October 2020

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CONTENTS

NASEMSO News

- NASEMSO Endorses H.B 8592 -- EMS Counts Act of 2020
- Gainor Serves as Panelist to Qualcomm C-V2X Virtual Summit
- NASEMSO STC Updates Pediatric Transport Products
- NASEMSO Joins National Orgs in Position Statement on Care of Combative and Agitated Patients
- NASEMSO Reimagined 2020 Offers Range of Topic

Communications

- New Resource for NG911 Progress Collaboration

Health & Medical Preparedness

- New GAO Report Highlights Use of MRCs
- Call for Abstracts: 2021 Preparedness Summit

Medical Direction

- ILCOR Offer Multiple Updates to Cardiovascular and First Aid Guidelines

Rural

- NEW!! NQF Rural Telehealth and Healthcare System Readiness Committee
- HRSA Proposes Revised Geographic Eligibility for FORHP Grants
- CMS Describes CHART Model and New Grants in FAQ

Federal

- CRS Offers Overview of Accreditation
- RAD Updated to Provide Violent Death Data to Researchers

Industry News

- First Ever Hess Toy Ambulance on Sale; Free STEM Curriculum Also Available
- CAMTS Offers New Accreditation Standards on Community Paramedicine Programs
- NREMT Launches Monthly Podcast on EMS Competency
- FirstNet Catalog Offers Range of System Compatible Apps
- Last Chance to Comment on NFPA 1900/1917 Consolidation Proposal
- SPRC Offers Free Training on Locating and Understanding Data for Suicide Prevention

https://us13.campaign-archive.com/?e=__test_email__&u=bdaf9a0cf267d423437d7b149&id=4fcf1ed78b
NASEMSO News

NASEMSO Endorses H.B. 8592 – EMS Counts Act of 2020

U.S. Representative Susan Wild (D-PA) was recently joined by Rep. Fred Keller (R-PA) in introducing H.R. 8592, the EMS Counts Act of 2020, bipartisan legislation that would address the chronic miscounting of first responders, particularly firefighters and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel. This legislation will ensure that the federal government is collecting accurate, comprehensive data on the quantity, location, and training of first responders throughout the United States, which is essential to ensuring that communities are able to quickly respond to emergencies, including outbreaks of diseases and natural disasters. The EMS Counts Act of 2020 is endorsed by the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT), International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), American Ambulance Association (AAA), National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO), National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP), National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE), International Academy of Emergency Dispatch (IAED), National EMS Management Association (NEMSMA), National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT), and Association of Air Medical Services (AAMS). Text of the legislation is available HERE.

Gainor Serves as Panelist to Qualcomm C-V2X Virtual Summit

Dia Gainor, NASEMSO Executive Director, was a panelist during the Qualcomm “C-V2X Virtual Summit Featuring Road Operator Deployments” held in late September. Qualcomm (a Fortune 500 company) supports automakers and road operators worldwide to demonstrate how cellular-based direct communications provide reliable and high-performing messages to deliver improved driving safety and traffic efficiency. Topics included collision avoidance, roadside work zone safety and warnings, signal pre-emption, and the unique needs of emergency response vehicles in a connected world. The opening overview talk provides an excellent orientation to “Cellular to Vehicle-to-Everything” technology that is already transforming transportation safety and highlights emerging technology and how it will affect the roadway transportation system in the US in the future. Gainor’s presentation was “C-V2X Through the Eyes of Emergency Medical Services and Other Emergency Responders”. Videos are available through December 31, 2020.

NASEMSO STC Updates Pediatric Transport Products

NASEMSO recently endorsed the joint position statement “Clinical Care and Restraint of Agitated or Combative Patient by Emergency Medical Services Practitioners” coauthored with the National Association of EMS Physicians, the National EMS Management Association, the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians, and the American Paramedic Association. The document addresses the use of agency protocols, assessment and treatment, education and credentialing, indications for restraint, prohibited techniques, pharmacological management, reassessment, and more. Download the position statement here.

NASEMSO Joins National Orgs in Position Statement on Care of Combative and Agitated Patients

NASEMSO recently endorsed the joint position statement “Clinical Care and Restraint of Agitated or Combative Patient by Emergency Medical

**NASEMSO Reimagined 2020 Offers Range of Topics**

NASEMSO joined scores of organizations that presented virtual sessions to its members in lieu of an in-person annual meeting. Topics included a 2020 NASEMSO Update, Overviews of the National EMS Assessment and Specialty Systems of Care publications, FirstNet Progress, Remote Inspections and Surveys, NEMSIS, and a visionary look at EMS. An abbreviated business meeting was also held. Through the generosity of our exclusive corporate sponsor, FirstNet Built by AT&T, we were able to offer this programming at no cost to members. More info is available at https://nasemso.org/news-events/events/event/annual-meeting-2020-2/.

**Communications**

**New Resource for NG911 Progress Collaboration**

The NG911 Roadmap, released in 2019, outlines technical and non-technical tasks at a national level that must be completed to achieve a fully integrated NG911 system of systems. A new easy-to-use tool, the NG911 Roadmap Progress Report, helps identify and track activities by organizations, associations, and other groups in achieving those tasks. This session will share how to use the tool, how to get involved and find out what it means for your organization. The National 9-1-1 Office is hosting a webinar featuring Maine’s Emergency Services Communication Bureau (ESCB) that will share their learned lessons and demonstrate how they were able to modify existing "New Hire and Quality Assurance" courses to a remote-based platform. The webinar will be held November 10th, 2021 at 12 PM ET. To register, go here.

