



Washington Update

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September 30, 2013

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1. NASEMSO Annual Meeting Held in Nashville

NASEMSO members and partners converged on Nashville, TN in force to conduct the annual meeting of the organization. All 5 Councils and several committees met over 6 days at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel. Several hot topics were discussed throughout the week and powerpoint presentations will be made available to attendees as available. A highlight of the week was the presentation of the Freedom House documentary, the introduction of original FH staff as well as new EMTs and paramedics being trained in St. Paul, MN under the auspices of Freedom House Reborn. The Board is pleased to announce the election of Gary Brown (VA) as Treasurer. The following regional representatives were designated for 2013-15:

- **North Central** – Steve Sutton (KS) and Jack Fleeharty (IL)
- **West** – Kyle Thornton (NM) and Andy Gienapp (WY)

The South Central and East regions are mid-term for 2012-14:

- **South Central** – Keith Wages (GA) and Alisa Williams (MS)

- **East** – Chris Bell (VT) and Lee Burn (MY)

New Mexico was voted as the site for the 2016 NASEMSO Annual Meeting. (2014 will be held in Cleveland, OH and 2015 will be held in Louisville, KY.) The following resolutions were submitted and adopted:

- **2013-01 Standard for Public Safety Communications When Responding to Calls Pertaining to Missing, Abducted and Sexually-Exploited Children**
- **2013-02 Integration into EMS Workforce of Personnel Trained in the Military**

NASEMSO members and staff would like to express enormous gratitude to our vendors as well as to our Tennessee hosts for exceptional hospitality and assistance during the 2013 NASEMSO Annual Meeting.

2. Health Workforce Webinar: Revising the Standard Occupational Classification

An upcoming webinar by the National Center for Health Workforce Analysis will provide information about the upcoming Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) revision process with a special emphasis on health occupations. Data collected by federal agencies, such as the Bureau of Labor Statistics or the Census Collection, use the SOC when collecting and classifying data by occupation. Thus, collection of federal data about workers in different occupations – such as employment levels and trends, pay and benefits, work settings, demographic characteristics, and many other characteristics – is dependent on being included and defined in the SOC. The upcoming revision of the SOC will be the first since the passage of the Affordable Care Act, which has and will continue to dramatically affect health workforce occupations. The webinar is intended to provide background information on the upcoming revision process. It will be of particular interest to audiences interested in recommending revisions.

Date and Time: Tuesday, October 15, 2013; 2:00-3:00PM Eastern Location:

https://hrsa.connectsolutions.com/health_wrkfrc_webinar/

Dial-in Number: 800-857-1222; passcode: 7298874

3. NGA Calls States to Act on Cybersecurity

Domestic and international actors are launching a significant number of cyber attacks against states. Although many of the actions necessary to reduce the nation’s vulnerabilities to cyberattacks require long-term structural improvements and business redesign, governors can take actions now that can immediately improve their state’s cybersecurity posture. In a new white paper, the National Governors Association (NGA) encourages implementation of the actions to help to ensure strong governance and oversight, a baseline of cybersecurity capabilities, and quicker identification of attacks and threats; it also will help to improve basic cybersecurity practices. [For more information...](#)

4. Maps Available for Outlining State Public Health Laws

Public Health Law Research and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation maintain LawAtlas, a gateway to key laws aimed at improving health or access to care. Visitors can use the *Interactive Law Maps* pages to generate maps and tables highlighting selected features of the law as it exists today or has changed over time. Visitors can download prepared summaries of current law from the *Policy Surveillance Reports* page, and on the *Data* page, visitors can view and download the underlying data, codebooks, and protocols. LawAtlas has just published new state law maps on child restraint laws (i.e., seat belts). The new map is the latest addition to an already existing library of state law maps on important public health issues, such as distracted driving, youth concussions, and sterile syringe access for drug users. The maps are based on comprehensive datasets outlining laws across all 50 states and the District of Columbia. [Find more information and access the maps.](#)

