



Florida Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes/Transcript

Partnering with EDs, EMS agencies, disaster preparedness organizations, and families in the care of ill and injured children to enhance pediatric readiness across the continuum of care

Virtual via Zoom
 Wednesday, April 3rd, 2024
 2:00-3:30 pm EST

Attendees

Program Staff	Appointed Members	Liaisons	DOH BEMO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amy Kennedy Dr. Phyllis Hendry Katelyn Perl 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Tricia Swan Niki Shimko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lauren Young Work Lisa Nichols Marvin Walters Michael Rushing Penelope Blake Tracey Vause 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Summers Jane Bedford Robert Mills
Other			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allen Clayton Amanda Gleockler Amy Berger Andrew Polendo-Perez Betzi Brandon Morris Brian Massey Chad Jorgensen Chief Harnish Chris Claire Price Courtney Connor Dea Sowers Derrick Burrus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diana Hernden Dr. Brian Yorkgitis Dr. John Draus Emily Cannister Eric Madden Franklin Riddle Greg Dewitt Greg Williams Ian Black Jael Lopez Jason Bogeoff Jennifer Harrell Jeremy Loomis John James 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jordyn Zyngier Joseph Blackwelder Joshua Saunders Keith Hernandez Kevin Salzer Keys Health Ready Coalition Kim Landry Kim Rede Kim Streit Kristin Johnson Lisa DeBoer Marty Thompson Matthew Allen Dr. Maureen Suchenski 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pam Tempson Patrick Bavaro Patrick Staab Randall Waltman Rebecca Appleyard Rebecca Brownfield Renee Adams Rickie Grace Dr. Sara Kirby Sara Webb-Johns Theresa Pye Tony Hayes Traci Corsones

Meeting Information

Welcome and Introductions

- Welcomed EMSC Advisory Committee
- Requested members to sign in by placing their full name and affiliation in the Zoom chat. Review the attendance list above and email pedready@jax.ufl.edu for any corrections or additions.

Florida Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Committee

- [Reviewed appointed members, liaisons, and Florida EMSC State Partnership Program staff](#)
- Terms are ending August 2024 for appointed positions (Emergency Medical Technician/Paramedic, Emergency Physician, Family Advisory Network Representative, Nurse with Emergency Pediatric Experience, and Physician with Pediatric Experience). Dr. Phyllis Hendry has been in contact with Steve McCoy and Mike Hall to start the reappointment process. Start to think about if you would like to reapply/apply.
- Recognized Michael Rushing for his 17 years of service as the Florida Emergency Nurses Association Representative on the EMSC Advisory Committee. Michael is a newly appointed member of the EMS Advisory Council. Recognized Chief Marvin Walters for his role on the EMSC Advisory Committee as the rural pediatric emergency care coordinator (PECC). Chief Walters is entering retirement. Check out this [interview](#) Chief Walters participated in with Florida EMSC to gain insight into the role of a prehospital PECC located in a rural county. Florida EMSC reached out to Michael and Chief Walters to choose a gift to thank them for their service on the EMSC Advisory Committee.
- Welcomed Penny Blake as the new Florida Emergency Nurses Association Representative on the EMSC Advisory Committee

