



March 7, 2013

Jim DeTienne
President
National Association of State EMS Officials
201 Park Washington Court
Falls Church, VA 22046

Dear Mr. DeTienne:

In 2009, the National Association of State EMS Officials endorsed the "Joint Policy Statement - Guidelines for Care of Children in the Emergency Department," published in both [Pediatrics](#) and [Annals of Emergency Medicine](#). Now, the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for Children Program is requesting your organization's support of a nationwide quality improvement effort based on these guidelines. Your organization's name will be added to a public list of groups that support the project's goals and activities. This list will be available on the National Pediatric Readiness website: www.PediatricReadiness.org. All or part of the list may also be used in any official communications, publications, or outreach by the EMS for Children Program on this project.

The National Pediatric Readiness Project brings together the EMS for Children Program, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Emergency Physicians, and the Emergency Nurses Association to enhance the emergency care provided to children throughout the nation.

This project is the first national assessment of pediatric readiness in emergency departments (EDs) across the United States. On a daily basis, our nation's EDs provide the best possible care to children with the resources available to them. This project will help each facility identify its strengths and challenges to providing such care.

As part of this project, every ED in the nation, including children's hospitals, community-based hospitals, military hospitals, and freestanding EDs, will be invited to take part in the assessment to look at facility staffing and personnel, policies and procedures, quality improvement and patient safety, and equipment and supplies. The benefits of participation include:

- immediate feedback in the form of a pediatric readiness score;
- an online gap analysis;
- the ability to benchmark readiness scores nationally against EDs with a similar annual pediatric volume; and
- access to an online toolkit of free performance improvement resources.

Further information regarding this national initiative, including a [webcast](#) overview, is available on the National Pediatric Readiness website: www.PediatricReadiness.org.

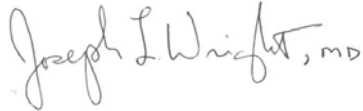
Ensuring Emergency Care for All Children

Website: <http://www.PediatricReadiness.org> • Email: pedsready@childrensnational.org

Project support provided by the EMS for Children Program;
the American Academy of Pediatrics; the American College of Emergency Physicians; and the Emergency Nurses Association.

Thank you for your consideration of the National Pediatric Readiness Project; we hope that your organization will support this quality improvement initiative. If you have any questions, or to add your organization to the public list of groups who support this project, please contact Karen Belli of the EMS for Children National Resource Center at kbelli@childrensnational.org or 301-244-6227.

Best Regards,



Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH
Principal Investigator
EMS for Children National Resource Center



Lenora Olson, PhD, MA
Principal Investigator
National EMSC Data Analysis Resource Center

Cc: Elizabeth Edgerton, MD, MPH
Branch Chief: EMSC and Injury Prevention
Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB)/Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)