



The Pediatric Readiness Quality Collaborative Progresses!

The EMS for Children Innovation and Improvement Center's (EIIC) second national quality improvement collaborative the **Pediatric Readiness Quality Collaborative (PRQC)** remains active. The PRQC is a two-year, grassroots initiative, focused on frontline providers in participating emergency departments. The collaborative will run through Dec. 2019. Sixteen teams consisting of 146 hospitals are collaborating to improve their pediatric readiness and overall capacity to provide pediatric emergency care. Teams consist of a training site (Comprehensive Medical Center or Children's Hospital [n=19]) and a group of affiliate sites representing urban, suburban, rural and frontier emergency departments [n=127]. The collaborative teams are spread across the United States and include hospitals in each of the following states: AK, CA, CT, GA, IL, IN, MO, KS, NJ, NY, OR, RI, TN, TX, VT, WA, and WI. Champions from the participating emergency departments are provided with resources, tools, quality improvement education, strategies, and metrics to assist in improving pediatric readiness in their respective emergency departments. Participating facilities are working on any of four interventions based on gaps identified during the 2013 National Pediatric Readiness Assessment:

1. Developing a process that assures children are weighed and weight is recorded in kilograms;
2. Developing a notification process for abnormal vital signs;
3. Ensuring the presence of pediatric inter-facility transfer guidelines; and
4. Ensuring hospital disaster plans include pediatric-specific priorities.

MCHB Launching Four Grand Challenges

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), will **award up to \$1.5 million in prize awards across four Grand Challenges:**

- **[Using Technology to Prevent Childhood Obesity Challenge](#)**, launching **July 23, 2018**: supports the creation of tech innovations to promote healthy weight for children and families within the context of their communities.
- **[Care Coordination for Children with Special Health Care Needs \(CSHCN\) Challenge](#)**, launching **August 2018**: supports the creation of tech innovations to help families, providers, and case managers with care planning and coordination for CSHCN.
- **[Remote Pregnancy Monitoring Challenge](#)**, launching **September 2018**: supports the creation of tech innovations to help prenatal care providers remotely monitor the health and well-being of pregnant women, as well as place health data into the hands of pregnant women as a tool to monitor their own health and make informed decisions about care.
- **[Preventing Opioid Misuse in Pregnant Women & New Moms Challenge](#)**, launching **September 2018**: improves access to quality health care, including substance use disorder treatment, recovery and support services for pregnant women with opioid use disorders, their infants, and families, especially those in rural and geographically isolated areas.

Each Challenge has three phases with winners who advance to the next phase. Visit the links provided for each Grand Challenge to learn more.

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Save the Dates!

The EIIC website now has an [Events page](#) that includes a list of upcoming events and activities pertinent to the EMSC community. Please bookmark and visit often.

- **Joint Commission Accepting Abstracts for 2019 Emergency Preparedness Conference** – Consider submitting a proposal on practitioner-based, change-focused processes and practices for the *2019 Emergency Preparedness Conference (4/23-24/2019)* in Washington, D.C.). Abstract focus should be new processes, technologies, techniques and/or tools, creativity, and innovation used within any health care setting used to demonstrate a successful approach to preparedness. The deadline for [abstract submission](#) to the conference is September 1, 2018.
- The Uniformed Services University National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health is hosting the **2018 Disaster Education Symposium** on 9/12/2018 in Bethesda MD. Learn about current and future education initiatives in disaster medicine and public health education and enjoy the opportunity to network with your colleagues at this free one-day event. [Register today!](#)
- **EIIC Webinars:** *Adolescent Mental Health Screening (9/13/2018)*; *Pediatric Sepsis (11/14/18)*; and *Medication Dosing Errors (12/13/18)*. Check the [EIIC Website](#) in the coming weeks details and to register.
- **2nd Annual National Opioid Crisis Management Congress** will be 9/27-28/ 2018 in Washington, DC. The conference will address the state of the science in pain management, characterize the epidemiology of the opioid epidemic, and identify actions that can be taken to respond to this crisis. For agenda or to register click [here](#).
- [American College of Emergency Physicians](#) meets in San Diego, October 1-4, 2018.
- [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) will be held November 2-6, 2018 in Orlando.
- The **Association of Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Professionals (AHEPP)** is hosting their annual conference in November. Registration and a preview of sessions are [now available](#).
- **National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference** will be held in New Orleans November 27-29, 2018. The registration portal is [open](#).
- [Pediatric Academic Societies](#): April 24-May 1, 2019, Baltimore
- [National Association of State EMS Officials](#): May 13-16, 2019, Salt Lake City
- [Society for Academic Emergency Medicine](#): May 14-17, 2019, Las Vegas
- **SAVE THE DATE: EMSC Program Meeting**: Week of August 18, 2019, Hilton Crystal City