Florida EMSC State Partnership Program Updates

- Reviewed [national performance measures](#):
 - [Emergency Departments](#): 1) Expand the uptake of pediatric readiness in EDs by establishing a voluntary state hospital ED pediatric readiness recognition program, 2) designating PECCs, 3) ensuring hospital EDs weigh and record children in kilograms, and 4) ensuring that disaster plans address the needs of children
 - [Emergency Medical Services](#): 1) Improve pediatric readiness in EMS systems by establishing a voluntary state prehospital pediatric readiness recognition program, 2) designating PECCs, 3) increasing the number of agencies that have a process for pediatric skills-check on the use of pediatric equipment, and 4) ensuring that disaster plans address the needs of children
 - [Family Representation and Advocacy](#): 1) Prioritize and advance family partnerships and leadership in efforts to improve EMSC systems of care
- Reviewed Florida EMSC handouts, including a [one page overview](#) and [resources flyer](#) (updated). There are free resources available upon request including:
 - Modified [JumpSTART and START badge buddy](#)
 - [Pediatric emergency ABCs and more](#)
 - [Pediatric pain and fever dosing guide](#): liquid only and based on weight
 - Communication cards: available in [Spanish and English](#) and [Haitian Creole and English](#). There is a [Communication Cards flyer](#). National EMSC partners are working on a communication cards project.
 - [EMSC EMS Resource Bags](#): the contents are estimated to be \$75-100 in value. Agencies that complete the upcoming National Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project (PPRP) Assessment expected to launch May 1st, 2024 will be eligible to receive a resource bag.
- [Florida EMSC website](#): About (funding statement/disclaimer, performance measures, partners); Resources (data and maps, educational materials, events, E-newsletter, pediatric emergency topics A-Z, podcasts and apps, presentations, simulation); EMSCAC (meeting information, members, presentations); Pediatric Readiness for EDs and EMS Agencies (PECCs, National and Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Projects, state and national survey results); Disaster Preparedness (resources); and Patient and Families (FAN, resources). Please [let us know](#) what we're missing.
- Florida EMSC social media platforms include Facebook ([@floridaemsforchildren](#)) and Instagram ([@flfemsforchildren](#)). Please tag us in your pediatric-related posts.

- See the Winter 2023 Issue of the PE²ARL E-news letter [here](#). Spring 2024 Issue coming soon. To receive future issues and other Florida EMSC updates, email pedready@jax.ufl.edu.
- There is an orientation to Florida EMSC presentation slide deck available on the Florida EMSC website [here](#). There was a [32nd Annual Florida Bioethics Conference: Debates, Decisions, and Solutions](#) held on April 5th, 2024.
- Florida EMSC is continuing to work on a photo and video repository. If you have permission/consent, please send in pictures and/or videos to pedready@jax.ufl.edu. Florida EMSC plans to start an EMSC calendar contest for 2025, which will feature your pictures.

Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators/Champions (PECCs)

- There is an [emergency department \(ED\) PECC flyer](#) and [prehospital PECC flyer](#), which details the ideal roles and responsibilities of an ED and prehospital PECC.

Family Advisory Network (FAN) and Family Resources

- Current FANs include Sandra (Sandy) Nasca and Rebecca Brownfield. There is an individual located in Orlando who is interested in becoming a PECC. Sandy Nasca is celebrating her 25-year anniversary with the Florida EMSC Program. Florida EMSC reached out to Sandy to choose a gift to thank her for her service with EMSC.
 - [FAN recruitment flyer](#): available to recruit additional FAN representatives. Florida EMSC is trying to recruit one FAN/region.
 - Florida EMSC developed a [medical ID bracelet brochure](#), which details the importance and purpose of medical ID bracelets, information to include on medical ID bracelets, as well as a special discount code. [StickyJ[®] Medical](#) sells medical ID jewelry, such as bracelets, and has graciously provided Florida EMSC a **20% discount** to offer to children and their caregiver(s) throughout 2024. There are multiple straps to choose from including butterflies, flowers, Minecraft characters, sports, and more. You can choose from pre-engraved ID tags or a custom engraving. Visit [here](#) to learn more. Please share this resource with your ED or agency. This would be a great resource for Penny Blake to share with FENA.

Old Business

- A bill was introduced in the Senate and House regarding emergency care for children in EDs. Florida EMSC information was provided to the Health and Human Services Committee upon request. Florida EMSC is limited and cannot participate in lobbying. Prospective organizations are encouraged to push this type of legislation forward. The legislation did not pass this year, but start to think about how this can be promoted next year.
- [The Enhancing Pediatric Safety and Preparedness Concept Proposal](#): no updates at this time

