



Florida Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

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

Naples Grande Beach Resort Naples, Florida
Orchid 1 or Virtual via TEAMS
Wednesday, October 30th, 2024 from 10:00-12:00 pm EST

Attendees

Program Staff	Appointed Members	Liaisons	DOH BEMO	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Phyllis Hendry • Megan Curtis Gonzalez • Katelyn Dabhi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barbara Tripp • Dr. Marshall Frank • Niki Shimko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Billie Jo Burr • Lauren Young Work • Lisa Nichols • Penelope Blake • Rebecca Brownfield • Tracey Vause 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amy Lefstead • Jane Bedford • Jennifer McManus • Kimberly Moore • Lindsey McDole 	
Other				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aaron Imeson • Adela Casas-Melley • Adrian Fernandez • Alison Stevens • Allison Costanza • Alycia Wolfe • Alyshia Dark • Amanda Thompson • Amy Berger • Andrew Brown • Aurelia Miller • Billie Williams • Brad Tarter • Brandon Duren • Brian Massey • Bruce Evans • Bryan Lopez • Candance Pineda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carla Raby • Casey Allen • Casey Allo • Charlotte Somach • Chris Kammel • Deana Vess • Debora Collinge • Diana DeAbreu • Diana Prieto • Donald Hodges • Dr. Dawn Sollee • Dr. Frederick Yonteck • Dr. Kim Landry • Dr. Nicholas Carter • Dr. Todd Husty • Elijah Virgin • Emily Cannister • Eric Gentry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frank Schambeck • Gregory Harlan • Jeana Swain • Jillian Hundley • Jodie Lindsay • Jordyn Zyngier • Julie Bacon • Justin Fleischer • Karen Street • Keith Grice • Kelli Wilson • Kozette Hubbard • Latrell Goodson • Ling Nguyen • Lisa DeBoer • Margaret Crawford • Mark Browne • Mark Wolcott 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathew Goodson • Matt Keeler • Megan Martin • Melwin Rivera • Michelle Damron • Miguel Gutierrez Delgado • Nicole Montanez • Nicole Reed • Radek Hoffman • Robyn Borle • Rondaa Cerulli • Sara Webb • Scott DeBoer • Scott Kalseth • Simon Serrao • Stan Paynter • Teri Hanas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terry Schenk • Travis Witt • Vega Nademeh • Wendy Williams <p>+ Others not identified online</p>

Meeting Summary (see presentation slides and agenda [here](#)):

Welcome

- Asked attendees to sign in by completing the sign in sheet, emailing pedready@jax.ufl.edu with contact information, or writing their name and affiliation in the TEAMS chat

Florida Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Committee

- Reviewed the Florida Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) mission: “partnering with Florida 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”
- Current appointed member terms ended. The Florida Department of Health (DOH) accepted nominations for EMSC Advisory Committee appointed positions. Applications closed September 2024. Applications are currently in review. There was a delay in the review process due to recent hurricanes.
- Reviewed current EMSC Advisory Committee appointed members, liaisons, and Florida EMSC Program staff. Discussed that liaisons are just as vital as appointed members. Introduced Billie Jo Burr as a new Florida EMSC Family Advisory Network (FAN) Representative.

Bureau of Emergency Medical Oversight (BEMO) Updates

- Announced that the Excellence in EMS Awards Ceremony is on Wednesday, October 30th, 2024 from 5:30 to 8:00 pm EST at Naples Grande Beach Resort
- Introduced new Florida DOH staff: Shireka Davis, Government Operations Consultant II. Mike Hall is retiring effective January 2025. Dr. Hendry thanked Mike Hall for all the work he has done.
- Provided a link to the new [EMS Advisory Council website](#). The website hosts EMS Advisory Council meeting, council, and committee information.

Old Business

- Provided an update on the Florida PEDReady^{ED} Rural grant proposal. The meeting of the grant committee scheduled for October was canceled due to the recent hurricanes. The meeting is postponed for a later date likely to be held in early 2025.

Prehospital Pediatric Readiness

- Provided a Florida Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Recognition Program (PRRP) update. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) reviewed, approved, and provided feedback on silver and gold Florida PRRP criteria. The feedback from HRSA included the following: add example duties or job description for PECC at both levels (add as supplementary material/flyers), clarify frequency of participation in disaster exercises, consider providing example of prehospital disaster triage algorithm that includes children, and consider adding family centered care policy examples. Posed the question: is there a prehospital disaster plan incorporating children in the state? This was discussed at the Florida Association of EMS Medical Directors (FAEMSMD) meeting. There was clarification that EMS agencies do have their own disaster plan but work closely with their community. There is not necessarily a state disaster plan that EMS agencies must participate in. Reviewed the [prehospital pediatric emergency care coordinator/champion \(PECC\) flyer](#). This flyer may be updated to better align with the Florida PRRP criteria. Reviewed updated Florida PRRP criteria. For the silver tier, added that the agency has a sample list of PECC duties and roles and that the agency participates in disaster exercises that include children every year. Made a few additional language tweaks. For the gold tier, ramped up the PECC criteria per the feedback from the State EMS Medical Director. Reviewed next steps, including: finalize criteria and verification and application processes and begin pilot phase in early 2025 with five agencies. Three agencies have already volunteered to participate in the pilot.