Resources Available

Please be sure to watch 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.

Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange (ASPR TRACIE) has released a fact sheet on [electricity-dependent DME and disasters](#).

Children's Hospitals and Preparedness Webinars Archived

The AAP and the CDC work together to improve children's preparedness planning. The Children's Hospitals and Preparedness Webinar Series aims to promote a dialogue among clinicians and disaster planners at children's hospitals and to improve each hospital's response plan and ability to care for children in an emergency. Recent webinars in this series, "Planning for Hospital Pediatric Surge: Solutions Within Reach", and "Family Reunification: Debut of a New AAP Tool", will be archived on the [AAP Disaster Preparedness and Response Webinar Archives Web page](#).

Hurricane Recovery Webinar

In collaboration with the Texas Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Florida Chapter of the AAP, the AAP Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council convened a webinar on August 8, 2018 titled, "Hurricanes and Storms: From Preparedness to Recovery, Strategies for a Brighter Future". The webinar provided details on why disaster response and recovery efforts are critically important for all pediatricians and how they can prepare to respond and help colleagues and families to recover after a disaster. The [webinar](#) and [PowerPoint slides](#) are archived online.

EMSCPulse welcomes articles about people, programs, and initiatives related to emergency medical services for children. Submit to EMSCInnovation@TexasChildrens.org

HRSA Study Finds 1 in 4 Children and 1 in 5 Adolescents are Bullying Victims

Recent data show that 24 percent of children ages 6 to 11 are bullying victims, slightly higher than the 21 percent of adolescents ages 12 to 17 who are bullied, according to reports from their parents. This study analyzed data from [HRSA's 2016 National Survey of Children's Health](#) to provide estimates for children as young as 6 years.

Children with language disorders were 65 percent more likely to be bullied; children who used technology more than 3 hours per day were 37 percent more likely to be bullied; and children with two or more emergency department visits in the past year were 72 percent more likely to be bullied. Additionally, adolescents with autism were 56 percent more likely to be bullied. Among both children and adolescents, those with special health care needs, anxiety or depression, and behavioral/conduct problems were more likely to be bullied.

Results highlight the need to begin bullying prevention efforts at young ages and to address the needs of youth at greatest risk. Findings also reveal the need for training for adults in frequent contact with children and adolescents. [Read the journal abstract at Journal of Child and Family Studies.](#)

Summit on Cyberbullying Prevention

On Monday, August 20, HRSA hosted the Federal Partners in Bullying Prevention (FPBP) Summit on Cyberbullying Prevention. The meeting explored the latest research and resources in the field, increase awareness about existing cyberbullying prevention efforts, and identify strategies for collaboration across various sectors. Attendees included representatives from federal agencies, educational institutions, social media companies, and others. Watch social media for #CyberbullyingSummit and view the recordings at <https://www.c-span.org/organization/?116665/Federal-Partners-Bullying-Prevention-Steering-Committee>.

FPBP's mission is to ensure coordination among federal agencies working in bullying prevention and provide consistent, accurate resources. The network has held annual or biannual bullying summits since its inception in 2010. Previous summits have addressed a range of emerging topics.

Other Articles of Interest

Yuknis ML, Weinstein E, Maxey H, et al. [Frequency of Pediatric Emergencies in Ambulatory Practices](#). *Pediatrics*. 2018. doi:10.1542/peds.2017-3082

In a study of 38,841 pediatric emergencies requiring EMS transportation between Jan. 1, 2012, and Dec. 31, 2014, nearly 350 (0.85%) occurred in ambulatory practices — a rate of 42 emergencies per 100,000 children annually. Most emergencies occurring of those were respiratory distress (58.1%), psychiatric or behavioral emergencies (6.3%) and seizures (6.3%). Supplemental oxygen was used in 27.4% of emergencies, and albuterol was used in 26.5%. Other critical care interventions were rarely needed.

