



THE PEDI TIMES

EMSC STATE PARTNERSHIP, ARKANSAS

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Arkansas Department of Health

NHTSA: Working Group Best-Practice Recommendations for the Safe Transportation of Children in Emergency Ground Ambulances

Special points of interest:

- **NHTSA: Recommendations**
- **Performance Measure Spotlight**
- **NASEMSO Meeting**

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has released recommendations for the safe transport of children in emergency ground ambulances. The link to the recommendations can be found here: <http://www.ems.gov/BestPracticeRecomendations.htm> The recommendations were developed by an Expert Working Group convened in a contract overseen by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The transport of children in an ambulance is an issue that confronts every ambulance service in Arkansas. The new guidelines provide national, state and local emergency medical services organizations with clear guidance on best practices for properly restraining children traveling by ambulance from the scene of a traffic crash or medical emergency to a hospital or medical facility. If widely adopted, the guidelines could serve as a tool for standardizing national child restraint protocols in ground ambulances across the United States.

EMSC Program Manager Attends

NASEMSO meeting in Boise, ID

Jack Hill, EMSC Program Manager attended the NASEMSO meeting in Boise, ID. As the EMSC Program Manager he sits on the Pediatric Emergency Care Council. The Pediatric Emergency Care Council is a council of the National Association of the State EMS Officials (NASEMSO). The council formulates recommendations on policies and positions specific to Emergency Medical Services for Children. These recommendations are considered by the NASEMSO Executive Committee and positions are taken by the association as a whole (not by individual councils), to represent consensus of all state and territorial EMS offices, nationwide.

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What is a Performance Measure?

The Purpose of the EMSC Program performance measures is to document activities and accomplishments of the Program in improving the delivery of emergency services to children.

Reference: *Performance Measures: An implementation Manual for State Partnership Grantees, 2009 Edition*

“ You must be the change you wish to see in the world.” – Mahatma Gandhi

Performance Measure Spot Light

Performance Measure 72(BLS)

The number of agencies that had written protocols and carried them at least 90% of the time on the ambulance or on the provider.

In survey results, 64% of BLS providers reported having off-line medical direction at the scene of an emergency. In looking at the data from this period there seems to be a mis-understanding concerning the definition of off-line medical direction. **The state of Arkansas requires all pre-hospital providers to have off-line pediatric medical direction.**

Performance Measure 72(ALS)

The number of agencies that had written protocols and carried them at least 90% of the time on the ambulance or on the provider.

98% of ALS providers reported having pediatric medical direction at the scene of an emergency. Again, in looking at the data from this period there seems to be a mis-understanding concerning the definition of off-line medical direction. **The state of Arkansas requires all pre-hospital providers to have off-line pediatric medical direction.**



Pediatric Readiness Project

The National Pediatric Readiness Project is a collaborative multi-phase quality improvement initiative to ensure that emergency departments (EDs) are ready to care for children. The project will begin with a national assessment of EDs. Each ED that completes the assessment will receive immediate feedback in the form of a “Pediatric Readiness Score” and a gap analysis report. A clearinghouse of quality improvement resources will be available to empower EDs to improve their scores and to align themselves with the National Guidelines on pediatric readiness. Arkansas is scheduled to roll out this assessment in April 2013.

Pediatric Equipment

The EMSC program continues to have equipment to hand out to services. Please contact Jack Hill at 501-280-4902 if you have not received your pediatric equipment.



Next EMSC Advisory Committee Meeting

**November 20, 2012 at 2:00pm.
Freeway Medical Bldg.
Suite 801
Little Rock, AR**