

EMS for Children (EMSC) Committee Meeting
Virginia Office of EMS
Embassy Suites, 2925 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23294
May 5, 2022
3:00 p.m.

Core Members Present:	OEMS Staff:	Guests:
Patrick McLaughlin , Chair	Wanda Street	Peppy Winchel
Heidi M. Hooker , Executive Director, Old Dominion EMS Alliance (ODEMSA)	Chris Vernovai	Jennifer Wilson
David P. Edwards , EMSC Program Manager (VDH, OEMS)		Charles Feiring
Petra Connell , EMSC Family Advisory Network (FAN) Representative		Greg Neiman
Mike Watkins , Nurse with Pediatric Emergency Experience		
Tanya Trevilian , Peds Trauma Program Manager		
Tim Perkins , EMSC Program Principal Investigator		
Kelley Rumsey ,		
Barbara Kahler ,		
Patricia Dusty Lynn , Pediatric EMS Educator, UVA		

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to order:	The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by the chair, Patrick McLaughlin. A “special presentation” by HandTevy Pediatric Standards was moved forward in the agenda to begin as closely after 3:00 p.m. as possible, after which the Committee returned to the original draft agenda order.	
Introductions:	Everyone around the room introduced themselves.	
Special Presentation: HandTevy Pediatric Standards VA Implementation	<p>Tim Perkins introduced Patrick Bavaro (<i>Vice-President of Business Development</i>) and Michael Forrester (<i>Vice President of Operations</i>) of HandTevy Pediatric Standards. Together they provided an introduction to the HandTevy application that many Virginia EMS agencies are now in the process of implementing. (This was provided to licenses Virginia EMS agencies at no cost by the Office of EMS),</p> <p>After the guided presentation there was a spirited question and answer session where limitations, difficulties, successes and future operability related to the HandTevy ap were frankly discussed with Committee members. Members were encouraged to contact Tim Perkins directly, or Mr. Bavaro and Mr. Forrester at HandTevy, with additional questions or comments.</p>	Follow-up questions can be directed to Tim Perkins.
Approval of the minutes from March 10, 2022 meeting:	The minutes were approved as submitted.	The minutes were approved as submitted.
Chair Report – Patrick McLaughlin:	Dr. McLaughlin thanked everyone for their attendance at the March 10 th meeting.	
OEMS Report:	Tim Perkins – We are working on the State EMS Plan.	

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
EMSC Program Report – Dave Edwards:	<p>Dave gave a brief highlights report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022 EMS agency Survey over. Kudos to the EMS Regional Directors and staffs for facilitating a 66% overall response rate—3 regions had 100% of their EMS agencies submit surveys! Results will be shared at November meeting. • 2021 NPRP (national pediatric readiness project) hospital ED survey results being shared with hospitals (available to others at November meeting). • National training for Pediatric Champions ending for now. • NASEMS Pediatric Council to meet in person in June. <p>David is in the process of ordering a limited number of child safety restraints systems with federal EMSC funding. Restraint systems are also an excellent choice for RSAF grant applications.</p> <p>The full EMS for Children Program Report will be attached at the end of the minutes.</p>	Full EMSC Program Report attached at end of minutes.
EMSC Family Representative Report – Petra Connell:	No report.	
Committee Member Organization Reports:		
Unfinished/Old Business:	a. 2022 Symposium – Call for presentations is closed	
New Business:	b. Future Meeting Dates – See below. c. Other	
Public Comment:	None.	
Adjournment:	<p>The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:25 p.m.</p> <p>2022 Meeting Dates: May 5, August 4, November 17 Location: Embassy Suites Time: 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.</p>	

Below is the full version of the EMS for Children program written report presented by David Edwards and provided as a handout at the EMSC Committee meeting:

VIRGINIA EMS for CHILDREN (EMSC) PROGRAM REPORT

Annual EMS Agency Survey Ends March 31st

A total of. After the data was cleaned, the number of EMS agencies used in the performance measure calculations below was adjusted to include only those agencies that met the performance measure criteria (6,910 agencies).

