



Escambia County Emergency Medical Services

Pediatric and Neonatal Quality Management Plan

Effective Date: 05/15/2025

Review Cycle

A comprehensive review will be done of the quality management assessment and management of neonatal and pediatric patients, biannually, in January and June of each calendar year. This review will look at global data and data analysis to ensure that national care metrics are being met, data is appropriately tracking and identify areas of need within the system for education, equipment, or process changes.

Pediatric care guidelines will be evaluated on an annual basis, at minimum, and will be revised as needed to adhere to national benchmarks, national best practice, and will follow current evidence-based treatment recommendations.

Purpose:

To ensure the highest standard of care for pediatric and neonatal patients, ECEMS will implement a comprehensive Continuous Quality Improvement plan that encompasses advanced case review, national benchmark adherence, and focused educational initiatives.

Scope:

This QI applies to all EMS providers operating under ECEMS who are involved in the care of pediatric patients (defined as birth through 18 years) and neonatal deliveries in the prehospital setting.

Goals:

- Objectively measure and observe the quality of emergency out of hospital pediatric care.
- Provide a comprehensive review of all pediatric patient care contacts.
- To enhance pediatric proficiency for all EMS providers by facilitating initial and continuing pediatric education for all providers and psychomotor competencies in a safe, effective scenario-based learning environment.
- Improve clinical outcomes through the education and empowerment of providers within Escambia County.
- Ensure compliance with national EMS pediatric care metrics.
- Promote evidence-based, high-quality pediatric care through education and training.



Key Components:

Case Review and Data Monitoring

- All pediatric patient encounters and OB deliveries will be subject to CQI review by the EMS QI committee and PECC (Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator) and notification will be done through the CQI portal in Image Trend.
- All critical pediatric patients that are taken to Sacred Heart will receive patient follow-up through the CareContinuity portal and patients taken to West Florida Hospital will receive feedback through the facility EMS Liaison representative.

Reviews will include, but are not limited to:

- Airway management
- Medication administration
- Assessment and documentation
- Pain management
- Scene times and transport decisions

CQI findings will be compared against national benchmarks, including those outlined by the National EMS Quality Alliance (NEMSQA) and EMSC (Emergency Medical Services for Children) performance measures.

Opportunities for improvement will be addressed with targeted feedback, training, and protocol revisions if necessary.

Education and Training

In addition to current Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) certification requirements, ECEMS will offer Pediatric Emergency Assessment, Recognition and Stabilization (PEARS) classes beginning in late 2025 and into 2026.

- Pediatric-focused continuing education will be featured at no fewer than one in-service training per calendar year.
- Training topics may include pediatric trauma, behavioral emergencies, special healthcare needs, neonatal resuscitation, and family-centered care.
- Education outcomes will be tracked through pre- and post-assessments and integrated into the QI feedback loop.

3. Collaboration and Benchmarking



The PECC will collaborate with Sacred Heart Hospital, Baptist Hospital, and West Florida Hospital to gather patient care feedback and participate in collaborative education efforts as well as the Florida PEDReady Coalition to continually improve pediatric patient care.

Benchmark data will be reviewed quarterly.