



# *Washington Update*

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#### UPCOMING EVENTS

### **NEW FEATURE!! *The 4-1-1, your update on NASEMSO projects and activities***

- [Fatigue in EMS](#)- the expert panel and research team met in Washington, DC on April 26-27. Several EMS organizations and observers were present as the project team, using the GRADE methodology, worked on developing PICO questions to commence its literature search into the evidence. Powerpoints from the session are available on the web site.
- [EMS Compass](#)- 66 individual comments were received in the most recent public comment period along with letter responses from AAA and NAEMT. The 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of measures (STEMI and SCA) will launch May 13.
- [Ground Ambulance Vehicle Standards](#) and EMS Safety Resource- while still under development, the goal of SafeAmbulances.org is to compile information about ground ambulance standards and EMS safety into a single portal.

- [National Model EMS Clinical Guidelines](#)- moving into next phase of project. Revisions anticipated along with new content.
- [REPLICA](#)- only 3 more states are needed to enact legislation that would enable implementation of the EMS licensure compact. NASEMSO Board of Directors has established an interim committee to help build the foundation of the REPLICA Commission.
- [FACTOID](#) on naloxone administration for opioid overdose by BLS personnel- 92% of states already permit EMT's to administer naloxone or are currently engaged in a regulatory process to allow and 80% of states that have them, allow it at the EMR/First Responder level.

## NASEMSO NEWS

### 1. NASEMSO Preliminary Fall Meeting Schedule on Online Registration Now Available Online

We hope you are planning to join your friends and colleagues at the **NASEMSO Fall Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico, September 19-22, 2016**. The preliminary program has been posted, hotel reservations are being accepted and online registration is available. The meeting will adjourn on the evening of Thursday, Sept. 22 with Friday, September 23 as a travel day. NASEMSO will once again be awarding a limited amount of [travel assistance](#) to state EMS officials who would otherwise be unable to attend. The travel support application is posted and the deadline for applying is [June 10](#). Please understand that the amount awarded this year will truly be limited. While NASEMSO Board members and committee chairs will be given priority, anyone who requires financial support to attend is eligible to apply. All meeting information is available [here](#).

### 2. New Washington Update Feature: "The 4-1-1" Highlights NASEMSO Projects and Activities

You may have already noticed the snippets of program information related to major NASEMSO projects and activities heading up the newsletter starting today. Detailed program information will not be presented here, for that readers are directed to the individual web sites. Rather, highlights from meeting reports, discussions via council and committee meetings, minisurveys, and other membership activities will serve to provide a brief overview of its current status. We hope you like it!!

### 3. JEMS Offers Special Supplement on EMS Compass

The Journal of Emergency Medicine Services (JEMS) has given special coverage to the EMS Compass Initiative in their May 2016 issue. [Click here](#) to check out a series of articles on performance measurement and quality improvement in Emergency Medical Services, written by EMS Compass leadership and experts in performance measurement.

### 4. NASEMSO Offers New Crosswalk of Ambulance Vehicle Standards

At its recent 2016 Spring Meeting, NASEMSO's AVL Committee offered a new crosswalk of ambulance vehicle standards offered by the Government Services Administration ("KKK Specs"), the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and Ground Vehicle Standards offered by the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS). [For more information...](#)

## FOR THE STATES

### 5. Telehealth Support Services for the IHS Great Plains Area

The Indian Health Service (IHS) recently issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to provide telehealth services at its seven hospitals and many health centers and other facilities throughout Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota. IHS is seeking to expand telehealth services as a means of strengthening access to care at its facilities in all

19 [Great Plains Area](#) service units, which serve 130,000 American Indians and Alaska Natives. Specifically, the purpose of this requirement is to acquire a solution for the provision of telehealth in two key areas: emergency services and specialty referrals services including option for provider-to-provider consultations. IHS is seeking help in distributing this RFP to interested parties. Please feel free to share the following link with anyone who might have an interest in this opportunity. [For more information...](#)

#### **6. NEW Funding Opportunity: Enhanced State Surveillance of Opioid-Involved Morbidity and Mortality**

CDC released CDC-RFA-CE16-1608, Enhanced State Surveillance of Opioid-Involved Morbidity and Mortality to equip states to improve the timeliness of surveillance of opioid-involved morbidity and mortality.