Pilkey D, Edwards C, Richards R, et al. [Pediatric Readiness in Critical Access Hospital Emergency Departments](#). *J Rural Health*. 2018 Jul 30. doi: 10.1111/jrh.12317. [Epub ahead of print]

Written by staff at the HRSA EMSC program, the Federal Office of Health Policy and the National EMS Data Advisory Center, describes the Pediatric Readiness of Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs), often the first point of access for emergency care, especially in rural areas. About 86% of CAHs participated in the National Pediatric Readiness in 2013-2014. The paper provides results from the NPRP Assessment, comparing low and medium patient volume CAHs. The median Weighted Pediatric Readiness Score (WPRS) was 59.0 for low and 67.3 for medium volume. Overall 63% of CAHs had a pediatric emergency care coordinator, 34% had a pediatric patient care review process, 62% had interfacility transfer guidelines, 26% had disaster plans that included children, and 45% weighed children only in kilograms. CAHs participating in a facility recognition program had significantly higher median WPRS scores (84.3) compared to those not participating (59.5). The paper also highlights tools and policies to improve the Pediatric Readiness of CAHs. If you would like a copy of the paper, please contact Diane Pilkey at dpilkey@hrsa.gov.

New Substance Abuse Infographic from Healthy People 2020

To highlight Healthy People 2020 Leading Health Indicator (LHI) topics, health.gov releases a new infographic with the idea of showing progress toward Healthy People 2020 LHI targets and work yet to be done.

This month's topic is [Substance Abuse](#). Check out the [Healthy People 2020 LHI Infographic Gallery](#) to see infographics for other LHI topic areas.

See Indiana's Recommendations for School Safety

Gov. Eric Holcomb has ordered immediate implementation of four of the 18 recommendations of his school safety task force from the [report released in August](#). The remaining 14 are left to the Indiana legislature.

The 137 page document include appendices of suggested safety practices, checklists, job descriptions and other resources.

ONC and EMS Update

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) is a resource to the entire health system to support the adoption of health information technology and the promotion of nationwide health information exchange to improve health care. ONC is the principal federal entity charged with coordination of nationwide efforts to implement and use the most advanced health information technology and the electronic exchange of health information. Recent activities include:

- [Trusted Exchange Framework](#) which outlines a common set of principles for trusted exchange and minimum terms and conditions for trusted exchange is designed to bridge the gap between providers' and patients' information systems and enable interoperability across disparate health information networks (HINs).
- [Patient Unified Lookup System for Emergencies \(Pulse\)](#) In 2014, the ONC and HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) collaborated to evaluate how health information exchange (HIE) could be used in times of disaster to provide safer more effective care to individuals. One plan set forth was the development of a disaster response medical history portal called the Patient Unified Lookup System for Emergencies or PULSE. PULSE could be activated during and after a disaster and provide users with a summary view a patient's medical history. For more information, see this [Wired feature](#).

Wildfire Resources for Children

Colleagues at USCF Child Trauma Research would like to bring attention to resources that are freely available. A coloring book, *Trinka and Sam and the Big Fire*, is available in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#). The resource book describes some of Trinka and Sam's reactions and speaks to how their parents help them to express their feelings. It is designed to help young children and families discuss feelings and worries that they may experience during and after a large-scale fire.

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network provides other useful resources for [public health](#), [mental health](#), and [emergency preparedness/response](#).

Other resources include those from [Ready.gov](#) and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#).



Welcome to EMSC! Find their contact information in the [Grantee Contact List](#)

Maine has a new State Partnership Program Manager!

Marc Minkler is a paramedic, EMS educator and consultant who has partnered with fire departments, EMS services and hospitals to improve their clinical care, knowledge, and operations. After over three decades, as a clinician, educator, training director, EMS supervisor, director of Maine's largest EMS region and Chief of EMS for Maine's largest EMS service, Marc knows what drives EMS systems and the partnerships between EMS, hospitals and long-term care—and it's not mastering the golden hour. It is how well you connect with the people you're trying to help and provide professional evidence-based care.