- Discussed the National Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project (PPRP) for EMS agencies. Thanked everyone for all of their hard work and participation in the first national PPRP [Assessment](#). Florida received a 62% response rate compared to a national response rate of 46%. Aggregate state results are expected to be released in Fall 2024. Agencies that completed the assessment received a Florida EMSC PEDReady Resource Bag. If you responded to the assessment, but did not receive a resource bag, please email pedready@jax.ufl.edu to request a bag. The assessment will be available in the future to take at any time for quality improvement purposes.
- EMS agencies expressed interest in a challenge coin. The coin is intended to enhance engagement and the number of prehospital PECCs in Florida. Shared the prehospital PECC challenge coin to all in-person meeting attendees. If you are a prehospital PECC and did not receive a challenge coin, please email pedready@jax.ufl.edu. If your agency does not have an identified PECC, please reach out to pedready@jax.ufl.edu to learn how to get started.
- Reshared the PPRP [Checklist](#) and [Toolkit](#)

Emergency Department Pediatric Readiness

- Provided a Florida ED Pediatric Readiness Recognition Program (PPRP) update. The development of the Florida ED PRRP will not begin until after the next legislative session and current revision of policy statement.
- Discussed the National Pediatric Readiness Project (NPRP) for EDs. The NPRP [Assessment](#) can be taken at any time for quality improvement purposes. The next assessment is expected in 2026. For all trauma centers, you are asked to complete the assessment for each American College of Surgeons (ACS) verification cycle. Reshared the NPRP [Checklist](#) and [Toolkit](#).
- Highlighted the [ED PECC Flyer](#). The flyer is intended to provide an overview of the role and responsibilities of an ED PECC. Ideally, there should be an ED physician and nurse PECC. Encouraged participants to share the flyer with their EDs.
- Shared the ED PECC lapel pins. The pins are intended to enhance engagement and the number of ED PECCs in Florida. If you are an ED PECC and would like a pin, please email pedready@jax.ufl.edu. An email was sent out to all PECCs asking them to select a lapel pin or challenge coin.
- A [NPRQI Annual Report 2024](#) was recently released. For any EDs that want to participate, you do need to submit data.
- There is a new [Interfacility Transfer Agreements Guide and Companion Toolkit](#)

Disaster

- Jennifer Silvey-Cason, EMT-P, Disaster Manager at UF Health Jacksonville presented on a system-wide maternal/newborn/pediatric evacuation exercise conducted at the UF Health Jacksonville Downtown and North Campuses. See the Mock Pediatric Evacuation [video](#). See the exercise plans available [here](#).
- Held discussions about Hurricanes Helene and Milton, including mental health and other supportive post-storm resources for children and teens (available [here](#)) developed by Lauren Young Work, LCSW
- Julie Bacon, MSN-HCSM, NPD-BC, NE-BC, CPN, CPEN, C-NPT presented on Johns Hopkins All Children's response to the recent hurricanes
- Discussed the IV solution disruption and pediatric challenges experienced as a result of the disruption. Shared [Baxter's latest update](#), [ASHP suggestions for management and conservation of IV solutions](#), [ASPR TRACIE: Intravenous Fluid Shortage Strategies](#), and [PPN Resource Central: Conserving IV Fluids and Oral Rehydration](#).
- Discussed the Pediatric Disaster Centers of Excellence (PDCOE) (G7, Region V for Kids, WRAP-EM). See the PDCOE website [here](#). Nicholas H. Carter, MD (University of Miami) presented an overview of the G7 Network and what they are currently working on. Discussed the opportunity for collaboration between Florida EMSC and Florida G7.