Prehospital Pediatric Readiness

- Federal EMSC program expectations for prehospital PRRPs include the following: be monitored by a governing body, such as the State EMSC Advisory Committee, and have application guidance: 1) guidance must include a verification process to validate each EMS agency's capability for treating children; 2) program criteria should be based on the "[Pediatric Readiness in Emergency Medical Systems](#)" joint policy statement and [technical report](#) recommendations, which include but is not limited to the following: presence of pediatric-appropriate equipment and medications, inclusion of practices to reduce pediatric medication errors, incorporation of statewide data submission, inclusion of policies and protocols for the safe transport of children in emergency vehicles, collaboration with EDs to provide pediatric readiness across the care continuum, and more; and 3) include, at a minimum, the following in the highest tier/level: a designated PECC, prehospital practitioners physically demonstrate the correct use of pediatric-specific equipment, and has a disaster plan that addresses the needs of children.
- On October 1st, 2023, the *Wall Street Journal* released the articles titled, "[Find Hospitals Deemed Ready to Treat Children in Your Area](#)," and "[Children are Dying in Ill-Prepared Emergency Rooms Across America](#)." The articles have helped push pediatric readiness efforts in EDs and EMS.
- The National Pediatric Readiness Recognition Program Collaborative was developed to assist with determining recommended minimum criteria for prehospital pediatric readiness recognition programs using a Delphi process based on importance and feasibility. It is a voluntary collaborative open to EMSC State Partnership Program Directors and Managers working toward achieving the EMSC [Performance Measures](#) requiring both ED and prehospital pediatric readiness recognition programs. Prehospital round two voting results are available (see [slides](#)). Items rated about 4.4/5 or above will likely be included as part of the recommended minimum criteria. To prepare for round three voting, minimum criteria were reviewed and discussed. The criteria included the following:
 - Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator/Champion (PECC)

- A designated PECC who may support one or more agencies
 - Disaster Plan
 - Utilizes a field triage algorithm that includes children (e.g., SALT or JumpSTART Triage Algorithm)
 - Mass transport policy or protocol that includes children
 - Comments: Tracy Vause: it is common for agencies to have a mass transport policy or protocol. Unsure whether or not it specifically mentions children. Greg DeWitt: asks if Golisano had a policy or protocol prior to Hurricane Ian. Niki Shimko: they did not have one. It was more based on the state. It is common to have a mass transport policy or protocol. This was a big conversation in a recent drill in the region. Dr. Hendry: It does not have to be a separate policy. It would be expected to have a mass transport policy or protocol that includes children.
 - Participates in disaster drills that include children
 - Comment: Dr. Hendry: it does not have to be a drill. It could be worded as an exercise, as discussed in previous meetings.
 - Established Process to Demonstrate the Correct Use of Pediatric Equipment Criteria
 - Prehospital personnel can locate pediatric specific equipment
 - Prehospital personnel physically demonstrate correct use of pediatric specific equipment
 - Pediatric Policies and Protocols
 - Include pediatrics in policies and procedures regarding the use of trauma triage destination protocols for transporting services
 - Comment: Tracey Vause: every agency has to have this. TTPs have to be approved by DOH and are a part of statute. All the other criteria listed under pediatric policies and protocols is a matter of policy and should be in place if they are not.
 - Policies and procedures regarding the care of unaccompanied minors
 - Has policies and procedures for refusals involving children
 - Policies and procedures regarding the reporting of child maltreatment
 - Policies, procedures, and training integrates elements of patient and family centered care
 - Comments: Dr. Hendry: how do you demonstrate you have patient and family centered care? Maybe the criterion should be more specific. Tracy Vause: unsure what patient and family centered care means. Lauren Young Work: patient and family centered care means including the family or guardian in the plan of care or decision making. Typically, this is integrated into a policy, procedure, or training, by saying "patient or family/guardian." If you look in most policies and procedures involving children, typically that is how it is framed.
 - Pediatric Equipment and Supplies
 - Established process for a regularly scheduled verification of pediatric equipment and supplies
 - Comments: Tracy Vause: confident every agency verifies their equipment, if not daily, then in a short period of time. In Walton County, they verify every single day. Lauren Young Work: every agency has checklists that they complete when they start shift and pediatric care should be included in that.
 - All recommended equipment and supplies readily available as appropriate
 - Utilizes national consensus recommendations to guide availability of equipment and supplies to treat all ages
 - Quality Improvement (QI) Plan
 - QI plan includes pediatric considerations
 - Tools to Reduce Pediatric Medication Dosing and Administration Errors
 - Uses weight estimation system
 - Requires training on medication dosing for children
 - Round three voting is due by April 16th, 2024. For any additional comments and/or concerns on the minimum criteria listed above, please email pedready@jax.ufl.edu.
- The EMS Pediatric Readiness Workgroup includes members from all seven Florida Health Care Coalition Regions, including representatives from EMS agencies, the FAN network, Florida DOH BEMO regional coordinators, rural health, mobile integrated health, and more. Meetings have been ongoing since November 2023. The workgroup agreed upon a Florida Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Recognition Program with two tiers (Florida PEDReady