5. ECCC Invites Participants to Health Information Exchanges and the Prehospital Environment

Join the Emergency Care Coordination Center (ECCC) on December 4th in Washington, D.C. for **Health Information Exchanges & the Pre-Hospital Environment**, which will bring together members of the emergency care and emergency medical services (EMS) community, emergency care software vendors, and government agencies to discuss issues and successes surrounding connectivity to the new health information exchanges. With us will be representatives from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, and EMS agencies from across the country who will share their experiences with health information technology in the emergency care environment. The agenda for this one-day session includes:

- An overview of health information technology and exchanges;
- A look at technology standards and the Standards & Interoperability (S&I) framework;
- A review of the NEMSIS Dataset Dictionaries;
- Health I.T. pilot projects in use around the country; and
- Working sessions to develop plans to move us forward.

In addition to the agenda items, there will be opportunities to network, share ideas, and present concerns related to health I.T. with other emergency care and EMS organizations, as well as to the government agencies responsible for implementing the health information exchanges. This presentation will be hosted by the ECCC within the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Please RSVP to ECCC@hhs.gov with your name, title, contact information, and the organization you will be representing. Space is expected to be limited, so RSVP soon.

6. Share Your Expertise and Submit an Abstract for the 2014 Preparedness Summit Today

Be a thought leader in the field of preparedness by presenting your research or model practices at the 2014 Preparedness Summit. With a diverse range of attendees including professionals working in all levels of government (local, state, and federal), emergency management, volunteer organizations, and healthcare coalitions, sessions lead to integrative and fruitful dialogues and networking opportunities. Many attendees cite Summit sessions as places to expand their knowledge of preparedness approaches and resources. This year’s Summit will take place April 1-4, 2014, in Atlanta, Georgia. The theme is “Stronger Together: Aligning Public Health and Healthcare Preparedness Capabilities to Protect Our Communities.” Join the distinguished list of Preparedness Summit presenters and submit an abstract for the 2014 Preparedness Summit today. Click [here](#) to learn more about submitting an abstract. The deadline for abstracts is October 11, 2013.

7. GPO Offers New Military Title--Medical Consequences of Radiological and Nuclear Weapons

Now available from the Government Printing Office, the title is an updated version of the 1989 Textbooks of Military Medicine (TMM), this volume addresses nuclear events and their consequences for the medical community. Topics covered include acute radiation syndrome, triage and treatment of radiation and combined-injury mass casualties, treatment of internal radionuclide contamination, behavioral and neurophysiological consequences of radiation exposure, cytogenetic biodosimetry, and more. [For more information...](#)

8. New Workshop Summary Available from the IOM

Engaging the Public in Critical Disaster Planning and Decision Making is the summary of a workshop held in March 2013 to discuss the key principles of public engagement during the development of disaster plans, the response phase, and during the dissemination phase when interested community partners and the general public are informed of the policies that have been adopted. Presenters provided specific examples of resources to assist jurisdictions in planning public engagement activities as well as challenges experienced and potential solutions.

This new report from the National Academies of Science and the Institute of Medicine introduces key principles of public engagement, provides practical guidance on how to plan. [For more information...](#)

9. Radiation Disaster Issues in Children: An Approach to the Patient

The National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health's "Radiation Disaster Issues in Children: An Approach to the Patient" is a primer that discusses the unique needs of pediatric patients during and after exposure to radiation. The primer is targeted to health care providers who may be responsible for the medical assessment and management of pediatric patients affected by a radiation disaster, particularly a nuclear detonation. After reading the primer, learners will be able to:

1. Apply basic concepts of ionizing radiation to pediatric disaster patients
2. Describe unique pediatric management priorities after ionizing radiation incident exposures
3. Develop an appropriate clinical management plan for the pediatric radiation disaster patient and manage the case in collaboration with appropriate consultants.