- Shared the following disaster resources: [Pediatric Disaster Checklist for Every Hospital \(EIIC\)](#) (revised), [Pediatric Chemical Surge Tabletop Exercise Kit](#), [Ready. Prep. Go! Season 2](#), [Disaster Preparedness Guide for Caregivers \(FEMA\)](#), [Pediatric Disaster Science Series](#), [Disaster Response Collaborative \(PPN\)](#), and [Disasters in Seconds](#)
- The TEEX MGT439 Pediatric Disaster Course in Tallahassee, Florida was rescheduled to February 25-26, 2025

National EMSC Program Information (EDC, EIIC, State Partnership Programs, PECARN, PPN, and Targeted Issues Grants)

- Shared national resources, including the [EMSC Pulse Newsletter](#), [Pediatric Education and Advocacy \(PEAK\) Kits](#), and [other resources](#). There is a new PEAK on Multisystem Trauma. There is a webinar on multisystem trauma workup in the ED (click [here](#) to listen). Shared [best practices in pediatric trauma imaging](#), hemorrhagic shock and massive transfusion protocol (MTP), and traumatic brain injury (TBI) resuscitation. The dose for tranexamic acid (TXA) can be found in MTP. The [Florida EMSC Pediatric Emergency ABCs and More Poster](#) was updated in September 2024 to reflect the new PEAK TBI medication guidelines. The pain management section was also updated. Discussed adding high flow nasal canula to the poster. If you have any related resources, please email pedready@jax.ufl.edu with more information.

New Podcasts, Literature, and Other Resources

- Shared new resources including a new podcast episode on the [Emergency Management of Pediatric Diabetes](#) (Peds-Centered Podcast August Edition). There are several new articles available: [Cost-Effectiveness And Health Impact Of Increasing Emergency Department Pediatric Readiness In The US](#) (October 2024), [Emergency Severity Index Version 4 and Triage of Pediatric Emergency Department Patients](#) (October 2024), [Strategies for Optimal Management of Pediatric Acute Agitation in Emergency Settings](#) (July 2024), and [A Protocol for Using Point-of-Care Ultrasound as an Adjunct in Pediatric Cardiac Arrest](#) (July 2024). Other new resources include the [Pediatric Acute Care Education Series \(PACES\)](#) and [Procedural Pain Management in Children and Youth: A Toolkit for Health Professionals](#).

Florida EMSC State Partnership Program Information

- Reviewed current national performance measures: pediatric readiness in EDs and EMS agencies, disaster planning, and family advocacy
- Discussed the upcoming Florida EMSC Site Visit scheduled for February 25-26, 2025. The visit is intended to showcase the work and accomplishments of Florida EMSC, including the Florida EMSC Advisory Committee. A Zoom will be available for committee members and liaisons to meet with HRSA and others on the site visit team.
- Provided an update on the Florida EMSC calendar. The 2025 calendar will be available digitally. Received great photo submissions to be featured in the calendar. There will be a theme each month and related resources. Stay tuned for more information.
- Provided an update on the Florida EMSC EMS agency welcome package. The welcome package is in review by Florida EMSC leadership and State EMS Regional Coordinators.
- Shared Florida EMSC flyers, including the [one-page overview](#), [resources flyer](#), and [communication cards flyer](#). Shared Florida EMSC resources, including the [modified JumpSTART and START badge buddies](#), [pediatric emergency ABCs and more](#), [pediatric pain and fever dosing guide](#), communication cards ([English and Spanish](#), [English and Haitian Creole](#)), and Ready Wrigley Prepares for Hurricanes Educational Activity Book (available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)). The educational activity book is designed to provide an interactive tool to further your child's education and promote disaster preparedness in your community. There is a limit on the number of books Florida EMSC can currently provide.

However, there are exceptions for conferences, community outreach events, etc. Reach out to pedready@jax.ufl.edu for more information. PEDReady Piggies are available. The pigs can serve as a distraction tool, spark conversations, and build rapport with a frightened child in an emergency setting. They are helpful during triage, initial assessment, and transport. To request a PEDReady Pig, email pedready@jax.ufl.edu.

- Highlighted the Florida EMSC [website](#), social media pages: Facebook ([@floridaemsforchildren](#)) and Instagram ([@flemsforchildren](#)), and the PE²ARL Quarterly E-newsletter. The [Summer Issue 2024](#) was released. The Fall Issue 2024 is coming soon. If there is a topic you would like highlighted or related pictures you would like shared in future issues, please email pedready@jax.ufl.edu with more information. [Sign up](#) to receive future issues of the e-newsletter and other Florida EMSC updates. [Past presentations](#) are available on the Florida EMSC website.

Upcoming Events

- Shared the following upcoming events:
 - [Injury Free Coalition for Kids 29th Annual Conference](#) December 6-8, 2024 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida
 - [National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference 2024](#) December 10-12, 2024 in Orlando, Florida
 - [Florida Fire and EMS Conference](#) January 6-10, 2025 in Orlando, Florida
 - [National Association of EMS Physicians](#) January 6-11, 2025 in San Diego, California
 - [Life After Residency: Thriving Beyond Medicine](#) April 2-3, 2025 in Orlando, Florida. Florida EMSC and PAMI plan to provide resources.
 - [Symposium by the Sea 2025](#) July 31-August 3, 2025 at Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa
- Discussed that the National Association of EMS Physicians and the Florida Fire and EMS Conference are scheduled on the same week in 2025 (January 6-10). It was agreed upon that the Florida EMSC Advisory Committee Meeting will be held virtually later in January 2025.

