

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

Florida EMS for Children Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Thursday, June 16, 2022, 1300 - 1500 EST

Online and in person hybrid meeting held at Hollywood Seminole Hard Rock Hotel

Please see accompanying presentation slides

Welcome & Call to Order

Attendees:

Committee Members and Liaisons

Dr. Marshall Frank, Michael Rushing, Nichole Shimko, Tracey Vause, Dr. Phyllis Hendry, Dr. Jennifer Fische, Ernest Weishaupt, Barbara Tripp*, Julie Downey, Lauren Young Work, Lisa Nichols, Sarah Weed, Jeremiah Rabish, Kevin Meade
State Office Personnel:

Christina Parmer, Lorrianna Jean-Jacques, Jane Bedford, Mike Hall

Other attendees:

Aaron Smith, Alexandra Bush, Amii Kennedy, Amy Stehano, Ban Conte, Breana Edwards, Brent Allen, Christine Simpson, Christopher Stevens, David Pettzovsck, Edward Perez, Elijah Virgin, Greg Williams, Hope Yarborough, Jeremy Loomis, Jon Hodges, Katie Hersel, Katy Sauge, Kaven Thurmond, Keith Hernandez, Kimberly Moore, Latrell Goodson*(in place of), Michell Damron, Nathan McManus, Niki Guraly, Robin Ritola, Samantha Lobsinger, Sean Dwyer, Steve Greer, Tricia Swan, Wiliam Wallack, other unidentified callers and attendees

EMSC Advisory Committee Announcements and Liaisons

New committee appointments and liaison update:

Dr. Hendry and Ms. Jean-Jacques gave information regarding submitting online application for EMSC Advisory Committee appointed membership and new terms. Current liaisons will remain in place unless the member no longer wants to serve. For future planning will add PICU/critical care liaison and others as needed. January 2022 meeting summary emailed, please email corrections to pedready@jax.ufl.edu.

Opening Announcements and Key Updates from Other Committees and Constituency Groups

Florida EMSC program updates:

Kevin Meade, EMT-P was introduced as the new FL EMSC and PEDReady coordinator and outreach educator. He has over 20 years of EMS experience in ground, air, industry and education. His email contact is kevin.meade@jax.ufl.edu. Christina Parmer, FL EMS Administrative Services Manager, was introduced as the new EMSC Program Director. Jennifer McManus is the new DOH Rural EMS Liaison, replacing Jane Bedford. Ms. Bedford will continue to work with FL EMSC in her role as Community Paramedic Coordinator, BEMO H.A.R.T. (Health-Access-Resiliency and Telehealth) Section.

This is the last year of the Florida EMSC State Partnership grant. EMSC leadership is expecting a new grant application with performance measures in August.

BEMO update and regional coordinators: The bureau has started a new program with Regional Coordinators based on geographical regions. A map of coordinators was reviewed which is being updated.

Presentations and Special Topics

1. Pediatric pain management in EMS (Dr. Phyllis Hendry and PAMI). Dr. Hendry reviewed recent pediatric EMS pain management guidelines and resources. Attendees were asked about the use of IN fentanyl and pain documentation. See hyperlinks to publications and resources below. Ms. Nasca was congratulated on her excellent representation of the pediatric population on the panel as a FAN representative for EMSC.

- a. <https://nasemso.org/projects/prehospital-pain-management-ebg/>
Sandy Nasca, Florida FAN representative on Technical Expert Panel!

Two manuscripts are available at [EBGs for Pain Management: Recommendations](#) and [EBGs for Pain Management: Literature and Methods](#).

Model EMS treatment protocol on the pharmacologic management of pain incorporating the evidence-based guidelines, available at [Model Protocol](#);

Performance measures for evaluating adherence to the evidence-based guideline available at [Pediatric IN Fentanyl Performance Measure](#);

Educational materials for training EMS professionals on the pain management evidence-based guidelines, including a [Slide Presentation-pptx](#), [Pain Management Faculty Script](#), [Slide Handout](#), [Lesson Plan](#), and [Drug Profiles](#).