CDC's Injury Center intends to support up to 11 state health departments with high burden of drug overdose (i.e. states with high drug overdose death rates in 2014 or rapidly increasing drug overdose death rates from 2012 to 2014) over the 3-year project period, with an average award amount of \$335,000 each year. A desired outcome of the enhanced surveillance is to provide key stakeholders with more timely data on fatal and nonfatal opioid overdose and more detailed information on risk factors, which can inform prevention and response efforts.

Improved quality and timeliness of surveillance data will support and inform ongoing activities to prevent and address prescription drug misuse, abuse, and overdose funded through CDC's existing state programs.

State governments or their bona fide agents, including the District of Columbia, are eligible to apply.

Applications due: June 27, 2016. [For more information...](#)

### **AMBULANCE VEHICLE LICENSURE**

#### **7. USDOT Expands Takata Air Bag Inflator Recalls; Affects EMS Ambulances**

The United States Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is expanding and accelerating the recall of Takata air bag inflators. The decision follows the agency's confirmation of the root cause behind the inflators' propensity to rupture. Ruptures of the Takata inflators have been tied to ten deaths and more than 100 injuries in the United States. NHTSA and its independent expert reviewed the findings of three independent investigations into the Takata air bag ruptures and confirmed the findings on the root cause of inflator ruptures. A combination of time, environmental moisture and fluctuating high temperatures contribute to the degradation of the ammonium nitrate propellant in the inflators. Such degradation can cause the propellant to burn too quickly, rupturing the inflator module and sending shrapnel through the air bag and into the vehicle occupants. Several EMS agencies have received recall notices in the wake of the expanded recall. The Fiat Chrysler recall specifically warns EMS agencies that the parts required to provide a permanent remedy for this condition are currently not available. Due diligence is encouraged for state regulators and EMS managers to evaluate fleet vehicles and implement strategies that best supports safety and performance for the populations served. For all vehicles, NHTSA provides a [recall look-up page](#) using the Vehicle Identification Number. [For more information on the expanded recall...](#)

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **8. FirstNet Offers Several EMS Week Resources**

Check out several new resources offered by the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) to honor EMS Week:

- [Kevin McGinnis EMS Message](#) Video
- [#Drones4Good](#) Tumblr blog
- [True Priority and the FirstNet Network](#) Video
- [FirstNet and Emergency Medical Services](#) Fact Sheet
- [FirstNet Looks to Continue EMS Collaboration on New Public Safety Broadband Network](#) Article (EMS Insider access required)

In related news, FirstNet has extended the deadline for proposals for the deployment of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) by two and a half weeks, from May 13 to May 31, 2016. [For more information...](#)

#### COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE

##### 9. NAS: A Framework for Educating Health Professionals to Address the Social Determinants of Health

The World Health Organization defines the social determinants of health as “the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age, and the wider set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of daily life.” These forces and systems include economic policies, development agendas, cultural and social norms, social policies, and political systems. Educating health professionals in and with communities negatively affected by the social determinants of health can generate awareness among those professionals about the potential root causes of ill health, contributing to more effective strategies for improving health and health care for underserved individuals, communities, and populations. This is the context in which the expert committee of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine developed a high level framework for educating health professionals to address the SDH. The committee’s framework aligns education, health, and other sectors to better meet local needs in partnership with communities. [For more information...](#)

#### DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS

##### 10. NTSB Presents Findings from Investigation of 2015 Amtrak Derailment in Philadelphia

During a recent hearing of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), investigators found that the practice of the Philadelphia Police Department to “scoop and run” victims of the Amtrak derailment instead of waiting for EMS, resulted in no significant negative outcomes in spite of the fact that the practice was inconsistent with CDC Field Triage Guidelines and the distribution of trauma victims by police disproportionately affected area hospitals. Several national EMS organizations, including NASEMSO, are being encouraged by the NTSB to review the practice. [For more information...](#)

##### 11. New FEMA Mobile App Helps Get Persons to Safety

Have you downloaded the FEMA app to your personal or government-issued mobile device? Use the FEMA app to stay informed of weather alerts near you and in up to four additional locations across the nation where friends or loved ones may live. The FEMA app enables users to receive push notifications to their devices to remind them to take important steps to prepare their homes and families for disasters. The app provides users with safety and preparedness tips, a customizable checklist of emergency supplies, maps of open shelters and recovery centers, and information on how to survive natural and man-made disasters. The latest version of the FEMA app is available for free in the [App Store](#) for Apple devices and [Google Play](#) for Android devices. The reminders are available in English and Spanish and are located in the “Prepare” section of the FEMA App.

##### 12. IAB Publication: Preparedness Activities for High Threat Events Requires Additional Study

The InterAgency Board (IAB) recently published a new document entitled Preparedness Activities for High Threat Events Requires Additional Study, which may be of interest to WU readers. This paper discusses the IAB’s recommendation for further review and analysis of the causes of death from active shooter and high threat incidents that have occurred in the United States, with continued refinement of the systems of care and preparation for the types of events. [For more information...](#)

### 13. IAB Publication: Conformity Assessment Guidance for Public Safety Equipment

The InterAgency Board (IAB) recently published a new document entitled Conformity Assessment Guidance for Public Safety Equipment, which may be of interest to your organization. This paper discusses the guidance and its assistance in determining an appropriate method for assessing public safety equipment's conformance with standards or other requirements. The IAB is committed to supporting the responder community by providing equipment and training standards that enable them to safely and effectively perform their missions and operations. [For more information...](#)

### 14. 2016 National Health Security Preparedness Index Released

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has released the 2016 National Health Security Preparedness Index. The 2016 Index is the third in a series of annual releases of data and analysis on national health security and preparedness and showed that the nation's preparedness for public health emergencies is improving. The index, which assesses all 50 states for emergency preparedness and health security, showed the United States scoring 6.7 on a 10-point scale for preparedness, an improvement of 3.6 percent since the Index began three years ago. Using more than 100 different measures, ranging from flu vaccination rates, number of hospitals, and presence of food inspection programs; to infrastructure and planning measures such as participation in drills by public health laboratories, percentage of people covered by wireless 911, and hazard planning for public schools, the Index provides a composite score that reflects the most comprehensive picture of health security preparedness available. The Index found that the nation's health protections are not distributed evenly across the U.S., with a preparedness gap of 36 percent between highest and lowest states in 2015. A total of 18 states achieved Preparedness Index levels that significantly exceeded the national average in 2015, with many of these leading states located along the Eastern seaboard or clustered in the Upper Midwest and Southwestern United States. For more information about the National Health Security Preparedness Index, visit [nhspi.org](http://nhspi.org)

### 15. NIOSH Issues Warning About Counterfeit N95 Respirators

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has become aware of a counterfeit N95 Respirator on the market. The manufacturer Zubi-Ola is selling N95 respirators and marketing them as NIOSH-approved even though Zubi-Ola is not a NIOSH approval holder or a private label holder. In addition, NIOSH was made aware of manufacturers misrepresenting the NIOSH-approval. These manufacturers include:

- 1.) Wein Products- All approvals for Wein Products were rescinded in 2011. However, the manufacturer's website continues to state the ViraMask N99ESC is certified by NIOSH. [View the user notice announcing the rescission.](#)
- 2.) Steelpro Safety- Steelpro Safety is a private label holder of Fido Masks. In 2014, Fido rescinded the certificates of approval for their respirators, but Steelpro's website continues to state that respirator models, F720V and F333V, meet NIOSH standards. [View the user notice announcing the rescission.](#)
- 3.) Handan Hengyong- All certificates of approval for Handan Hengyong were voluntarily rescinded as of September 2014. Handan Hengyong continues to include information on its website misleading end users to believe that their respirators are NIOSH-approved. [View the user notice announcing the rescission.](#)

NIOSH contacted these manufacturers and requested they remove all misleading information from their website including all references to NIOSH and to 42 CFR 84. Additional information is available on the NIOSH [Trusted Source Page](#).

