



## The National Pediatric Readiness Project Forges Ahead

Beginning in 2013 with the national assessment of pediatric readiness in U.S. emergency departments, this multi-phase national quality improvement speeds up. Pediatric



readiness programs are now in place or preparing to launch in nearly half of all states and territories. Due in large part to an ongoing partnership with the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Emergency Physicians, and the Emergency Nurses Association, the National Pediatric Readiness Project is making a difference for children. Click here to read the [National Pediatric Readiness White Paper](#).

With only a few months remaining of the first quality (Facility Recognition) collaborative (FRC), the EMSC community is gearing up for the next Pediatric Readiness Quality Collaborative (PRQC) focused on a grass roots approach to improving readiness in every community. For more information or to apply go to <https://emscimprovement.center/collaboratives/PRQuality-collaborative/>. The deadline to submit letters of interest has been-extended to 10/13/17. See page 3 for more details. **The deadline for applications in 10/31/17.**

## September is National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month (NPM) and the overarching theme is “Disasters Don’t Plan Ahead - You Can.” We should all take action to prepare! We are all able to help first responders in our community by providing training to prepare to respond during an emergency and what to do when disaster strikes — where we live, work, and visit.

The goal of NPM is to increase the overall number of individuals, families, and communities that engage in preparedness actions at home, work, business, school, and places of worship. Check out national resources at <https://www.ready.gov/september> and the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) as well as the [EIIIC](#). Continues on page 3

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[EMSCInnovation@TexasChildrens.org](mailto:EMSCInnovation@TexasChildrens.org) (Web)

<http://EMSCImprovement.Center>

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## Save the Dates!

- Every 33 seconds, one child under the age of 13 is involved in a motor vehicle crash. Many times deaths and injuries can be prevented by proper use of car seats, boosters, and seat belts. **Child Passenger Safety Week** is September 17-23, 2017 and National Seat Check Saturday is September 23, 2017. Get your [campaign materials](#) now!
- **Pediatric Readiness Quality Collaborative (PRQC)** office hours, open teleconference time to discuss opportunities, are scheduled for Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> & Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>. See <https://emscimprovement.center/collaboratives/PRQuality-collaborative/prqc-office-hours/> for further details.
- **Comment Period for the Revision of the EMS Scope of Practice Model remains open until October 7, 2015 at 5 pm ET.** NASEMSO is soliciting feedback on revised portions contained in the *2007 National EMS Scope of Practice Model*, available on the [project web site](#). An expert panel selected from members of the EMS community considered updated background information and a systematic review of literature, including the following five key areas as priority topics: use of opioid antagonists at the BLS level; therapeutic hypothermia following cardiac arrest; pharmacological pain management following an acute traumatic event; hemorrhage control; and use of CPAP/BiPAP at the EMT level. Content regarding EMS levels and skill sets is still under discussion and will be addressed in future versions. National engagement provides interested parties with an opportunity to comment on the draft to ensure that the document reflects the collective expertise and experience of the whole community. Individuals or organizations that wish to provide input should enter comments here.
- **Contribute to EMS Agenda 2050** The EMS Agenda 2050 document will guide the direction of EMS in the United States moving forward, and these regional meetings are an opportunity for stakeholders to participate in the process. As [pediatric advocates for enhancing quality in EMS](#), each of you should consider attending one of the host four public meetings throughout the U.S. where attendees will meet and discuss the future of EMS with the project's Technical Expert Panel, a group of 10 individuals with wide-ranging and diverse experiences within EMS systems and healthcare organizations. Meetings will be held on the following dates/locations:
  - September 25, 2017 | Silver Spring, MD
  - November, 7, 2017 | Minneapolis, MN
  - January 17, 2018 | Los Angeles, CA
  - March 1, 2018 | Dallas, TX

**[Pre-registration for these meetings is required.](#)** In addition to the four regional meetings, many other opportunities exist to provide input and feedback. Suggestions and comments are always welcome via the project [website](#). In addition, EMS Agenda 2050 will host webinars and conference listening sessions, and anyone is encouraged to reach out to [members of the TEP](#) or [organizational liaisons](#). A timeline of opportunities for collaboration and input is available [here](#).