The National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health has developed this activity in cooperation with Professional Education Services Group, an accredited CME company. Professional Education Services Group has accredited this activity for continuing education credit. [For more information...](#)

10. NIST Developing "Richter" Scale for Wildland Fires

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is developing a method for predicting the destructiveness of wildland fires that it hopes will allow residents and city planners better anticipate potential disasters. Much like the Richter scale does for earthquakes, the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Hazard Scale will assign a numerical value to project a wildfire's intensity. It will have a proposed range from E1 to E4, with E4 being a location's highest exposure to fire. The scale is primarily meant to form the technical foundation for tougher building codes to be developed by states, cities, and communities for high-risk areas. [For more information...](#)

11. SAMHSA Offers Tip Sheets on Managing Behavioral Health Issues After Disasters

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently posted several new tip sheets for managing behavioral health issues following disasters:

- [Tips for Survivors of a Disaster or Traumatic Event: What To Expect in Your Personal, Family, Work, and Financial Life](#)
- [Tips for Survivors of a Disaster or Traumatic Event: Managing Stress](#)
- [Tips for Talking With and Helping Children and Youth Cope After a Disaster or Traumatic Event: A Guide for Parents, Caregivers, and Teachers](#)
- [Tips for College Students: After a Disaster or Other Trauma](#)
- [Tips for College Students: After a Disaster or Other Trauma: R U A Survivor of a Disaster or Other Trauma? How R U Doing?](#)

12. Legislation Introduced to Address School Emergency Preparedness

On September 20, Representative Donald M. Payne, Jr. (D-NJ) Ranking Member of the House Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, introduced H.R. 3158 - the "Secure America for Education in Our Schools Act" or the "S.A.F.E. in Our Schools Act." The bill would require each State applying for State Homeland Security Grant Program funding to certify that it requires schools to have adequate emergency preparedness plans in place in case of disaster. The Subcommittee held a hearing on September 19 "Assessing the Nation's State of Preparedness: A Federal, State, and Local Perspective." [For more information...](#)

13. Situational Awareness Identified as Key Factor in Firefighter Deaths in Yarnell Hill Fire

The Arizona State Forestry Division has released the Serious Accident Investigation report of the Yarnell Hill Fire, which on June 30, 2013, killed 19 members of the Granite Mountain Hotshots. The State of Arizona convened an accident investigation team July 3 to review the conditions and events leading to the tragedy. The investigation team visited the site of the accident, reviewed audio and video files, interviewed individuals associated with the incident, reviewed fire weather and behavior data, and examined available records and physical evidence. According to the AZ State Forester, the 116-page report includes a fact-based narrative of the incident and offers the investigation team’s analysis, conclusions and recommendations. It also includes a discussion section that is meant to facilitate understanding and learning by exploring various perspectives and issues that arose during the investigation. [For more information...](#)

14. New IOM Report Addresses Workforce Resilience

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security should develop and promote a unified strategy and common vision to build and sustain work-force readiness and resilience across the entire agency, says a [new report](#) from the Institute of Medicine, the health arm of the National Academy of Sciences. DHS expressed concern that it was not reaching the level of impact that it had hoped to achieve with its program to build resilience at the agency and asked the IOM to review its efforts, identify shortcomings, and provide recommendations for a five-year strategic plan.

15. HHS Boosts Stockpile of Products to Treat Acute Radiation Syndrome

Acute radiation syndrome is a serious illness that occurs in people exposed to high doses of radiation. The condition involves injuries to the body’s organs, including the bone marrow, gastrointestinal tract, and lungs, and can cause neutropenia, an abnormally low level of neutrophils. No drugs or products are approved by FDA to treat the effects of Acute Radiation Syndrome, but leukocyte growth factors potentially could be used after a radiological or nuclear attack with emergency use authorization from Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Managed by ASPR’s Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, Project BioShield is the chief mechanism through which the U.S. government supports the advanced development and procurement of new medical countermeasures – drugs, vaccines, diagnostics, and medical supplies – to protect health against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats. Orders placed today under Project BioShield contracts will increase the national stockpile of leukocyte growth factors, a treatment for acute radiation syndrome. The products ordered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, could save lives of survivors exposed to high doses of radiation following a radiological or nuclear emergency. To learn more about ASPR and preparedness, response and recovery from the health impacts of disasters, visit the HHS public health and medical emergency website, www.phe.gov. For information about medical countermeasures, go to www.medicalcountermeasures.gov.