### 16. CDC and OSHA Issue Interim Guidance on Protecting Workers from Zika Virus Exposure

CDC and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recently issued new guidance and information for protecting workers from occupational exposure to Zika virus. The newly released information includes:

- Interim guidance for outdoor workers, healthcare and laboratory workers, mosquito control workers, and

- business travelers to protect against occupational exposure to Zika virus;
- Interim guidance and recommendations for employers to use to protect their workers; and
- Interim guidance and recommendations for workers to consider to protect themselves from mosquito bites and exposure to an infected person's blood or other body fluids.

CDC has developed an online [media statement](#) and a [fact sheet](#).

### 17. White House to Help Address Wildland Fire Mitigation

The threat of wildfire is increasing in the United States. In 2015, over 68,000 wildfires in the United States burned more than 4,636 structures and ten million acres—the highest number of acres burned on record. The annual estimates on structure loss due to wildfire have increased dramatically for more than six decades. A new Executive Order and fact sheet from the Executive Branch, the President outlines strategies for mitigating loss in this critical issue. [For more information...](#)

## HIGHWAY SAFETY

### 18. NTSB Holds Pedestrian Safety Forum

Urban planners, highway engineers and transportation policy advocates were among those leading the discussion about improving pedestrian safety at the open-to-the public, one-day National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Pedestrian Safety Forum held May 10, 2016. The webcast has been archived at <http://ntsb.capitolconnection.org/> and will be available for 90 days.

## PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY CARE

### 19. AAP Updates Terminology in New CPG

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has published a Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG) that recommends the replacement of the term “apparent life-threatening event” (ALTE) with a new term, “brief resolved unexplained event” (BRUE). It also provides an approach to evaluation and management that is based on the risk that the infant will have a repeat event or has a serious underlying disorder. According to the AAP Executive Summary, “Clinicians should use the term BRUE to describe an event occurring in an infant younger than 1 year when the observer reports a sudden, brief, and now resolved episode of  $\geq 1$  of the following: (1) cyanosis or pallor; (2) absent, decreased, or irregular breathing; (3) marked change in tone (hyper- or hypotonia); and (4) altered level of responsiveness. Moreover, clinicians should diagnose a BRUE only when there is no explanation for a qualifying event after conducting an appropriate history and physical examination.” [For more information...](#)

### 20. EMS Research the Focus of HRSA Webinar

The Health Resources and Services Administration, Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Program, in collaboration with the Indian Health Service Clinical Support Center and the Continuing Education Coordinating Board for Emergency Medical Services (CECBEMS) (Accredited Providers), hosted a webinar, “EMS Research: A Path to Improving Pediatric Prehospital Emergency Care,” on Monday, May 16, 2016. The webinar featured two of the EMSC-funded Targeted Issues projects. The first project, the Charlotte, Houston and Milwaukee Prehospital (CHaMP) Research Node, assesses the feasibility of integrating an EMS Research Node Center (E-RNC) in the EMSC Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (PECARN) to conduct relevant and innovative prehospital pediatric research. The second project, Prehospital Oral Steroids for the Treatment of Status Asthmaticus in Children (POSTSAC), is focused on whether prehospital administration of oral steroids to pediatric patients with moderate to severe asthma exacerbations decreases time spent in the ED and the need for hospitalization. This project is also assessing if advanced life support (ALS) providers can successfully administer oral steroids to children with moderate- to-severe asthma. The archived webinar is anticipated at <http://www.emscnrc.org/emsc-events/emsc-webinars>.