Silver and Florida PEDReady Gold). The application package is in progress. A virtual verification process is to be determined. The logos for the two tiers were shared. The Florida Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Recognition Program draft minimum criteria for **silver** level of recognition were reviewed, including the following:

- Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator/Champion (PECC)
 - Has a designated pediatric emergency care coordinator/champion (i.e., PECC)
- Equipment and Supplies
 - Has a defined process for prehospital practitioners to locate and physically demonstrate the correct use of pediatric specific equipment including pediatric restraint devices
 - Utilizes [national consensus recommendations](#) to guide availability of equipment and supplies for treating children of all ages (newborn to adolescent)
 - Has a weight estimation system and provides annual training on medication dosing for children
- Disaster
 - Participates in disaster exercises that include children
 - Has knowledge of a prehospital triage algorithm that includes children as verified by annual training
- Policies, Procedures, and Protocols (Standard Operating Procedures, Standard Operating Guidelines, Field Guide, etc.)
 - Includes pediatrics in policies and protocols (e.g., safe transport, recognition and reporting of child maltreatment, pediatric assessment, trauma triage, care of unaccompanied minors, and pediatric refusals) (provide 3 examples)
- Quality Improvement
 - Has a quality improvement plan which includes pediatric considerations (e.g., advanced procedures, cardiac arrest, respiratory arrest, and/or advanced life support)
- Community Outreach (Optional)
 - Provide information regarding community outreach and prevention efforts related to children and families or other pediatric-related programs

The Florida Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Recognition Program draft minimum criteria for **gold** level of recognition were reviewed, including the following:

- Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator/Champion
 - Has a designated pediatric emergency care coordinator/champion (i.e., PECC)
- Equipment and Supplies
 - Has a defined process for prehospital practitioners to locate and physically demonstrate the correct use of pediatric specific equipment including pediatric restraint devices
 - Utilizes [national consensus recommendations](#) to guide availability of equipment and supplies for treating children of all ages (newborn to adolescent)
 - Has a weight estimation system and provides annual training on medication dosing for children
- Disaster
 - Participates in disaster exercises that include children and families
 - Minimum annual participation
 - Has knowledge of a prehospital triage algorithm that includes children as verified by annual training
- Policies, Procedures, and Protocols (Standard Operating Procedure, Standard Operating Guidelines, Field Guide, etc.)
 - Has the following policies or protocols that include pediatric considerations: safe transport, recognition and reporting of child maltreatment, pediatric assessment, trauma triage, care of unaccompanied minors, and pediatric refusals
 - Has a mass casualty incident policy or procedure that includes children
- Quality Improvement
 - Has a quality improvement plan which includes pediatric considerations (e.g., advanced procedures, cardiac arrest, respiratory arrest, and/or advanced life support)
 - Has a process to track pediatric outcomes across the continuum of care (e.g., transport destination, ED and hospital disposition, survival rates, etc.)

