

**Minutes of
S.C. Board of Health and Environmental Control
Meeting**

March 14, 2012

The S.C. Board of Health and Environmental Control met on Wednesday, March 14, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. via conference call in the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control Board Room, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, S.C. (Attachment 0-1)

The following members were in attendance:

Allen Amsler, Chairman
Member-at-large

Mark S. Lutz, Vice-Chairman
1st District

R. Kenyon Wells
2nd District

L. Clarence Batts
4th District

Ann B. Kirol, DDS
5th District

John O. Hutto, Sr., MD
6th District

Also in attendance were Robert W. King, Jr., Acting Commissioner, Elizabeth F. Potter, Acting Legal Counsel to Board, Lisa Longshore, Clerk, department staff and guests. (Attachment 0-2)

Mr. Amsler stated notice of this meeting has been provided to all persons, organizations and news media, which have requested notification, as required by Section 30-4-80(e) of the South Carolina Code of Laws.

Item 1: Approval of proposed addition to the state pre-hospital Emergency Medical Services (EMS) drug formulary (Attachment 1-1)

Ms. Jennifer Paddock, Director, Division of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma, presented this item to the Board. A request by the Division of EMS and Trauma to add Phenobarbital to the pre-hospital EMS drug formulary. The EMS Act (Code 44-61-130) second

paragraph, states: "Emergency medical technicians, trained to provide advanced life support and possessing current Department of Health and Environmental certification, are authorized to possess limited quantities of drugs, to include controlled substances, as may be approved by the Department of Health and Environmental Control for administration to patients during the regular course of duties of such emergency medical technicians, pursuant to a written or verbal order of a physician possessing a valid license to practice medicine within this state provided such physician is registered under the state and federal laws pertaining to controlled substances." EMS Agencies are unable to purchase any of the medications currently listed in the state pre-hospital Emergency Medical Services (EMS) drug formulary used to control major motor seizures and status epilepticus due to a manufacturing backorder. It is anticipated that EMS agencies will be without access to these medications for another 30 days or more. Status epilepticus is a life threatening condition which can lead to death if the seizure activity is not controlled. The EMS Medical Control Committee, while addressing a pharmaceutical backorder of all 3 medications currently used in the state pre-hospital protocols to control major motor seizures and status epilepticus, has recommended the addition of the following medication to the EMS drug formulary: Phenobarbital – The EMS Medical Control Committee has recommended that Phenobarbital be added to the formulary to control major motor seizures and status epilepticus. Phenobarbital was approved for submission to the Board by the Medical Control Physicians' Committee and the EMS Advisory Council of the Division of EMS and Trauma, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. Edgar DesChamps, III, M.D., State Medical Director, Division of Emergency Medical Services also answered questions from the Board.

After discussion, ***Mr. Batts moved, seconded by Dr. Hutto, to approve the addition of Phenobarbital to the state approved pre-hospital drug formulary and for staff to develop administrative and training guidance to fully implement this drug into the paramedic training curriculum. Approved.***

There being no further business, Chairman Amsler declared the meeting adjourned.

All referenced attachments are made a permanent part of these minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark S. Lutz
Vice-Chairman

Minutes approved this 12th day of April 2012.

ATTEST:

Allen Amsler, Chairman

Attachments

0-1 Agenda

0-2 Sign-in Sheet

1-1 Approval of proposed addition to the state pre-hospital Emergency Medical Services
(EMS) drug formulary