16. IOM Unveils Summary on Engaging the Public in Disaster Planning

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) has released [Engaging the Public in Critical Disaster Planning and Decision Making - Workshop Summary](#). The report is the result of a workshop sponsored by the IOM Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Catastrophic Events earlier this year. The workshop aimed to provide practitioners with guidance and key principles of public engagement to encourage attendees to begin engaging the public in their own communities.

17. HHS Launches New Challenge to Aid People with Durable Medical Equipment

A nationwide challenge seeks ideas on a system that, in emergencies, can determine the location and status of life-sustaining durable medical equipment (DME) such as oxygen concentrators and portable ventilators, and get help

to users. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) recently launched the challenge. Thousands of people in the United States rely on electrically powered DMEs to meet their medical needs at home. In prolonged power outages, they often must seek help in shelters or emergency rooms to power the equipment or recharge the battery. Through the challenge, ASPR seeks ideas for a system that can capture essential data from DME, including loss of power, power level, GPS location, time and date, battery life, and privacy-protected user identifying information. The system should be accessible to all patients who use DME in their homes and must securely send data to other secure information systems. Ideas will be evaluated by experts and judged by Dr. Nicole Lurie. Experts will include leaders from the design, device, venture, and government sectors. The person or team with the best idea could receive up to \$5,000 from ASPR and may be invited to present the idea publicly. For details and to register to participate in the Ideation Challenge, visit www.challenge.gov and search for this ASPR challenge.

18. NCHRP Publishes Report on its Study of EMS Response to Motor Vehicle Crashes in Rural Areas

The Transportation Research Board's National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) has released a report of its study, "Emergency Medical Services Response to Motor Vehicle Crashes in Rural Areas." Information synthesized in the study was acquired through literature review, surveys of 14 state offices of EMS and state departments of transportation, and follow-up interviews with selected agencies. NASEMSO representatives who served on the panel overseeing the study included: NASEMSO Executive Director Dia Gainor; NASEMSO President Jim DeTienne (Montana); and Dean Cole (Nebraska). The NCHRP report is [available online here](#).

19. New NIOSH Fact Sheet Available on PAPR Performance

The guidance in a new fact sheet from the National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH) will help respiratory protection program administrators, managers, and powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR) wearers understand the importance of a PAPR's battery in assuring effective respiratory protection. The respiratory protection program administrator should assure that PAPR manufacturer recommendations for battery storage, care, usage, and disposal are addressed. However, an understanding of these requirements by managers and PAPR wearers is also beneficial to ensure personal protection. [For more information...](#)

20. MCB "Transfer Processes" Webinar Now Available for Viewing

The Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA) has archived its recent live webinar for viewing. *Transfer Processes - An Opportunity for Improving Pediatric Emergency Care* reviews the importance of organized transfer processes in ensuring access to pediatric specialty care. The newly released inter facility transfer tool kit, was highlighted and speakers shared several case illustrations of tool kit use to facilitate the preparedness of hospitals in safe and expeditious transfer of the critically ill and/or injured child. This webcast is appropriate for state EMSC managers, State Health Department and Hospital Regulators, hospital administrators including emergency department directors and medical directors, EMS providers, emergency room physicians and nurses, trauma program coordinators and managers, pediatricians, pediatric critical care directors, family members, and others interested in improving emergency medical services for children. Hosted by HRSA Maternal and Child Health Bureau. [For more information...](#)