- Comment: Tracey Vause: this criterion can help drive agencies to apply for the gold level
 - Education and Competencies
 - Has process(es) for ongoing pediatric specific education (Medical, Trauma, Mental Health and Behavioral Disorders, Pregnancy and Newborn Delivery?)
 - Comments: Dr. Tricia Swan: recommends to add a medically complex child as these tend to be the sicker patients. Lauren Young Work: everyone is using different terms. In the hospital setting, “medically complex” is a more common term.
 - Has a process for evaluating pediatric-specific competencies for certain skills (list?)
 - Interactions with Systems of Care
 - Demonstrates collaboration with local pediatric emergency departments, trauma centers, children’s hospitals, public health, and health care coalitions
 - Community Outreach
 - Offers at least one community outreach or prevention activity each year which involves children
 - Comment: Tracey Vause: one/year is reasonable. There are several opportunities for community outreach.
 - Family-Centered Care
 - Has policies, procedures, and training that integrate elements of patient- and family-centered care including children with special health care needs and language barriers
 - Applicants may provide additional information regarding pediatric-related programs (optional)
- The National Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project (PPRP) for EMS agencies was discussed. An overview slide deck was reviewed highlighting the [checklist](#) (updated 2024), [toolkit](#), and upcoming assessment. The upcoming assessment was developed with active involvement and input from >30 organizations and experts – including federal agencies, EMSC grant recipients, and the associations that represent the EMTs, paramedics, firefighters, and other clinicians who make up the entire emergency medical system. The assessment is expected to launch May 1st, 2024 and is planned to relaunch every 5 years. Potential survey questions were provided. Data to collect in advance of taking the assessment include annual call volume, annual pediatric call volume, and number of personnel at each level of certification. The assessment is expected to take 30-45 minutes to complete. Check out the [preview of the Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project](#). Agencies that complete the assessment will receive immediate access to an overall pediatric readiness summary tally (or score out of 100), benchmarking with similar EMS agencies (by annual pediatric volume), and an agency-specific gap report with a link to evidence-based resources. Please note, agency’s answers are confidential. The EMSC Data Center and Florida EMSC will have access to the data. Only when in aggregate, your data may be used by researchers to better understand and make improvements in prehospital pediatric readiness. Your assessment results will be combined with those from other prehospital agencies when reporting assessment results. You may also want to share the results with whoever provides your agency with the resources it needs – to provide evidence to justify any requests you make that would help you become more peds ready. If your agency completes the 2024 PPRP Assessment, you are eligible to receive a [Florida EMSC EMS resource bag](#). Contents are estimated at a \$75-100 value and include: communication cards, modified JumpSTART and START badge buddy, PALS pocket card, newborn delivery resources, Difficult Airway Course pocket card (adult and pediatric), pediatric ECG card, pain management resources, Pediatape (if requested), distraction tools and more. For questions, please email pedready@jax.ufl.edu.

Emergency Department Pediatric Readiness

- Federal EMSC program expectations for ED Pediatric Readiness Recognition Programs include the following: be monitored by a governing body, such as the State EMSC Advisory Committee, and have application guidance: 1) guidance must include a verification process to validate each ED’s capability for treating children; 2) program criteria should be based on the “Pediatric Readiness in the Emergency Department” [joint policy statement](#), which include the following: administration and coordination of pediatric care; qualifications of physicians, nurses, and other ED staff; formal pediatric quality improvement or monitoring program; patient safety, policies, procedures, and protocols; availability of pediatric equipment, supplies, and medications; and 3) include, at a minimum, the following in the highest tier/level: have a nurse and physician designated as PECCs, weigh and record weight in kilograms, and have a disaster plan that addresses the needs of children.

- The National Pediatric Readiness Recognition Program Collaborative was developed to assist with determining recommended minimum criteria for emergency department pediatric readiness recognition programs using a Delphi process. It is a voluntary collaborative open to EMSC State Partnership Program Directors and Managers working toward achieving the EMSC [Performance Measures](#) requiring both ED and prehospital pediatric readiness recognition programs. The collaborative provides an evidence-based, consensus-driven, starting point for pediatric readiness recognition programs. ED round 3 voting results are available (see [slides](#)). Round 3 voting results were reviewed and discussed. Items rated about 4.4/5 or above will likely be included as part of the recommended minimum criteria. Discussed how some hospitals in other states electronic medical record system documents in pounds instead of kilograms. Parents/guardians will often ask for their child's weight in pounds. Several hospitals have tried to work on this by creating signs, such as "we weigh children in kilograms," to place on the scale.
- The ED Pediatric Readiness Workgroup is being developed and currently includes members from six out of seven Florida Health Care Coalition Regions, including representation from hospitals, the FAN network, Florida DOH BEMO regional coordinators, mobile integrated health, Florida Hospital Association, and more. Additional rural representatives are being recruited. Meetings are expected to begin July 2024.
- National Pediatric Readiness Project (NPRP) for EDs was discussed, including the [assessment, checklist](#) (updated 2024), and [toolkit](#). The NPRP Assessment is intended to evaluate overall pediatric readiness in EDs. The assessment is released nationally every 5 years and the next assessment is expected to launch in 2026. The assessment, however, can be taken at any point for quality improvement purposes. An immediate GAP report summary is available after completion. Trauma centers that are ACS certified are asked to complete an assessment and develop an action plan if there are deficiencies/areas of improvement.