Webinar by the National Association of EMS Educators: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4Af_5DI9io

- a. EMSC Day Prehospital Emergency Care Podcast Ep. 113 (NAEMSP) "Ouch-less Pediatrics": <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/prehospital-emergency-care-podcast-the-naemsp-podcast/id925204308?i=1000562317202>. CAPCE credit available.
Reviews EMS vs. ED, importance of IN analgesic medications in children, the importance of distraction and that QI programs should be utilized to ensure use of pain scale and early pain management.
- b. Pain Assessment and Management Initiative: <https://pami.emergency.med.jax.ufl.edu/>

PAMI pain scale cards and dosing guides were disseminated to the group. Online attendees can request a copy by emailing pedready@jax.ufl.edu. The importance of pain scales was discussed along with the challenges of using pediatric pain scales in EMS. The DVPRS is being used more commonly in hospital settings for adults and alert verbal patients. The scale has not been validated in EMS settings. Resource links are below. The history and future of distraction toolkits for pain and comfort were briefly discussed and Sarah Weed was congratulated in implementing new EMS distraction toolboxes in Alachua County

-Pain Scales Laminated cards for dissemination (DVPRS, Wong-Baker FACES, FLACC-R)

<https://pami.emergency.med.jax.ufl.edu/resources/provider-resources/pain-assessment-scales/>

-PAMI Dosing Guide: <https://pami.emergency.med.jax.ufl.edu/wordpress/files/2020/09/PAMI-Dosing-Guide-Nov.2.2020.pdf> Revising to have medications only.

- Distraction toolkit: <https://pami.emergency.med.jax.ufl.edu/resources/distraction-toolkit/>

Discussion-If needed and wanted an EMS dosing guide can be created. Interest in working group on pain scales was suggested.

2. [*Safe transport working group report \(Dr. Marshall Frank, Niki Shimko and David Summers presented a workgroup update\)*](#)

See presentation slides.

Current Position Statement

- All infant and pediatric patients should be transported using a commercially manufactured, appropriately sized, pediatric restraint device
- EMS and Fire personnel education regarding safe transport should be conducted through a variety of educational methods in order to understand restraint guidance and select devices
 - FL EMSC *Safe Transportation of Pediatric Patients* online training resource
 - Hands-on Training
 - Community Education
- Agencies are encouraged to implement a safe pediatric transport Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) or protocol

The FL EMSC/PEDReady safe transport position statement has been approved for support by: FL Association of EMS Medical Directors, Florida EMS Educators, Florida Association of County EMS/ Florida Association of Rural EMS, and the Florida Association of Fire Chiefs. A motion will be made to the EMS Advisory Council for further rule consideration and proposed verbiage was discussed.

The group continues to meet monthly and will continue to work on educational content to include a sample policy and training packet. There was discussion that we should encourage the thought process that safe transport is a procedure akin to safe use of drugs or splinting.

Next week's NASEMSO meeting will include a national update on safe transport.

Lauren Young asked if this policy could be used for Baker Act and psychiatric transports. The position statement is not intended for that population however this is an important challenge as many EDs are waiting hours for traditional EMS transport to mental health facilities. Health care systems are looking into alternative transport arrangements for these types of patients. A suggestion was made to have the Safe transport group partner with the Florida Occupant Coalition.

3. Pediatric EMS literature: UFCOM-J PEM fellow publications in Prehospital Emergency Care
This is a new feature of our meetings. Please email Florida pediatric EMS and ED related publications to pedready@jax.ufl.edu. Dr. Fishe discussed the results of the article listed below.

Pediatric Bradycardia is Undertreated in the Prehospital Setting: A Retrospective Multi-Agency Analysis
(Andrew Hanna, Remle P. Crowe, Jennifer N. Fishe)

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10903127.2021.2018075>

-Take home message is that majority of encounters did not have PALS intervention in the peri-arrest stage.

-Huge opportunity for additional research and training

Pediatric Disaster and Mental Health

The following resources and updates were reviewed to address pediatric disaster planning and pediatric mental health issues.

DISASTER

Dr. Hendry reported that on June 6, 2022, the Homeland Security for Children Act was signed which requires Department of Homeland Security to ensure the needs of children are considered in homeland security planning. The act directs FEMA to identify and integrate the needs of children into all emergency preparation, protection, response and recovery activities dealing with natural and man-made disasters as well as terrorist actions and creates a new position of Children's Technical Expert within FEMA.

