




National Association of State EMS Officials

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Date: August 19, 2014

To: National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health

From: James DeTienne, President 
National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials

Subject: Comments on the Model Uniform Core Criteria for Mass Casualty Triage

On behalf of the National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials (NASEMSO) I would like to thank the National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health as well as the Department of Transportation and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for the opportunity to provide comments on the addendum for the Instructional guideline on the Model Uniform Core Criteria for Mass Casualty Triage (MUCC). The National Association of State EMS Officials is the lead national organization for EMS, a respected voice for national EMS policy with comprehensive concern and commitment for the development of effective, integrated, community-based, universal and consistent EMS systems. Our membership includes 56 state and territorial EMS directors, state medical directors, state education and training managers, state data manager and trauma managers, EMS for Children managers plus corporate and associate members.

History has shown us that there is little to no advance notice of natural or man-made disasters. And that many disasters stress local as well as state EMS resources thereby requiring response from many EMS jurisdictions and communities'. Based on this fact the NASEMSO supports the proposed concept of implementing MUCC to ensure a coordinated approach to triage by EMS and its response partners.

The NASEMSO supports this implement strategy document and agrees that it is needed. The following are comments from the NASEMSO members:

- Ensure that the development and implementation of a standardized educational and instructional manual includes NASEMSO and State EMS Directors.
- Identify a time-line to roll out MUCC in 3-5 years in order to allow local and state EMS providers the time needed for training and implementation of MUCC.
- Identify a plan/process for informing local EMS stakeholders and local EMS Systems of MUCC and why the current triage process is being changed.
- Include fire and EMS stakeholders in the implementation phase.
- Identify grant opportunities for EMS to support, adopt and offset costs to all aspects of this project.
- The MUCC document should not limit training to medically trained personnel but should include other potential resources who assist in the triage process in a large scale MCI.

As this process continues allow me to offer the NASEMSO organization our assistances to the National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health as well as to FICEMS in this valuable endeavor. This project will ensure a more coordinated future for emergency services provider when responding and managing natural or man-made disasters.

Again, thank you for giving us the opportunity to provide comments.

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