21. IOM Recommends Collaborative Approaches for Confronting Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking of Minors

Every day in the United States, children and adolescents are victims of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking. Despite the serious and long-term consequences for victims as well as their families, communities, and society, efforts to prevent, identify, and respond to these crimes are largely under supported, inefficient, uncoordinated, and unevaluated. The IOM and National Research Council studied these crimes as they affect U.S.

citizens and lawful permanent residents of the United States under age 18. The IOM/NRC report offers recommendations concerning strategies for responding to commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of minors in the United States, new legislative approaches, and a research agenda. The report concludes that efforts to prevent, identify, and respond to commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of minors in the United States require better collaborative approaches. These efforts need to confront demand and the individuals who commit and benefit from these crimes. The recommendations in the report have the potential to advance and strengthen the nation's emerging efforts to prevent, identify, and respond to commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of minors. [For more information...](#)

22. PEARS Updated to Reflect 2010 AHA Guidelines

Only 4-13% of infants and children who have a cardiac arrest in an out-of-hospital setting survive to hospital discharge. Pediatric Emergency Assessment, Recognition and Stabilization (PEARS) helps you immediately recognize and stabilize children in cardiopulmonary distress, increasing their chance of survival. Updated to reflect the *2010 AHA Guidelines for CPR and ECC*, PEARS® helps healthcare providers develop the knowledge and skills needed for emergency evaluation and treatment of seriously ill infants and children. PEARS teaches providers how to recognize respiratory distress, shock and cardiac arrest, and provide appropriate lifesaving interventions within the initial minutes of response until the child is transferred to an advanced life support provider. The goal of PEARS is to improve the quality of care provided to seriously ill or injured infants and children, resulting in improved outcomes. Learn more at www.heart.org/PEARS.

23. Celebrate National Rural Health Day November 21, 2013

National Rural Health Day gives NOSORH, State Offices of Rural Health and partners a chance to showcase Rural America and highlight the efforts of NOSORH, SORHs and others in addressing the unique healthcare needs of rural communities. Toolkit resources to promote National Rural Health Day are available. [For more information...](#)



24. HHS Seeks Comment on Draft Strategic Plan

Every 4 years, The US Department of Health and Human Service (HHS) updates its strategic plan, which describes its work to address complex, multifaceted, and ever-evolving health and human service issues. Under the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act, Federal agencies are required to consult with the Congress and to solicit and consider the views of external parties. Your input is welcome on the draft HHS Strategic Plan for FY 2014-2018. The comment period will close on October 15, 2013. [For more information...](#)

25. SAMHSA Releases Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) introduces new materials to equip communities and local governments with material to develop policies and practices to help prevent opioid-related overdoses and deaths. The toolkit addresses issues for first responders, treatment providers, and those recovering from opioid overdose. [For more information...](#)

26. New FDA Rule Requires Unique Identifier on Medical Devices

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has released a final rule requiring that most medical devices distributed in the United States carry a unique device identifier, or UDI. The long awaited final rule will establish a system to identify devices through their entire distribution and use. The rule, released on September 20, 2013, finalizes a complete implementation of a national UDI system in stages over a period of seven years. When fully implemented, it will improve the quality of information in medical device adverse events reports by making it easier to identify devices. It will also allow the FDA, healthcare providers and industry to more quickly identify product problems and obtain key information to take appropriate and targeted corrective action and effectively manage the recall process to improve patient safety. It will also provide a standard and clear way to document device use in electronic health records, clinical information systems, claims data sources and registries. [For more information...](#)

