National Consensus Conference on Community Paramedicine



Panel 3: Medical Direction / Regulation Facilitator: Douglas Kupas, MD









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Panel Members

- Mike Bachman, Program Director, Wake County EMS, NC
- Troy Hagen, Director, Ada County Paramedics, Boise, ID
- Drew Werner, MD, Medical Director, Western Eagle County Health Services District Community Paramedic Program, Eagle, CO
- Michael Wilcox, MD, Medical Director, Mdewanketon Sioux Tribal EMS/Fire Department, Shakopee, MN
- Wil Wilson, MPP, Grant Supervisor, Minnesota Department of Health, Office of Rural Health and Primary Care, MN

Community Paramedics in Minnesota

Will Wilson Office of Rural Health and Primary Care, Minnesota Department of Health <u>will.wilson@state.mn.us</u> (651) 201-3842

OFFICE OF **RURAL HEALTH** & PRIMARY CARE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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Legislation

© 2011: S.F. 119

- Created CP certification
 - Must have 2 years of experience as a Paramedic
 - Must complete CP course through an accredited college or university
 - Must practice under supervision of an ambulance service medical director

Directed State DHS to develop services to be covered by Medicaid
— Stakeholder process in Fall of 2011

Legislation, cont.

• 2012: S.F. 1543

Based on work of stakeholder process

> Authorized coverage in Medicaid for:

- » health assessment
- » chronic disease monitoring and education
- » medication compliance
- » immunizations and vaccinations
- » laboratory specimen collection
- » hospital discharge follow-up care
- » minor medical procedures, as approved by the Medical Director

Supervision and Coordination

CP's must work under the supervision of an Ambulance Service Medical Director

The Medical Director will bill Medicaid on behalf of CP

To bill Medicaid, the Medical Director must have an order from the patient's primary care provider

Must be maintained in the patient's record

Process for Medicaid coverage

© Every state has a Medicaid State Plan

- > A contract of all services covered by Medicaid in that state
- Negotiated between CMS and the state Medicaid agency
- Services are authorized by states, approved by CMS
- State submits a State Plan Amendment
- > CMS has 3 months to respond
 - If CMS approves, the state can implement immediately
 - If CMS has questions, another 3 month clock is started

With new professions, CMS usually concerned about

- > Cost
- Potential duplication of services
- Supervision
- Definitions of services

Status of CP Expansion in MN

State Plan Amendment submitted August 11

- State working on implementation
- Latest State "Flex" grant currently underway
- Interested providers are already building CP's into their HER systems
- More CP courses are in development

Rural stakeholders showing increased interest

Community Paramedics
Enhancing vs Increasing Scope of Practice

Looking at the bigger (patient) picture & getting out of the box & into the home

Exceeding expectations, knowing what the paramedics don't know

Meeting your Community's needs

Discussion

- Best Practices and Models
- Discussion of Gaps
- Research Questions and Activities
- Action Plan for National Agenda (Who, What, When, Where?)