## 21. SAMHSA Resources Highlight Children's Post-Disaster Mental Health

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Disaster Technical Assistance Center (DTAC) has identified resources you can use to assist children and youth during and after disasters. Use the tip sheets, webcasts, apps, and other materials in this issue to understand how children experience disasters, support them in coping, and allow them to take steps toward preparedness for themselves and their families.

[Talking With Children: Tips for Caregivers, Parents, and Teachers During Infectious Disease Outbreaks](#) describes how children may respond to an infectious disease outbreak and suggests ways to support them in coping.

[Tips for Talking With and Helping Children and Youth Cope After a Disaster or Traumatic Event: A Guide for Parents, Caregivers, and Teachers](#) presents typical responses to disasters by age range and advises parents, other caregivers, and teachers about supporting children and youth after a disaster.

[Psychosocial Issues for Children and Adolescents in Disasters](#) Written for disaster response workers and others who may work with or care for children and youth, this guide presents theories of child development, describes how children often react to disasters, and offers guidelines for helping children and teens deal with disasters.

## 22. National Academies Address Bullying as a Serious Public Health Problem

Bullying is a serious public health problem, with significant short- and long-term psychological consequences for both the targets and perpetrators of such behavior, and requires a commitment to developing preventive and interventional policies and practices that could make a tangible difference in the lives of many children, says a new report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. There is emerging research that widely used zero-tolerance policies -- those that impose automatic suspension or expulsion of students from school after one bullying incident -- are not effective at curbing bullying or making schools safer and should be discontinued. Instead, resources should be directed to evidence-based policies and programs for bullying prevention in the United States. [For more information...](#)

## FEDERAL PARTNERS

### 23. White House Proclamation Recognizes EMS Week

In honor of EMS professionals nationwide, President Obama encourages all Americans to "...celebrate and support the EMS professionals who demonstrate the values at the heart of the American spirit, and let us thank them for their heroic work." [Read the President's Proclamation...](#)

### 24. EMS Past, Present and Future: Writing the Next Agenda

An EMS Focus webinar, hosted by NHTSA's Office of EMS, recently featured the original authors of the 1996 EMS Agenda for the Future in a discussion of what lies ahead for EMS. The session kicked off by looking back at some of the profession's most significant accomplishments over the last two decades, followed by a conversation about how the industry can evolve over the next 30 years. Don't miss the opportunity to learn how associations, agencies and individuals can provide input in the planning process for the 2017 anticipated revision of the Agenda for the Future. The webinar will be archived and available for convenient viewing. [For more information...](#)

### 25. FDA Approves First Drug to Treat Psychoses Associated with Parkinson's Disease

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently approved Nuplazid (pimavanserin) tablets, the first drug approved to treat hallucinations and delusions associated with psychosis experienced by some people with Parkinson's disease. The effectiveness of Nuplazid was shown in a six-week clinical trial of 199 participants and shown to be superior to placebo in decreasing the frequency and/or severity of hallucinations and delusions without worsening the primary motor symptoms of Parkinson's disease. The most common side effects included peripheral edema,



nausea, and confused state. Pimavanserin, like other atypical antipsychotics, carries a boxed warning about the increased mortality risk when used to treat elders with dementia-related psychosis (an unapproved indication). Pimavanserin does not block dopamine and has a unique mechanism that operates on serotonin. [For more information...](#)

## 26. FDA to Regulate E-Cigarettes

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) now has authority over all tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes, cigars, and hookah and pipe tobacco. The finalized rule means that sales of these products — like traditional cigarettes — will be banned to those under age 18. The new age restriction will go into effect in 90 days. In addition, manufacturers will have to comply with FDA requirements, including reporting all ingredients and putting health warnings on packaging and advertisements. In related news, California will become the second state, following Hawaii, to raise the smoking age to 21. Bills signed by the state's governor on Wednesday ban sales of both traditional tobacco products and e-cigarettes to those under 21, the New York Times reports. Active military personnel between the ages of 18 and 21 are exempt from the legislation. [For more information...](#)