New Business

- Discussed that Florida EMSC is developing a list of Florida children's hospitals and contacts (Florida EMSC Committee/Liaison/Other Contact, PECCs, Trauma Program Manager, Outreach Coordinator, etc.). Asked for help from committee members with obtaining contacts. Please email contacts to pedready@jax.ufl.edu.
- Florida EMSC has the opportunity to collaborate with Florida Virtual School. Beth Brunner is the Executive Director of Florida Virtual School™ Foundation. Florida Virtual School has over 250,000 students. Rural families are key to access of education and support.

Liaison and Constituency Group Reports

- **Data Committee and Biospatial:** Dr. Hendry
NEMSIS is developing six pediatric dashboards. Click [here](#) for more information. Katelyn Dabhi, MS, CHES® to train with data committee (action item).
- **Florida Emergency Nurses Association:** Blake
Florida ENA formed a committee with the Florida pediatric readiness program. They are setting it up similar to state EMS with seven regions and are identifying local chapters within each of those regions. Working on identifying liaisons. There have been three meetings with people who are interested. There are 15 members on the committee. The National ENA Annual Conference was held in September 2024. Met with partners in other states. State ENA held their planning meeting for 2025. Allocated a budget for \$1,000 to use for needs. There are two people on the committee with experience writing grants. Florida ENA scholarships for first responders seeking nursing degrees will be available again next year. They are closed for this year. In regard to advocacy updates, National

ENA sat at the HHS coalition for boarding in the EDs and that included what to do about boarding children.

- **Florida Neonatal and Pediatric Transport Network Association (FNPTNA):** Shimko
The prehospital [neonatal](#) and [OB](#) education series remain available. Currently working on education on respiratory management. In December, FNPTNA is hosting a national neonatal/pediatric transport disaster discussion. Ms. Shimko asked if Florida EMSC can write a letter of support regarding the changes submitted for 64J on neonatal transports. Florida EMSC agreed to write the letter of support (action item).
- **Family Advisory Network (FAN):** Nasca, Brownfield, Burr, McNeil
Sandra Nasca unexpectedly could not join the meeting. A few key points from the national Pediatric Pandemic Network (PPN) meeting were provided by Dr. Hendry on her behalf. Florida EMSC now has four FAN representatives.
- **Rural:** Vause, Bedford, Redd
No updates
- **Florida Trauma Program Manager:** Nichols
The whole group is working on updating the Florida Trauma Standards to align with the ACS Standards. Looking at doing a pediatric-based TQIP in Florida. The PTS Conference is next week. TQIP is the Trauma Quality Improvement Project. It is a national benchmark where data for trauma programs is submitted and benchmarked with other hospitals based on certain metrics. There is not a whole lot in the TQIP that deals with pediatrics, but it is expanding. Dr. Hendry encouraged to share the PEAK: Multisystem Trauma with the trauma program managers.
- **Disaster Preparedness:** Downey
Chief Downey could not join the meeting.
- **Mental Health:** Work
Created a disaster mental health resource list. Lauren Young Work encourages hospitals and EMS agencies to reach out to their library system. Ms. Work posed the idea of sending out a brief monthly email centered around youth and mental health topics specific to EMS agencies and EDs. Ms. Work will provide the email to Florida EMSC to send out to the Florida EMSC email list each month and the information will be compiled in the Florida EMSC quarterly e-newsletter. In regard to community paramedicine, there is a workgroup beginning for pediatric topics in mobile integrated health (MIH). Discussed the blue band project, which is related to women receiving a blue band bracelet following giving birth to promote improved postpartum outcomes. Partnered with St. Mary's Medical Center to provide blue bands. This is a way MIH can partner with the hospitals. There are free safe sleep bags available for EMS agencies through the Department of Children and Families. For more information, please contact Lauren Young Work, LCSW at LDYoung@pbc.gov.
- **Community Paramedicine/Mobile Integrated Health/Health-Access-Resiliency and Telehealth:** Bedford, Work
Surveyed MIH programs and over half of them have maternal health or child care or a similar program. The hospitals need to reach out to EMS. See video shared by Jane Bedford regarding MIH in Florida [here](#).
- **EMS Educators**
No updates
- **Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators/Champions:** Weishaupt, Rabish
No updates
- **Injury Prevention**
No updates
- **Children's Medical Services, Child Death, Child Abuse:** Radigan
Dr. Hendry mentioned that Symone Ferguson is the new director replacing Joshua Thomas
- **Florida Committee on Trauma:** Draus
No updates

- Other

Questions and Open Discussion

Chief Kammel asked where information about expired saline is available. It was discussed that this information is available on the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration website](#).

Contact Information

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