

# American Academy of Pediatrics

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April 20, 2015

TO: Executive Directors/CEOs/Organization Designee

American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)  
American College of Surgeons (ACS)  
Children's Hospital Association (CHA)  
Emergency Nurses Association (ENA)  
National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE)  
National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT)  
National Association of National EMS Physicians (NAEMSP)  
National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO)  
Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM)  
Society of Hospital Medicine (SOHM)

FROM: Sue Tellez  
AAP Division of Hospital & Surgical Services  
Department of Subspecialty Pediatrics

**RE: Transitions of Care for Children in the Emergency Department**

**REQUESTED DEADLINE FOR RESPONSE: MAY 15, 2015**

This document is  New  Revision

If a revision:

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) **Committee on Pediatric Emergency Medicine** would appreciate receiving your input regarding the attached draft policy statement, intended as a joint statement with the American College of Emergency Physicians and the Emergency Nurses Association.

**Review this document for content only.** Medical editors will address grammar and style issues at a later stage.

**The draft document has not been approved by the AAP Board of Directors and is not considered AAP policy.** This document is currently under embargo and should not be made public under any circumstance. If you choose to share it with other members of your organization to gain the benefit of additional expertise, please remember that secondary reviewers also (a) must honor the embargo and (b) should return their comments to you or your organizational designee for incorporation into a single review response. Reviewers should not return comments directly to the author(s) of the document.

Please indicate below which type of feedback you are providing. Comments should be included 1) either under each applicable section below or by e-mail, referencing the original document and the line numbers your comments pertain to, or 2) in the original document using track changes.

- I have general comments/concerns.
- I have significant wording suggestions (*provided by line number or via track changes*).
- I have significant concerns as described below.
- I have reviewed the documents and have no significant concerns.
- I would like to discuss my concerns (*please contact me*).
1. We recommend addressing transfers originating from pediatric inpatient units to other acute care hospitals. Such situations can be ripe for error.
  2. Although the document specifically states that EMTALA will not be addressed, NASEMSO recommends including it, even if only by reference. We recommend adding strong cautionary language about the need to ensure ToC processes meet EMTALA obligations. (This could be done without a lengthy analysis of EMTALA.) The current wording (line 310) should be strengthened and EMTALA resources could be listed with links to appropriate websites.
  3. Regarding transfers from the emergency department to receiving facility (lines 305-12), we recommend the addition of language specifying information to be provided to the EMS transport crew, as well as to the receiving facility. Additionally, this may be the appropriate section to include a recommendation for having interfacility transfer guidelines in place.
  4. The establishment of interfacility guidelines may also be reasonable to add to the "Recommendations" section.

NASEMSO appreciates the opportunity to comment.

#### **AAP STAFF CONTACT**

Please return this form by ***May 15, 2015*** via e-mail to the manager listed below. Please direct any comments regarding the documents being reviewed to this individual, as well.

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#### **REVIEWER CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Date: May 14, 2015