## 27. Patient Safety Primer Discusses How Trigger Tools Can Screen for Patient Safety Events

Hospitals and health systems can use targeted injury detection systems, commonly known as triggers, to screen for patient safety events, according to a new patient safety primer. Triggers have become a widely used way to analyze medical records in order to identify patient safety events, measure how often such events occur and track the progress of safety initiatives over time. Triggers alert patient safety professionals to possible events so they can review the medical record to determine if an actual or potential patient safety event has occurred. The main value of triggers is efficiency, since a complete review of every medical record to find adverse events is time intensive. When a trigger correctly identifies an adverse event, analysis can uncover causes or contributing factors, and interventions can be developed to prevent such events. When reviewers are properly trained to interpret alerts, triggers are a practical tool for routine improvement efforts. Access the patient safety primer on the AHRQ Patient Safety Network (PSNet). [For more information...](#)

## INDUSTRY NEWS

### 28. WHO Encourages Renewed Effort to Promote Hand Hygiene in Health Care

New research shows that a World Health Organization-endorsed six-step hand hygiene technique using alcohol-based hand sanitizer gel is more effective at removing bacteria than a three-step technique that the CDC recommends. Study authors say "The average ratio of the bacterial level after the six-step process compared to before the six-step is 0.33, which could colloquially be explained as the six-step [technique] washes away 67% of the bacterial load on average within a person. The median ratio of the bacterial level after three-step compared to before the three-step is 0.65, which could colloquially be explained as the 3-step washes away 35% of the bacterial load on average within a person." But [another study](#) shows that debating the merits of a three-step or six-step technique may be moot if medical staff doesn't wash their hands at all. Hand hygiene in health care at the right time saves lives. The WHO Hand Hygiene Improvement [Toolkit](#) is available to support anyone, in any setting, to participate in this global movement.



### 29. Joint Commission Revises Position on Text Messaging for Clinicians

The Joint Commission (TJC) released an FAQ in 2011 stating that it was unacceptable for hospitals and other health organizations to receive text message orders from prescribers. The primary concern, at that time, focused on the

inability of organizations to verify the source of the text message (prescriber's identify) and the lack of security surrounding text messages. As technology has changed in the past five years, TJC revised its position in the May 2016 issue of The Joint Commission Perspectives. After much research, TJC determined that the newer text messaging platforms address previous concerns and will now permit healthcare organizations to receive text message orders as long as certain requirements are met. The revised position states: "Licensed independent practitioners or other practitioners in accordance with professional standards of practice, law and regulation, and policies and procedures may text orders as long as a secure text messaging platform is used and the required components of an order are included." Health care organizations may allow orders to be transmitted through text messaging provided that a secure text messaging platform is implemented that includes the following:

- Secure sign-on process
- Encrypted messaging
- Delivery and read receipts
- Date and time stamp
- Customized message retention time frames
- Specified contact list for individuals authorized to receive and record orders

Health IT experts note that HIPAA compliance should be a top priority as healthcare organizations begin to consider secure texting, messaging implementation. While the HIPAA Security Rule does not require specific technical solutions, it does dictate that healthcare organizations must determine reasonable and appropriate safeguards. [For more information...](#)

### **30. National EMS Weekend of Honor to be Held May 20-22 in Washington, DC**

The National EMS Memorial Service, the National EMS Memorial Foundation, and the National EMS Memorial Bike Ride will pay tribute to 32 fallen EMS and air medical providers from 15 states during the 2016 National EMS Weekend of Honor, scheduled May 20-22 at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City at Reagan National Airport, 2799 Jefferson Davis Highway in Arlington, Va. There are many activities and events during the three-day 2016 National EMS Weekend of Honor, including events that the public and media are invited and encouraged to attend as a show of support for the selfless service and sacrifice of the 2016 honorees. [Download press release with details.](#) [Download media alert on the National EMS Memorial Bike Ride.](#)