1. JumpSTART badge buddies: These remain very popular with over 6000 disseminated.

<https://emlrc.org/wp-content/uploads/JumpSTART-badge-buddy-2021-v2.pdf>

2. EIC Pediatric Disaster Toolkit: Is your disaster plan pediatric ready?
(Nasca and Jean-Jacques were working group members)
https://media.emscimprovement.center/documents/EICDisasterChecklist_2022.04.11.pdf
3. Disaster communication cards for pediatric decontamination (R Ritola): this is still in progress.
-cost of cards is up
- discussion of decreasing number of cards was tabled
4. Disaster Committee report: no new updates.

Attendees were reminded to work with their regional coalition groups.

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health resources were shared with attendees. There is a strong interest in improving the care of children and adults with autism related disorders.

1. Children with Special Healthcare Needs (CSHCN or CYSHN) and autism-related projects
 - a. <https://emscimprovement.center/domains/preparedness/asprcoe/eglpdr/cyshcn/>
 - b. STARS: Special Needs Tracking & Awareness Response System (N Shimko presentation)
<https://www.ssmhealth.com/cardinal-glennon/resources/health-professionals/stars-for-special-needs-kids>
Care plan to be dispatched out to responders (trach, LVAD, mental, etc..) and updated every six months. Care plans are reviewed by medical directors. EMS should try to gather all possible information and equipment from scene (extra trach tube, G tube, etc.). Program not used for autism at this point, main emphasis is on high-risk medical patients.
 - c. CSHCN STAR questions (previously presented by Advent Health – Robin Ritola / Chantelle Bennet Child Life Specialist). STAR = for **S**ensory, **T**actile, **A**uditory, **R**ockstar.
How to adapt for EMS and share with other EDs and agencies? The use of the STAR Questions by anyone has been approved by Robin Ritola and Advent.
 - d. Autism (focus for future webinar or meeting)
 - i. 5/31 Florida EMS Webinar series: Autism Interaction for First Responders, Lt. Ryan Woodard, NRP, Oklahoma City Fire Dept. and Autism Foundation of Oklahoma (recording [link](#))
 - ii. Florida CARD centers (Center for Autism and Related Disorders): <http://florida-card.org/map.htm>
Temple Terrace FD had training arranged from their local CARD center and found it very helpful.
 - iii. PBCFR (Lauren Young) is creating kits for pediatric EMS patients and pediatric EMS scene bystanders regarding patients on the autism spectrum. They are using the PEDReady communication cards in every kit. The program should be rolled out in late July or early August.

Various comfort and distraction kit items were reviewed, and pros and cons discussed. A sensory working group to focus on comfort kits, autism and mental health will be developed to include: L Young, K Meade, P Hendry, R Ritola, S Nasca, J Downey and other interested parties. The use of alternative funding was discussed to include CARD centers, Lions Club, Rotary, Kiwanis, Healthcare Coalitions, etc. Please let the committee know if you have a successful model. Storage of kits was addressed and the possibility of contamination in an engine or rescue unit.

2. EIC national mental health resources
 - a. Pediatric suicide screening tools and mental health care resources for prehospital professionals, ED, patients, and families: [PEAK: Suicide](#) and the [New England Regional Behavioral Health Toolkit](#).
 - b. EMSC Day webinar, "*COPE-ing with the Challenges of Pediatric Behavioral and Mental Health Emergencies*." Led by Drs. Nicolaus Glomb, Kenshata Watkins, and Mary Fallat explored prehospital

behavioral health emergency management and the Compassionate Options for Pediatric EMS or "COPE" program that provides debriefing tools for EMS after challenging pediatric calls.

https://emscimprovement.center/domains/prehospital-care/ems-week/webinars/EMSC_Day_2022_Webinar_Slides_Reduced_File_Size.pdf (emscimprovement.center)

National EMSC Related Updates (Hendry and Jean-Jacques)