## Resources Available

The semi-annual [EMSC News](#) has been updated and posted on the EIIC website. You may use this document to keep colleagues and partner organizations up to date on EMSC program activities.

Keep an eye on the [EMSC Impact and Outcome page](#) to stay updated on the overall effect of the EMSC program since its inception.

Please be sure to watch out for items of interest to the EMSC Community including [national projects, webinars, and opportunities to support EMS for Children on the EIIC Facebook page and Twitter](#). We use these channels to announce items on short notice.

Are you, or do you know of any new EMSC personnel?

If so, please forward name, position, and contact information to [HRSАEMSC@hrsa.gov](mailto:HRSАEMSC@hrsa.gov) so the program can keep information up to date. Don't forget to update the [Interactive Database](#) too!

## Massachusetts is seeking a Director of the Emergency Medical Services for Children Program

Duties will include developing, coordinating, and monitoring the EMSC Program activities in order to ensure effective operations and compliance with established standards.

The position is within the Division of Violence and Injury Prevention (DVIP) Unit at the MDPH Headquarters, Boston, MA.

The link for the posting is <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ftl?job=17000350>.

## Training and Affiliate Sites Still Needed for the Next Quality Improvement Collaborative

The EMSC Innovation and Improvement Center is spearheading a QI collaborative, the Pediatric Readiness Quality Collaborative (PRQC), to assist state programs in accelerating their progress in improving the pediatric readiness of EDs through new interventions. A Train-the-Trainer model will be used to provide regional networks with tools to improve pediatric readiness. Twenty teams composed of training and affiliate sites will be guided to develop local quality improvement efforts to foster pediatric readiness.

Find more information, including archived webinars, Frequently Asked Questions Document, a list of office hours and further details on the [EIIIC Website](#). **The deadline to submit letters of intent is October 13, 2017.** All questions should be directed to [geca@texaschildrens.org](mailto:geca@texaschildrens.org).

## This September, Do the Prep Step! – Support your Local Children

Celebrate **National Preparedness Month** with “**The Prep Step!**” – a fun song and dance teaches kids the basics of emergency preparedness – and keeps them grooving and moving during break time, afterschool or at home.

Less than half of American families have an emergency plan, but children can be powerful change agents in leading the movement (literally and figuratively) towards preparedness.

Join 50,000+ children across the U.S. in learning the importance of knowing ICE contacts, making a plan, and packing a go-bag. Supplement messages with free turnkey Prep Step lessons and send-home family resources as desired to meet the needs of your program. It’s really that easy. Learn more and register your dance party at:

[www.savethechildren.org/PrepStep](http://www.savethechildren.org/PrepStep)

## Recent Disasters Highlight the Need for Continual Readiness

September is the National Preparedness Month. Recent natural disasters, namely Hurricanes Harvey and Irma as well as the many wildfires in the West, have highlighted the continued need for disaster preparedness, especially as it relates to the needs of children. Professionals involved in the EMS for Children program are uniquely positioned to support and advise their local, state, and federal agencies to make sure that disaster preparedness activities include the needs of children and address the entire continuum of pediatric emergency care.



The EIIIC is working to organize the disaster preparedness tools and strategies specific to children throughout the pediatric emergency care continuum to be easier to find on our website. Tools will include: reunification of families, management of complex care children before and during disasters, specialized care of children in shelters due to housing displacement. We will also include some more long term issues such as: mental health for the child experiencing a disaster; exposure to flood waters, smoke, or from industrial site contaminants and their associated illnesses; dealing with health issues for those shelters in close proximity; and others. To find hurricane specific items go to <https://emscimprovement.center/categories/disaster/>

If you have difficulty finding a resource, please be sure to use our full text search box in the upper right hand corner of the site. If that doesn't work, please send us an email at [EMSCInnovation@texaschildrens.org](mailto:EMSCInnovation@texaschildrens.org). **A special issue highlighting the recent response to Hurricane Harvey will be released soon.**

## EMSC Quality Transformation Meeting: Moving Forward with the Mission

**Want to revisit information you heard?** Presentations and other references from the meeting are on the [EIIC website](#).

