



## **Support for Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators in Emergency Medical Service Agencies**

**W**hereas providing high-quality emergency medical services (EMS) to children requires an infrastructure designed to support the care of pediatric patients;

**Whereas** EMS providers face challenges related to the maintenance of pediatric skills due to infrequent encounters with children, particularly the critically ill and injured;

**Whereas** the 2007 Institute of Medicine report, “Emergency Care for Children: Growing Pains,” recommends that EMS agencies appoint a pediatric emergency care coordinator (PECC) to advocate for improved EMS provider competencies and the availability of appropriate resources for pediatric patients to ensure that the agency and its providers are adequately prepared to care for ill and injured children;

**Whereas** the Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau’s Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program has established a performance measure to encourage the adoption of a PECC by EMS agencies;

**Whereas** the designated individual who coordinates pediatric emergency care need not be dedicated solely to this role; it can be an individual already in place who assumes this role as part of their existing duties; and

**Whereas** the PECC may be a member of the EMS agency, or work at a county or region level and serve more than one agency.

**N**ow therefore be it resolved the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) recommends that EMS agencies appoint a PECC to provide advocacy and guidance for activities related to the care of children;

**Be it further resolved that** the PECC works in collaboration with the state EMS office, EMS agency leaders and medical directors, and other stakeholders, to ensure pediatric needs are well integrated into all aspects of emergency medical care;

**Be it further resolved that** NASEMSO believes that EMS agencies that appoint PECCs are enhancing their EMS systems to provide high quality pediatric emergency care; and

**Be it further resolved that** NASEMSO requests the federal and state EMSC programs to continue providing guidance, resources, and support for the PECC role.

Submitted by Morgan Scaggs, Pediatric Emergency Care Council Chair

Signed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2019.



R. Keith Wages  
2016-2019 President



Alisa Williams  
2016-2019 Secretary

**Intended Distribution:**

- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- American Ambulance Association (AAA)
- American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)
- American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma (ACS-COT)
- American Hospital Association (AHA)
- Children's Safety Network
- Department of Defense, Army Surgeon General
- HRSA EMS for Children Program (EMSC)
- EMSC Innovation & Improvement Center (EIIC)
- Emergency Nurses Association (ENA)
- Family Voices
- International Association of EMS Chiefs (IAEMSC)
- International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFF)
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- National Association of EMTs (NAEMT)
- National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP)
- National EMS Advisory Council (NEMSAC)
- National EMS Management Association (NEMSMA)
- National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Office of EMS (OEMS)
- National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH)
- National Registry of EMTs (NREMT)
- Safe States Alliance