Pediatric Prehospital Whole Blood Workgroup

- Pediatric prehospital whole blood is currently a national hot topic. The overall goal of the Florida Pediatric Prehospital Whole Blood Workgroup is to develop an expert consensus statement and sample protocols for Florida. A literature review and brief survey of other states, Florida EMS agencies, and trauma centers is to be completed. Workgroup members currently include people from the Medical Care Committee, EMSC Advisory Committee, and FCOT Pediatric Committee. The workgroup lead is Dr. Marshall Frank. The first leadership meeting was held in March. The first workgroup meeting is expected to be in May 2024. Several individuals from the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) Pediatric Emergency Care Council shared whole blood resources (see [slides](#)). If you want to join the workgroup, email pedready@jax.ufl.edu. Trauma centers are to be included in the survey. If you see new literature released on pediatric prehospital whole blood, email it to pedready@jax.ufl.edu (if possible).
 - Comments: Dr. John Draus: a good first step is seeing what is happening in the state.

National EMSC Program Information ([Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network \(PECARN\)](#), [State Partnership Programs](#), [EDC](#), [EIIC](#), [Targeted Issues Grants](#), and the [Pediatric Pandemic Network \(PPN\)](#))

- There are several resources provided by the EIIC, including the following:
 - [EMSC Pulse Newsletter](#): national and state activities, quality improvement initiatives, data findings and research updates, educational resources and events, funding opportunities, and more
 - [Pediatric Education and Advocacy \(PEAK\) Kits](#): best practice educational resources including recommendations, learning modules, podcasts, and webinars. Current PEAKs include [status epilepticus](#), [suicide](#), [pain](#), [agitation](#), and [child abuse](#). A new self-paced learning module on the management of the agitated pediatric patient by EMS clinicians was released. Learn more [here](#).
 - [Other resources](#): toolkits, learning modules, and webinars
- A [hospital-based PECC learning module](#) is being developed by the EIIC and PPN. After completing the module, you will be able to identify best practices for pediatric readiness and improve your knowledge on the role of a PECC. Submit feedback about the module to pedready@jax.ufl.edu to share with our national partners.
- A PECC learning program for EDs and EMS is being developed by the EIIC. The program is intended for both novice and advanced ED and EMS PECCs and will include learning modules and toolkits. Check out the [PECC webpage](#).
- There is a new [Disaster Response Collaborative developed by the PPN](#). [Recording](#) and [slides](#) from the Disaster Response Collaborative launch webinar held on March 18th, 2024 is now available. Each team leader for a children's hospital may register a team of two or more participants. Only one registration per hospital is needed. Learn more and register [today](#).

- The [Ready, Prep, Go! Podcast](#) is now available. The podcast was developed by the PPN and features conversations with emergency, disaster and preparedness subject matter experts and those on the frontlines. Florida is to be featured on an upcoming podcast episode. New episodes drop every other Tuesday. Learn more and listen to the first episode [here](#).
- There is a new [Disaster Preparedness Guide for Caregivers](#). The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA.gov) and the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers (RCI) (rosalynncarter.org) created this *Disaster Preparedness Guide for Caregivers* to help you navigate the unique challenges that may arise when disasters strike.
- The CDC has a “Ready Wrigley” educational coloring book series for children ([learn more](#)). Florida EMSC is planning to print the “Prepares for Hurricanes” version in English and Spanish.
- The course, Pediatric Preparedness for the Healthcare Professional 2024, is being offered twice this year: in Atlanta, Georgia May 15th-16th, 2024 (register [here](#)) and in Orlando, Florida August 13th-14th, 2024 (register [here](#)).