Marc has worked in Vermont, Maryland, and Maine, and taught in other states. He is well published, has been a member of the Maine State Education and QI committee. He serves on the Sanford Regional Technical School's EMS program Board of Advisors and is a member of NASEMSO, NAEMT and NAEMSE.

Marc studied Business Administration at St. Michael's College, Healthcare Management at Southern New Hampshire University, and taught at Southern Maine Community College, Eastern Maine Community College and TECC Education in Washington, DC.

Marc lives on Chebeague Island, ME and can be found enjoying fine sunsets with the people and animals in his 178 year old home (who sometimes allow him space on the couch).

Florida has a new State Partnership Program Manager!

Michelle Bailey, a licensed EMT, is the new Florida State Partnership Program Manager. A 33-year employee of Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare, Inc.

During her tenure, as Office Manager she oversaw insurance and billing functions for Dialysis, Physical Therapy, Radiation Therapy and Muscular Dystrophy patients. Next, she supported the Respiratory Care Department, and then worked in Human Resources for a few years.

During the final 23 years, she worked with Medical Outreach and Physician Services with duties including a wide range of business support, accounting and payroll and coordinating meetings not to mention credentialing 600+ providers and depts. I also handle the provider contracts and their payroll as well. There were many other duties, but these are a basic lowdown.

Michelle and her husband Bobby have four children and seven grandchildren. They love their church as well as all sports, movies and traveling.



What a GREAT video to start your next Health Care Coalition Meeting! Don't Think About It...Do It!

PrepTalks: Youth - The Key to Building a Culture of Preparedness --This [23-minute presentation](#) highlights how children are great mobilizers, actors, and connectors within their communities for building a culture of preparedness. The speaker, director of U.S. Emergencies for Save the Children, discusses how children can share what they learn and bring home preparedness messages. She uses her experience and sociological data to show how emergency managers can use the natural curiosity of children to build preparedness in their communities.

The deadline for the September Denver PECARN hotel accommodations at the group rate is September 3, 2018.

September is National Preparedness Month



Each year during September, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) sponsored [National Preparedness Month](#) aims to enable citizens to prepare for and respond to all types of emergencies, including natural disasters and terrorist attacks. This year's theme for National Preparedness Month is "Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How." Recognition of this month offers opportunities to emphasize important Emergency Medical Services concepts and recommendations, especially for children.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has a [resource page](#) on its Children and Disasters Web site dedicated to National Preparedness Month. This page includes a call to action for clinicians to take specific actions to promote pediatric emergency readiness in September. During National Preparedness Month, the AAP encourages folks to utilize the resources below:

Family Reunification Following Disasters: A Planning Tool for Health Care Facilities

The AAP has developed a new tool titled "[Family Reunification Following Disasters: A Planning Tool for Health Care Facilities](#)". The purpose of this tool is to provide assistance to hospitals as they review and update their plans to provide information, support services, and safe reunification assistance to family members of patients who have experienced disasters.

Pediatric and Public Health Preparedness Exercise Resource Kit

The AAP and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have collaborated to promote pediatric preparedness through implementation of pediatric-focused exercises (as well as suggesting pediatric content be added to existing exercises). As the result of two exercises conducted by the AAP/CDC in 2016 and 2017, the "[Pediatric and Public Health Preparedness Exercise Resource Kit](#)" was developed. The purpose of this kit is to provide tools and templates to make it easier for states, communities, hospitals, or health care coalitions to conduct a pediatric tabletop exercise, which provides participants with the opportunity to discuss and assess preparedness plans and capabilities for a disaster that affects children. For additional information, visit the [AAP Pediatric and Public health Tabletop Exercise Web page](#).

Family Readiness Kit

The [AAP Family Readiness Kit](#) was developed to help families get disaster-ready. This kit includes general guidelines for readiness that can be used in most situations. Simple steps to help families build a kit, make a plan, be informed, and get involved are included.

If you have any questions about AAP National Preparedness Month activities or resources, email DisasterReady@aap.org or visit the AAP [National Preparedness Month resource page](#).