### **31. NFPA Announces Upcoming Meetings on NFPA 1500, 1582, and 1917 Standards**

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has announced public meetings on NFPA 1500, Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program and NFPA 1582 Standard on Comprehensive Medical Programs for Fire Departments Second Draft Meeting Notice. July 12-15, 2016. Doubletree 3203 Quebec Street Denver, CO 80207. In addition, NFPA 1917 First Draft Meeting Notice October 19-20, 2016 at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Kansas City Plaza 220 West 43rd Street Kansas City, MO 64111. [For more information...](#)

### **32. Volunteers Encouraged to Participate in NAPSICO Survey on Infection Control**

The National Association for Public Safety Infection Control Officers (NAPSICO) in partnership with Infection Control/Emerging Concepts, Inc. are surveying the country's fire, EMS providers and law enforcement to determine education on the subject of infection control. Our hope is members will complete the survey and then share the link with other providers so that we can reach as many providers as possible. The content will be published for papers and further educational advocacy. [Participate in the survey.](#) Contact [rerickson@napsico.org](mailto:rerickson@napsico.org) with any questions.

### 33. Volunteers Sought for International Survey on Violence Against EMS Personnel

Central Queensland University (Australia) is leading a multi-university, international research project examining violence against paramedics. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information needed for the design of interventions (including training programs, policies and procedures) to reduce and prevent violence against ambulance personnel nationally and internationally. The survey is now available at <http://www.vaprp.org>. All EMS personnel are welcome to participate in the survey. The results of this project will help prevent injuries among EMS personnel around the world. Contact [Dr. Brian Maguire](#) for more information.

### 34. IPSTA Offers Electronic Toolkit on Fire-Based EMS

The Third Edition of the Fire Service-Based EMS Electronic Tool Kit provides fire service managers and firefighter union officials with the latest information on fire service-based emergency medical services. It includes three separate sections: Section One provides information and tools related to fire service-based EMS in general; Section Two provides specific information and tools directly related to the impact of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) and Integrated Community Health Care Programs (ICHCP) on fire service-based EMS; and Section Three provides critical information related to policies and practices for responding to incidents involving violence. This resource is provided as a cooperative effort between the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association, the Congressional Fire Service Institute (CFSI), and the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA). Download the newest edition [HERE](#).

## INTERESTING ABSTRACTS

**35. Makary M. (2016) Medical error—the third leading cause of death in the US.** BMJ 2016;353:i2139. Medical errors may be the third leading cause of death in the United States, a new study contends. Johns Hopkins University researchers analyzed eight years of U.S. data and concluded that more than 250,000 people died each year due to medical errors. If confirmed, that would make medical errors the third leading cause of death among Americans. Currently, respiratory disease, which kills about 150,000 people a year, is listed as the third leading cause of death by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. See [JHU press release](#). [Free access to BMJ article...](#)

**36. Greene, J. Shooting Episodes Prompt Cooperation Between EMS and Police, With an Assist From Emergency Medicine.** Annals of Emergency Medicine, Volume 67, Issue 5, A13 - A15. The increasing number of mass shooting incidents in the United States—and the unwelcome prospect of gunshot victims bleeding out while the scene is made secure for paramedics—is fueling new coordination between law enforcement and emergency medical services (EMS) to speed up medical care for survivors. Some of this effort is being overseen by emergency physicians who act as medical directors for EMS or police departments. A few of those emergency physicians also train with law enforcement and respond alongside the SWAT team, gun in hand. [Free access.](#)

## JOB BOARD

Trauma Program Administrator, Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Oversight, Tallahassee, FL **Application Deadline:** May 19, 2016. [Details here.](#)