27. New Safety Measures Announced for Extended-release and Long-acting Opioids

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has announced a set of significant measures to enhance the safe and appropriate use of extended-release and long-acting (ER/LA) opioids. These actions include proposed class-wide safety labeling changes and new postmarket requirements for all ER/LA opioid analgesics. The new language will indicate that the drugs should be prescribed only for patients who do not have other treatment options, and should be used to manage pain that is “severe enough” to require round-the-clock treatment. The new changes will also require drug producers to conduct studies on the long-term risks associated with taking such long-acting pain killers. [For more information...](#)

28. NFPA 1201 Revision in Progress

The National Fire Protection Agency announces that the Fall 2014 First Draft Report for *NFPA 1201: Standard for Providing Emergency Service to the Public* is now available for review and comment. The Standard provides recommendations for the structure and operation of organizations that provide public fire protection. *NFPA 1201* also outlines the roles and responsibilities regarding fire service response capabilities to fire suppression, emergency medical services, and special operations, including hazardous material response. The document also provides guidance on mutual aid, and fire department mandates relating to emergency management. Electronic submissions are welcome through November 15, 2013 while paper submissions will be accepted through October 11, 2013. [For more information...](#)

29. New Statement on EMS as an Essential Public Function

The NAEMT Board of Directors has adopted a new position statement on EMS as an Essential Public Function developed by the NAEMT Advocacy Committee. The statement calls for local, state and federal government authorities to share the responsibility for funding EMS and integrating EMS in our nation's preparedness, response and recovery infrastructure. Given the essential life-saving public function provided by EMS, strong public leadership and appropriate and consistent public funding is vital to ensure the viability, effectiveness and sustainability of EMS in our nation. In particular, funding for EMS must be sufficient to ensure an effective response not only in daily operations, but also in disasters, mass casualty incidents and other public health crises. Read and download the full position statement [here](#).

30. Hospira Blood Sets: Recall - Blood Bags Punctured With Piercing Pin

Hospira, Inc. announced a recall of certain blood sets. There have been reports from customers of instances in which the outer wall of blood bags were punctured with the piercing pin on certain Hospira blood sets during insertion of the pin into the blood bag. If the piercing pin on this product punctures the outer wall of a blood bag, it

may result in spillage of the blood and blood products stored in the bag, resulting in a delay/interruption in therapy. Delay/interruption in therapy can potentially lead to significant injury or death. This issue has been identified as a contributing factor in one report of a patient death due to a delay/interruption in therapy. At this time, there is no need for customers to discontinue use of or return Hospira blood sets. However, Hospira recommends users exercise extreme caution when piercing blood bags with a Hospira blood set mentioned above and make sure that all instructions for use included with the blood bag and facility's protocol for spiking blood bags are completely followed in order to minimize the possibility of puncturing the outer wall of the blood bag. Hospira has begun distribution of sets with a blunter piercing pin that is shorter than the pins in the Impacted List Numbers that came available in March 2013. [For more information...](#)

31. Ladder Safety: There's an App for That

NIOSH recently released its first smart phone application (app) for mobile devices. This free app is aimed at improving extension ladder safety by providing real-time safety information delivered via the latest technology. Falls are a persistent source of injury in many occupations and in home use. Falls are the number one cause of construction-worker fatalities with falls from ladders a common yet preventable construction injury. Health services and the wholesale and retail industries experience the largest number of non-fatal fall-related injuries. Ladders are also used in home maintenance and repair and to access higher places at home. The NIOSH Ladder Safety phone app has an angle of inclination indicator that uses visual and audible signals making it easier for workers and other users to set an extension ladder at the proper angle of 75.5 degrees. The app can help workers prevent falls and is also a tool for employers who want to ensure a safe workplace. The app is available through the [NIOSH website](#), the [Apple App-store](#), and the [Android Market](#). [For more information...](#)