Upcoming Events

- Florida Committee on Trauma [2024 Visiting Professor Week](#) is April 29th-May 3rd, 2024. Lectures will be in-person and there will be a virtual option as well.
- EMS for Children’s Day is on May 22nd, 2024. [Let us know](#) how you are celebrating. There are updated [celebration resources](#) available from the EICC: [EMSC Day Promotional Toolkit](#), [EMSC Day Proclamation](#), [EMSC Day Activities for Children](#), and [Pediatric Ideas for EMS Week Theme Days](#). If there is something anyone in the state can participate in for free, please let us know so we can disseminate as appropriate.
- [National Association of State EMS Officials Annual Meeting](#) is being held May 12th-16th, 2024 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Katelyn Perl will be attending the Pediatric Emergency Council meetings.
- [2024 Florida Pediatric EMS Symposium](#) (formerly called ABCs of Pediatric EMS) is being held May 15th, 2024 at AdventHealth Tampa in Tampa, Florida. Limited scholarships are available for rural agencies (funded by Florida EMSC). There are limited spots available. Dr. Tricia Swan mentioned that they got approval for six hours of continuing education all pediatric related.
- [27th Annual First There, First Care and Gathering of the Eagles](#) is being held June 10th-14th, 2024 at Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Hollywood, Florida.
- EMS Advisory Council (EMSAC) and Constituency Group Meetings are being held June 12th-14th, 2024 at Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Hollywood, Florida. The next Florida EMSC Advisory Committee will likely be held on the 13th. A virtual option will be available.
- [Symposium by the Sea 2024](#) is being held July 25th-28th, 2024 at Eden Roc Miami Beach in Miami, Florida
- [National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference 2024](#) is being held December 10th-12th, 2024 in Orlando, Florida

New Business

- Discussed the possibility of adding a new rural liaison to the EMSC Advisory Committee. Dr. Hendry discussed adding a rural ED liaison. This will be discussed in future meetings (action item).
- Discussed developing a neonatal and pediatric assessment resource, such as a badge buddy/small pocket card to potentially include newborn resuscitation, vital signs, and the Glasgow Coma Scale. Other state examples, the Neonatal Resuscitation Program® badge buddy and algorithm, and the Florida EMSC Pediatric Emergency ABCs and More resource were reviewed. It was decided to not move forward with the project at this time.
 - Comment: Dr. John Draus: is an app available? Dr. Hendry: there are concerns with accessibility to an app, especially when working in the field
 - Group consensus was to not pursue this at this time.
- Infant mortality and safe sleep related infant death key points for EDs and EMS were discussed including: save everything for the medical examiner (clothing, extra blood, etc.), remove nothing, describe everything (mouth, etc.), review run sheet, and complete ED and EMS notes as soon as possible. Promote safe infant sleep in the ED and hospital setting (no pillows or blankets over face, etc.). Provide education to all patients under six months of age. The Child Abuse Death Review Unit (CADR) Sleep Baby Safely Bags and Pack n’ Play Program were discussed. The CADR Unit with the Florida DOH is now offering all counties in Florida Welcome Baby Bags. The bags are either tote style or backpack and include the following items: onesie, sleep sack, nightlight, plug covers, and educational materials all with safe sleep messaging emphasizing the importance of placing babies to sleep alone on their backs and in cribs. Access the order form [here](#). Once your order is received, they will place a

consolidated order with their warehouse. You can expect delivery in 5-7 business days from the consolidated order placement. You will be notified with delivery details when the order is shipped. There is no limit to how many or how few Welcome Baby Bags you can order. If storage is a concern, please note that these orders can be drop-shipped directly to you and/or your community partners. Pack n' Plays were available to order. Depending on the response, there may be another opportunity in the future to order Pack n' Plays. For any questions, please email CADR@flhealth.gov. In the future, Florida EMSC may host a webinar with CADR and the Child Protection Team.