### NAEMSO's August Pediatric Emergency Care Council Meeting Summary

The National Association of State EMS Officials' (NAEMSO) Pediatric Emergency Care Council (PECC) held a brief yet productive meeting before the official start of the August EMSC Quality Transformation Meeting. After discussing minor housekeeping issues (NAEMSO Fall Meeting planning, Regional Representative roles and responsibilities, CoPEM updates), two important action items were passed.

- PECC decided that updates and revisions to their Work plan would start at the Regional level, where each Region would take a section to discuss at their separate meetings, and the Regional Lead will bring back comments to the October PECC meeting. A yet-to-be-formed Workgroup will then take all suggestions and comments to finalize a draft Work plan for discussion and approval at the NAEMSO Spring Meeting.
- Much of the meeting's discussion focused on EMSC Performance Measure 03, and what PECC could do to support each other in achieving this goal (the percentage of EMS agencies in the state or territory that have a process that requires EMS providers to physically demonstrate the correct use of pediatric-specific equipment). Many participants agreed that they are getting numerous calls from agencies requesting help with pediatric skills verification. The Council again decided to utilize the Regions to provide ideas for specific skills (to be chosen by the Region) and present their findings at the October meeting. Ideas will be compiled in a format that EMSC programs and EMS agencies can utilize to help meet this measure.



### It is Back to School Time

While the hurricanes and wildfires are still ongoing, it is back to school time in most of the country. The American Academy of Pediatrics has recommendations for parents on [back to school safety](#), [car seat](#) and [booster seat](#) safety. Share these links with families!



### The EIIC Website – Our Search Box is your Friend

Our Website is continually under review and revision.

If you have difficulty finding a resource, please be sure to use our full text search box in the upper right hand corner of the site. If that doesn't work, please send us an email at [EMSCInnovation@texaschildrens.org](mailto:EMSCInnovation@texaschildrens.org).



## NASEMSO Releases National Model EMS Clinical Guidelines, Version 2

The National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) recently released the National Model EMS Clinical Guidelines, Version 2. This set of clinical EMS guidelines is an updated and expanded version of the guidelines originally released in 2014. Version 2, completed Sept. 15, 2017, has undergone a complete review and update of the original core set of 56 guidelines, and includes 15 new guidelines. The effort was led by a core team from the NASEMSO Medical Directors Council, along with representatives from eight national EMS physician organizations. The Co-Principal Investigators are Dr. Carol Cunningham and Dr. Richard Kamin. Countless hours of review and edits were contributed by subject matter experts, as well as EMS stakeholders who responded with comments and recommendations during two public comment periods.

The guidelines were created as a resource to be used or adapted for use on a state, regional or local level to enhance patient care. The development of these guidelines was made possible by funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Office of EMS and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Maternal and Child Health Bureau's EMS for Children Program.

Version 2 of the guidelines may be downloaded at [National Model EMS Clinical Guidelines](#). The guidelines are available in Word format to adapt for your own use by contacting NASEMSO Program Manager Mary Hedges at [hedges@nasemso.org](mailto:hedges@nasemso.org).

## Please support the children affected by Hurricane Harvey.



Photos courtesy of FEMA.

The EMS for Children Innovation & Improvement Center recently reached out to the Texas Pediatric Society Foundation (TPSF) to request that they set up an Emergency Relief/Recovery giving category targeting the special needs of children post disaster. The mission of the TPSF is to enhance the well-being of Texas children by supporting efforts to help improve their health, safety and education and to make a positive impact on their lives and futures.

The funds collected by the TPSF for Emergency Relief/Recovery will be provided in the form of grants to emergency relief and recovery efforts conducted by physicians, community advocates and other child advocacy organizations in Texas during times of a natural disaster such as a hurricane, flood, fire, earthquake and other emergency events. To find out more about the TPSF visit their website at <https://txpeds.org/tps-foundation>. To make a donation to the TPSF Emergency Relief/Recovery giving category use the [online form](#).

The Emergency Medical Services for Children Innovation and Improvement Center (EIIIC), in collaboration with its national partners and experts across the EMS continuum, recognizes the needs of children post disaster that can be supported through programs that target: mental health for the child experiencing a disaster; exposure to flood waters, industrial site contaminants, molds and their associated illnesses; dealing with health issues for those housed in close proximity in shelters; and others.

[Donate now!](#)

**Donate today to help strengthen the Texas emergency medical services continuum of care for children.**