32. Bureau of Emergency Medical Services Director: Applications accepted until Thursday October 3rd

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals – Office of Public Health has an immediate opening for an experienced individual for the position of Bureau of Emergency Medical Services Director. This position is responsible for administering all functions of the statewide EMS program, and has the responsibility to plan, develop, lead, monitor, and regulate a comprehensive statewide Emergency Medical Services System, which includes a statewide organization of regionalized, coordinated, and accountable systems of emergency care, preparedness, and response. This position must be flexible, persistent, and knowledgeable about emergency medical services as well as solution oriented, and committed to maintaining an up-to-date knowledge of EMS technology and practice. The ideal candidate will have at least three years of experience in a supervisory or management position; demonstrated skill in managing EMS programs with proven ability to negotiate multi-agency contracts for medical services; and is EMS certified or eligible for EMS certification. [For more information...](#)

33. Early Warning Scores in the ED Identify Kids Who Need the ICU

Objective: Pediatric early warning scores (PEWS) are being advocated for use in the emergency department (ED). The goal of this study was to compare the validity of different PEWS in a pediatric ED. CONCLUSIONS: PEWS can be used to detect children presenting to the ED who are in need of an ICU admission. Scoring systems, wherein the parameters are summed to a numeric value, were better able to identify patients at risk than triggering systems, which need 1 positive parameter. The authors warn against using the tools in place of standard triage protocols. Seiger, et al. Validity of Different Pediatric Early Warning Scores in the Emergency Department *Pediatrics* peds.2012-3594. [View the abstract...](#)

34. New from AAP: Evaluation of Children When Sexual Abuse is Suspected

This clinical report, *The Evaluation of Children in the Primary Care Setting When Sexual Abuse Is Suspected*, updates a 2005 report from the American Academy of Pediatrics on the evaluation of sexual abuse in children. The medical assessment of suspected child sexual abuse should include obtaining a history, performing a physical examination, and obtaining appropriate laboratory tests. The role of the physician includes determining the need to report suspected sexual abuse; assessing the physical, emotional, and behavioral consequences of sexual abuse; providing information to parents about how to support their child; and coordinating with other professionals to provide comprehensive treatment and follow-up of children exposed to child sexual abuse. Pediatrics 2013;132:e558–e567. [Full text, free access.](#)

35. New Study Supports Use of Pediatric Telemedicine in Rural EDs

A new study published in *Critical Care Medicine* aimed “To compare the quality of care delivered to critically ill and injured children receiving telemedicine, telephone, or no consultation in rural emergency departments.” It concludes “Physician-rated quality of care was higher for patients who received consultations with telemedicine than for patients who received either telephone or no consultation. Telemedicine consultations were associated with more frequent changes in diagnostic and therapeutic interventions, and higher parent satisfaction, than telephone consultations.” Dharmar, M; Romano, P; Kuppermann, N; Nesbitt, T; Cole, Stacey L; Andrada, E; Vance, C; Harvey, D; Marcin, J. Impact of Critical Care Telemedicine Consultations on Children in Rural Emergency Departments. Crit Care Med August 2013. [Abstract only](#), article available for purchase.

UPCOMING EVENTS

*****STATEWIDE EMS CONFERENCES*****

Colorado State EMS Conference November 7-10, 2013 Keystone, CO [For more information...](#)

*****National Conferences and Special Meetings*****

ACEP 2013 Scientific Assembly October 14-17, 2013 Seattle, WA. [For more information...](#)

*The Council of Ambulance Authorities. 2013 CAA Conference ‘Exploring the Frontiers: Paramedicine of Tomorrow’ October 16 -17, 2013. Canberra, Australia. Registration is now available. [For more information...](#)

Air Medical Transport Conference (AMTC 2013) October 21-23, 2013 Virginia Beach, VA [For more information...](#)

IAEM-USA Annual Conference & EMEX 2013 International Association of Emergency Managers October 25-30, 2013 Reno, NV [For more information...](#)

National Organization for State Offices of Rural Health Annual Meeting. October 28 - 30, 2013. Asheville, NC. [For more information...](#)

See more EMS Events on NASEMSO’s web site at <http://www.nasemso.org/Resources/Calendar/index.asp>

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