The national EMSC EMS Agency Survey was began the first week of January will continue through March 31st. Hosted online by the [National Emergency Medical Services for Children \(EMSC\) Data Analysis Resource Center \(NEDARC\)](#), the goal of the survey is to improve understanding of EMS agencies' ability to care for children by collecting data on two specific EMSC performance measures:

- **Performance Measure 02** assesses if an agency has access to a pediatric emergency care coordinator (PECC)
- **Performance Measure 03** focuses on an agency's process for skill-checking on pediatric equipment.

Last year over seven thousand EMS agencies responded to the [EMS for Children Survey](#), which was sent to agencies across 58 states and territories.

Pediatric Champions Work Group Forming

A small EMSC Program work group is forming to collect resources and facilitate the appointment of Pediatric Champions for EMS agencies and/or groups of EMS agencies. They will be contributing to materials at the EMSC Booth at Symposium, and working on strategies to educate and recruit Pediatric Champions (sometimes call pediatric emergency care coordinators-PECCs).

PEPP and ENPC Course Funding Assistance Still Available

The Virginia EMSC Program continues to offer support for pediatric courses like PEPP and/or Emergency Nurses Pediatric Course (ENPC) in regions that have difficulty in accessing pediatric training. Please let us know if you are trying to set up a course and need some form of support for instructors, fees, or materials to get these courses out there.

EMSC Program Work Groups

The EMSC Program is seeking volunteers to help with needed EMS for Children program workgroups. If you have passion and/or expertise concerning pediatric emergency care issues, and can donate some time, the Virginia EMSC Program can use your assistance. Please contact David Edwards (david.edwards@vdh.virginia.gov) is you can help us any of the following topics:

- Workgroup to support developing EMS Agency Pediatric Champions (forming now).
- Workgroup to develop recommended EMS agency policies and procedures for *restraining children during ambulance transport*.
- Best practices in creating a *voluntary recognition program* for hospital ED's that demonstrate a specified readiness level in caring for children (medical).
- Templates for and examples of *written hospital emergency transfer guidelines and agreements* (that specifically refer to pediatric patients).
- Advocating the inclusion of children in hospital disaster *plans and practices*.
- Local *family reunification* strategies and resources.

National Training for Pediatric Champions Continues

The [Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator \(PECC\) Workforce Development Collaborative \(PWDC\)](#) began in September and will run through June 2022. The mission of this national collaborative, led by the Emergency Medical Services for Children Innovation and Improvement Center (EIIC), is to support healthcare professionals working in *prehospital and emergency department systems* to become effective pediatric champions (also known as PECCs). Twenty-six Virginia, hospital and prehospital, are participating in this collaborative.

Additional Child Restraint Systems Now Being Ordered

EMS agency leaders with interest in receiving an Emergency Child Restraints system should contact the EMS for Children program (david.edwards@vdh.virginia.gov) with their requests, as the last of our previous inventory has been disbursed. EMS agencies are strongly encouraged to adopt safety policies and procedures requiring the use of child restraints by their providers, and the Virginia EMSC program is available to assist in this.



(Funding for the child restraint systems was through the EMSC State Partnership Grant [H33MC07871] via the Health Resources & Services Administration [HRSA] and administered by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau [MCHB] Division of Child, Adolescent and Family Health.)

Continuing EMSC Recommendations to Hospital Emergency Departments:

- Weigh AND record children in **kilograms** (to help prevent medication errors).
- Include children specifically in hospital disaster/emergency plans.
- Designate a **Pediatric Champion** (Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator--PECC). *This is the single most important item a hospital can implement to ensure pediatric readiness, including patient safety.*
- Ensure *pediatric* patients are included in the quality improvement process.
- Review and/or adopt *pediatric safety policies* (radiation dosing, medication dosages, abnormal VS).

Suggestions/Questions

Please submit suggestions or questions related to the Virginia EMSC Program to David P. Edwards via email (david.edwards@vdh.virginia.gov), or by calling 804-888-9144 (direct line). The EMS for Children (EMSC) Program is a part of the Division of Community Health and Technical Resources (CHaTR), within the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS). *If you have any difficulty connecting with David Edwards, please contact Tim Perkins via email (tim.perkins@vdh.virginia.gov) or by phone (804-888-9100).*

The Virginia EMSC Program receives significant funding for programmatic support through the EMSC State Partnership Grant (H33MC07871) awarded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) via the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA), and administered by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) Division of Child, Adolescent and Family Health.



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