, City of Manassas Fire & Rescue, [mfox@manassasva.gov](mailto:mfox@manassasva.gov)  
Sean Goza, Alexandria Fire Department, [sean.goza@alexandriava.gov](mailto:sean.goza@alexandriava.gov)  
Kate Kramer, Arlington County Fire Department, [kkramer@arlingtonva.us](mailto:kkramer@arlingtonva.us)  
John Lawrence, Inova Mt. Vernon Hospital, [john.lawrence@inova.org](mailto:john.lawrence@inova.org)  
Michelle Ludeman, Northern Virginia EMS Council, [michelle@vaems.org](mailto:michelle@vaems.org)  
Anne Marsh, Arlington County Fire Department, [amarsh1@arlingtonva.us](mailto:amarsh1@arlingtonva.us)  
William Montminy, Prince William County Fire & Rescue, [wmontminy@pwcgov.org](mailto:wmontminy@pwcgov.org)  
Danielle Pesce, MD, City of Manassas/Manassas Park OMD, [littlepesce@hotmail.com](mailto:littlepesce@hotmail.com)  
Donna Pfof, Novant Haymarket Medical Center, [dspfof@novanthealth.org](mailto:dspfof@novanthealth.org)  
Nick Sutingco, MD, Inova Fair Oaks Hospital ED, [nick.sutingco@vemadocs.com](mailto:nick.sutingco@vemadocs.com)  
Michale Sponaule, Physicians Transport Service, [msponaule@ptsems.com](mailto:msponaule@ptsems.com)  
Venu Vadlamudi, MD, Inova Alexandria/Mt. Vernon/Sentara, [venuvadlamudi@gmail.com](mailto:venuvadlamudi@gmail.com)  
Laura Vandegrift, Northern Virginia EMS Council, [laura@vaems.org](mailto:laura@vaems.org)  
Christian Zuver, MD, Prince William County Fire and Rescue, [czuver@pwcgov.org](mailto:czuver@pwcgov.org)

The meeting was started at 10:05 am by Craig Evans.

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

Dr. Pankajavalli Ramakrishnan from Riverside Neurovascular Specialists in Newport News, Virginia, presented "EMS Driven Stroke Triage in Virginia" using data from Peninsulas EMS Council with the use of the RACE stroke triage tool. She discussed educating providers in the

PEMS Council region on RACE and how providers were more confident in calling an LVO stroke and then taking their patients to the appropriate stroke centers. She also discussed the 2018 AHA/ASA guidelines on acute large vessel occlusion stroke treatment.

Dr. Venu Vadlamudi from Inova Alexandria and Mount Vernon Hospitals presented Inova's proposed stroke triage plan recommending diversion to a 24/7 thrombectomy-capable stroke center if ETA to center is less than 30 minutes and LVO stroke scale is positive. The group discussed making this a regional guideline, not just for Inova, and how to adapt it to fit every Fire and EMS agencies needs since not everyone uses the same stroke scale and some are not interested in changing from their current method.

Craig Evans asked how we move forward as a region with this. He discussed that he has spoken with John Dugan from the AHA and Mission: Lifeline about getting regional stroke data just as we do STEMI data. This will depend on everyone using Get with the Guidelines: Stroke. This is coming forward, and he will provide information to the group as it becomes available. Craig also discussed the Stroke Triage Plan and how we promote stroke care in the region. Dr. Avstreich asked if the neurology colleagues in the room could discuss whether it is necessary for every agency to use the same stroke triage scale. Dr. Vadlamudi stated that while using the same scale across agencies would provide powerful numbers on our actual stroke care in the region, the reality is that we won't be able to get everyone on the same page and everyone should just use the highest score as their defining point for transport to the comprehensive centers.

Dr. Duane Campbell advised that there will be new data in 2019 that will likely publish two stroke scales in 2020 and possibly two more two years later, but it will be a more rigid protocol than we have now. Dr. Avstreich advised that we can't continue to change the scales and rules regularly or EMS won't be able to keep up. Rick Bonnett pointed out that with the appropriate training and information, EMS providers will be able to learn the information that is mandated by their departments but not everyone has the same amount of personnel to do that with and that is the challenge for some. Kate Kramer stated that if we continually change our scales, no providers will actually become and remain proficient. Hillary Dussler advised that they are fortunate enough to be close to Inova Alexandria Hospital and take all of their patients there, but their OMD Dr. Marfori and EMS Chief Brian Hricik advised that they have no intention of changing from the Cincinnati Stroke Scale because it works well for them and their providers can easily remain proficient.

Dr. Campbell also mentioned that it is worth tracking door to needle times, door to balloon times and triage efficacy and share that information amongst the group.

The next meeting will be held June 5, 2018, at the same location. An invitation and reminder will be sent to all.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:18 pm.

CERTIFICATION OF THE REGIONAL OPERATIONAL MEDICAL DIRECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

Northern Virginia EMS Council  
7250 Heritage Village Plaza, Suite 102  
Gainesville, Virginia 20155

I, Craig Evans, Executive Director of the Northern Virginia EMS Council certify that the above minutes are a true and correct transcript of the meeting minutes of the Regional Stroke Committee held on March 26, 2018. The minutes were officially approved on June 5, 2018, meeting of the committee.

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Craig A. Evans

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Date