Liaison and Constituency Group Reports

- Rural EMS: Vause, Bedford – No updates
- Family Advisory Network (FAN): Nasca, Brownfield – No updates
- Florida Trauma Program Manager: Nichols – Continuing to work on standards
- Disaster Preparedness: Downey – Absent
- Mental Health: Work – No updates
- Data Committee and Biospatial – No updates
- Community Paramedicine/Mobile Integrated Health/Health-Access-Resiliency and Telehealth: Bedford, Work – Forwarded link regarding Safe Sleep Resources and several MIH programs in Florida took advantage of it
- Florida Emergency Nurses Association: Rushing, Blake –
 - ENA is developing a pilot group of volunteers to work with IMPACTS (Improving Pediatric Acute Care Through Simulation) and the Texas Pediatric Readiness Project to prepare Florida hospitals with becoming pediatric ready. There will be an initial planning meeting after the State Chapter Leaders Orientation and quarterly business meetings April 25th and 26th in Tampa. Initial goals include the following:
 - Identify ENA member volunteers in each of the state's health care regions to serve as coordinators or regional PECCs for outreach to hospitals in their regions
 - Set dates and agendas for training sessions for these PECCs based upon examples from Texas ENA to prepare them to assist with gathering survey data for pediatric readiness and assess needs within their communities
 - Identify programs with which to partner within Florida to develop services, obtain equipment, and provide educational outreach (EMSC, FCEP, etc.)
 - Identify initial facilities in each region to target one-by-one for guidance and provision of simulations and education for pediatric readiness
 - South West Florida Chapter of ENA is presenting the "Surviving the Sunshine" conference on April 27th, 2024 at Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers. 6.5 continuing education units will be available. Visit the [website](#) for more information.
 - Florida ENA has scholarships available for first responders seeking nursing degrees. The scholarship is for any first responder admitted to a school of nursing and/or currently enrolled in a school of nursing in order to pursue a higher level of education in the emergency setting. Eligible first responders include certified EMTs, paramedics, firefighters, and law enforcement officers who have a student membership of ENA and/or affiliate ENA membership and be in at least the second semester of core nursing courses/classes from the application date. Two awards are available per year. \$500 dollars will be awarded to each applicant who meets the criteria. The deadline for submission is September 30th, 2024 for this year. A copy of the application can be found [here](#) under resources.
 - Florida ENA is offering a scholarship to their members to attend the "Gathering of Eagles: First There, First Care" conference in July 2024.
 - In terms of advocacy, ENA is working with some of the physician groups and on a national level with Workplace Violence Prevention and Mental Health Access for Emergency Departments Act and Prevent Blood Loss with Emergency Equipment Devices Act.
- EMS Educators – No updates
- Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators/Champions: Weishaupt, Rabish, and Walters – No updates
- Pediatric and Neonatal Transport Network Association: Shimko – Working on rerecording the OB series and they will plan to release the recordings online for open access on EMS for Children's Day. Becoming involved with the Florida Hospital Association to discuss evacuations. A meeting will take place next month with transfer centers across the state.
- Injury Prevention – No updates

- Children’s Medical Services, Child Death, Child Abuse: Radigan – Absent
- Other

Questions and Open Discussion

- Shaun Fix, with Emergency Medical Consultants, is doing airway workshops with the state right now. He has developed a new neonatal maternal course titled, “NEARS: Newborn Emergencies and Resuscitation Skills.” Once the course goes live, we will let everyone know.
- The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announced that the HRSA Maternal and Child Health Bureau is welcoming Dr. Mark Cicero, MD, FAAP, FAEMS, to the Division of Child, Adolescent and Family Health EMSC Branch. Dr. Cicero will provide support to the EMSC Branch and its pediatric emergency care programs as Medical Officer/Physician.
- May 23rd is Stop the Bleed Day
- FCOT has information on the EMSC Reauthorization Act that needs to be passed in congress to continue the great work EMSC does : <https://floridacot.org/node/123>
- 109 entities in Florida are moving through the process of setting up Pulsara. On April 16th, 2024 there should be three areas going live, which will be the first in Florida. You should start hearing more information. For any questions, reach out to David Summers, Pulsara Project Manager for Florida DOH (email address: david.summers@flhealth.gov).
- Wolfson Children’s Hospital 2nd Annual Pediatric Trauma Symposium is on May 22nd, 2024 with keynote speaker Dr. Jose Prince. The focus is on “gun violence & our kids.” View the registration link [here](#).

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