1. NEDARC EMSC 2022 EMS Agency Survey closed March 31, 2022, FL rate 81%!
Focus on Performance Measures 2 and 3 (PECC and pediatric equipment): Results pending
First year this survey was not part of the FL annual EMS survey. The 2022 FL PECC rate was 45%!
<https://www.emscsurveys.org/>
<https://www.emscsurveys.org/docs/EMS%20for%20Children%20Assessment.pdf>
<https://nedarc.org/performanceMeasures/documents/2021NationalReportforEMSAgencies-final.pdf>
2. 2021 NPRP Assessment (ED pediatric readiness): FL 58% response rate. Average FL score 75/100, median 76. Pending national score due to publication. 2013 FL scores, 78 and 82 but not a direct comparison. National 2013 median 69. Survey questions results were reviewed. <https://pedsready.org/>.
3. EMSC Pediatric Resuscitation Resources: Observation checklist & free modules on family-centered and trauma-informed care to improve pediatric resuscitations: <https://www.healthcaretoolbox.org/observation-checklist-pediatric-resuscitation> and <https://savepeds.org/> ED focused free access courses on Pediatric Resuscitation and the National Pediatric Readiness Guidelines and FACETS of Pediatric Resuscitation: Family-centered and Trauma-informed Support.
4. 2021 National Guidelines for the Field Triage of Injured Patients: ACS, EMSC, NHTSA, etc.
<https://www.facs.org/media/2zdtley/field-triage-handout-vfinal-revise.pdf> (Florida has not changed)
5. EIIC Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Toolkit and Checklist:
https://media.emscimprovement.center/documents/Prehospital_Pediatric_Readiness_Checklist_Final.pdf
6. EIIC Pediatric Readiness for EDs- checklists updated 2021
https://media.emscimprovement.center/documents/NPRP_Modified_Interactive_Checklist_Final.pdf
https://media.emscimprovement.center/documents/NPRP_Checklist_Final_Apr2021.pdf
7. EIIC EMSC Pulse monthly newsletter: <https://emscimprovement.center/news/>

Florida EMSC/PEDReady Updates

1. PEDReady website: <https://emlrc.org/flpedready/>. Weekly PEDReady and FL EMSC news in weekly FCEP news briefs and monthly FAEMSMD newsletter: pediatric related announcements, resources, literature, news from national, state and local organizations, PECC updates. Email pedready@jax.ufl.edu to sign up for news briefs.
2. Pediatric education summary:
 - Provided three days hands-on pediatric resuscitation training for Bradford and Clay counties in honor of Dr. Pete Gianas (March 2022)
 - ABCs of Pediatric EMS held May 3rd in Orlando (EMLRC and Nemours), provided free scholarships for rural EMS participants. Received very positive evaluations.
 - FL Resuscitation Academy with pediatric components, held June 13th at First There First Care conference. Over 75 participants with the course completely full!
3. Future of Distraction Toolboxes -Two working groups will address

4. EMSC Day summary and planning for 2023 was discussed.
5. Liaison and constituency group reports
 - a. Rural update (Vause and McManus):
Supported Safe transport position statement
 - b. Florida FAN Report (Nasca)
 - c. Trauma: Program managers (Nichols), FTSAC, FCOT
New ACS Trauma guidelines to have all centers be PEDready
 - d. Data Committee, Biospatial EMSC dashboard
 - e. FL ENA (Rushing)- the FL NPRP survey results were shared with ENA by M Rushing.
-the safe transport position statement will be discussed for endorsement
-RN's performing IOs is being addressed (can they or can they not do the procedure per rule?)
 - f. EMS Educators: supported the safe transport policy statement.
-Low NREMT pass rate being addressed by Dr. Jameson
 - g. PECCs (Rabish, Weed, Weishaupt):
-J Rabish reported on an initiative of Sarasota Fire Rescue regarding grief support resources for children with parents or siblings who have an arrest, tragic outcome, or overdose. Sarasota is having a partnership for community and private companies to respond to crisis Before and after care training survey being developed and will be brought back to group in September.
-Committee goal is to start a PECC working group to share resources.
 - h. Pediatric and neonatal transport: transport delays, list of options, handoffs, transport by private car, high flow nasal cannula transport.
-The decrease in intubations and increase in HFNC use in EDs has resulted in a need for updated respiratory support training including BIPAP, CPAP, and humidified oxygen. Most EMS units do not have the equipment to transport pediatric patients requiring these modalities resulting in delays of children needing transportation from free standing or community EDs to tertiary centers or definitive care.
 - i. Injury prevention (Summers)
6. General Pediatric Updates: Influenza, RSV, hepatitis, etc.
7. FL PEDReady Facebook page or Instagram coming soon

Upcoming Meetings and Conferences

Next constituency group meetings tentatively planned for week of September 12-14 in Orlando. More information to follow.

TEEX Pediatric Disaster training is available in Jacksonville August 18-19, 2022. Email pedready@jax.ufl.edu for additional information (flyer attached).

New Business

Biospatial and EMSC dashboard will be reviewed at the next meeting. A UF FL PEDReady Facebook page is in the works.