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is pleased to announce a new Highway Safety Specialist position within the Enforcement and Justice Services Division, Office of Safety Programs. The office has

national responsibility for developing and improving highway safety programs aimed at increasing traffic law enforcement initiatives and partnerships to reduce highway crashes, deaths and injuries and provide technical assistance in connection with the development analysis, implementation, monitoring, evaluation of coordinated traffic law enforcement program activities involving national, regional, State, and local communities. Interested persons can apply through the following links: NHTSA.NPD-2016-0016 Highway Safety Specialist GS-2125-13 (Open to Status & VEOA Applicants) JR <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/438969800> **OPEN:** May 16, 2016/**CLOSE:** May 26, 2016

Oklahoma Trauma Systems Coordinator

<http://www.jobaps.com/OK/sup/bulpreview.asp?R1=160504&R2=UNCX&R3=160> Deadline to apply: 05/18/2016

Oklahoma Trauma Fund Coordinator

<http://www.jobaps.com/OK/sup/bulpreview.asp?R1=160511&R2=UNCD&R3=19> Deadline to apply: 05/25/2016

Both positions are available online and interested parties may submit their application online.



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**PLEASE NOTE: CALENDAR ITEMS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!!!** Send to [robinson@nasemso.org](mailto:robinson@nasemso.org)

### \*\*\*STATEWIDE EMS CONFERENCES\*\*\*

PA Annual Conference. September 21-23, 2016. Doubletree Resort Lancaster, PA. [For more information...](#)

NJ Statewide EMS Conference. November 16-19, 2016. Harrah's Waterfront Convention Center, Atlantic City, NJ.  
For more information...

### \*\*\*National Conferences and Special Meetings\*\*\*

Please use these links to access monthly course schedules and registration info related to:

[NAEMSE Instructor Course Level 1](#)

[NAEMSE Instructor Course Level 2](#)

[CAAHEP Accreditation Update & Evaluating Student Competency Workshops](#)

[NAEMSE/NREMT Regional Scenario Development Workshops](#)

**National EMS Memorial Bike Ride:** Honor EMS personnel who have died and those who continue to serve the public everyday with long distance cycling events and by promoting healthy lifestyles. [muddyangels.com](http://muddyangels.com)

2016 Dates:

Midwest Route June 26-30, 2016 Chicago, IL/Woodbury, MN

Colorado Route August 19-20-2016 Fort Collins, CO/Littleton, CO

West Coast Route September 26-October 1, 2016 Reno, NV/San Francisco, CA



### **EMS Week. May 15-21, 2016**

Fire Rescue Med. (IAFC EMS Section Annual Meeting) May 21-25, 2016. Henderson, NV. [For more information...](#)

Pinnacle 2016. July 18-22, 2016. San Antonio, TX. [For more information...](#)

National Association of EMS Educators Annual Meeting. Preconference August 1-3 and symposium August 4-6, 2016. Fort Worth, TX. [www.naemse.org](http://www.naemse.org)

IAFC Annual Conference. Fire-Rescue International. August 17-20, 2016. San Antonio, TX. [For more information...](#)

National EMS Safety Summit. August 23-26, 2016. Denver, CO. [For more information...](#)

National EMS Advisory Council. September 7-8, 2016 in Washington DC. For more information, go to EMS.gov.

Emergency Nurses Association Annual Meeting. September 14-17, 2016. Los Angeles, CA. [www.ena.org](http://www.ena.org)

**National Association of State EMS Officials Fall Meeting. September 19-23, 2016. Albuquerque, NM.**  
[www.nasemso.org](http://www.nasemso.org)

Air Medical Transport Conference. September 26-28, 2016. Charlotte. NC

American College of Emergency Physicians Annual Meeting. October 15-18, 2016. Las Vegas, NV. [www.acep.org](http://www.acep.org)

EMS World Expo. October 3-7, 2016. New Orleans, LA. <http://www.emsworldexpo.com/>

International Association of Emergency Management Annual Meeting. October 14-20, 2016. Savannah, GA

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

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