**Health and Medical Preparedness**

**New GAO Report Highlights Use of MRCs**

Physicians, nurses, and other providers can volunteer in their communities to help people affected by public health emergencies. These volunteers, known as the Medical Reserve Corps, provide first aid and shelter support during a variety of events—like wildfires, hurricanes, and pandemics—and provided medical aid to migrants at the southern border. They have also assisted with drive-thru testing during the COVID-19 pandemic. In a new report, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that almost all states have a network of health care volunteers—the Medical Reserve Corps—who can augment federal, state, and local capabilities in response to public health emergencies, such as those arising from wildfires and hurricanes, and infectious disease outbreaks. Having sufficient, trained personnel, such as these volunteers, is critical to a state’s capability to respond and recover from public health emergencies. According to federal data, 48 states and the District of Columbia reported 102,767 health care volunteers in 838 Medical Reserve Corps units as of September 2019, with nurses making up 43 percent. Read “Information on the Use of Medical Reserve Corps Volunteers during Emergencies” here.
Call for Abstracts: 2021 Preparedness Summit

The abstract submission period for the 2021 Preparedness Summit (April 12-15, 2021; Atlanta, GA and virtually) is officially open! As the enduring COVID-19 pandemic continues to intersect with other crises, from hurricanes to wildfires and beyond, we are reminded that public health threats are always looming and crises are just around the corner. This year’s theme, When Crisis is Commonplace: Transforming Your Community’s Public Health Preparedness Practices, will focus on how we must adapt our preparedness and response infrastructure to this reality and will highlight tools, resources, and policies that enable us to meet the many challenges we as public health professionals continue to face every day. More info is available at https://www.preparednesssummit.org/prepabstract2021.

NCDP Announces New Course Offerings

The National Center for Disaster Preparedness, Columbia University (NCDP) is offering two free-web based trainings intended for the whole community: AWR-357-W: Principles of Community Economic Recovery and PER-376-W: Preparedness Actions to Promote Economic Resilience and Recovery. AWR-357-W addresses economic recovery within the National Preparedness Goal and provides resources for whole community planning. PER-376-W encourages economic resilience among private organizations (non-profit and for-profit) confronted with natural disasters. The courses and more information on them can be found at www.ncdpcourses.org.

Medical Direction

ILCOR Offer Multiple Updates to Cardiovascular and First Aid Guidelines

An overflowing treasure trove of information with free access is now available on line in October Supplements to Circulation from the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR). According to the American Heart Association, “This 2020 document is the fourth in a series of annual International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR) International Consensus on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Emergency Cardiovascular Care (ECC) Science With Treatment Recommendations (CoSTR) summary publications.” It is noted that the 2020 CoSTRs for BLS and ALS are the most comprehensive updates since 2010. In addition, the “2020 American Heart Association (AHA) and American Red Cross Focused Update for First Aid” incorporates systematic reviews conducted by the First Aid Task Force of the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR). Systematic reviews conducted by ILCOR provided up-to date science for international use and translated for the North American Guidelines. Overall, the 2020 Guidelines outline 491 recommendations specific to adult, pediatric and neonatal life support, resuscitation education science and systems of care. In addition to the updated and new written guidance, all of the algorithms were updated to reflect the latest science and several major changes were also made to improve the visual training and performance aids. Podcasts on the 2020 Guidelines can be found on the Digital Digest.
All manuscripts can be accessed in the October issue of Circulation:

- **2020 International Consensus on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Emergency Cardiovascular Care Science With Treatment Recommendations** (on basic life support)
  

- **2020 International Consensus on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care Science With Treatment Recommendations** (for advanced life support)
  
  Originally published 21 Oct 2020 https://doi.org/10.1161/CIR.0000000000000893 Circulation. 2020;142:S92–S139

- **2020 International Consensus on First Aid Science With Treatment Recommendations**


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**Pediatric Emergency Care**

**HRSA’s National Survey of Children’s Health**

Each year the Maternal and Child Health Bureau at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) collects information from parents and caregivers on the physical, emotional, and behavioral health of children ages 0-17 years old in the United States. The survey is meant to be a tool with reliable data for researchers and policymakers on a wide range of factors that can influence children’s health – from the prevalence and impact of special health care needs, to adverse childhood experiences and mental and behavioral health. HRSA also released a new brief on Rural/Urban Differences in Children’s Health using the combined data of the 2017-2018 surveys. Find more here.

**FDA Issues Warning on New Social Media Craze**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is warning that taking higher than recommended doses of the common over-the-counter (OTC) allergy medicine diphenhydramine (Benadryl) can lead to serious heart problems, seizures, coma, or even death. The agency has issued a press release on news reports of teenagers ending up in emergency rooms or dying after participating in the "Benadryl Challenge" encouraged in videos posted on the social media application TikTok. Health care professionals should be aware that the "Benadryl Challenge" is occurring among teens and alert their caregivers about it. Encourage teens and caregivers to read and follow the Drug Facts label. In the event of an overdose, health care professionals should attempt to determine whether a patient with a suspected overdose took diphenhydramine. Read more here.

**New CDC Report Provides Insight to Teen Vaping**

A new report posted in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report recently published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention evaluated electronic vaping devices used among high school students. While the study was somewhat limited in number, the CDC observes that "School-based efforts to reduce and prevent tobacco product use are most effective when they are part of a comprehensive approach along with other evidence-based population-level strategies. School-level efforts could include adopting tobacco-free policies (including e-cigarettes) with enforcement measures that include access to resources and treatment for students, rather than punishment; implementing evidence-based curricula not sponsored by tobacco companies; and educating school staff members and parents about the changing product marketplace and known health risks of youth tobacco product use, including e-cigarettes.” Read more.

**P-COSCA Advisory Seeks to Improve Peds Resuscitation**

In 2018, the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR) sponsored the COSCA initiative (Core Outcome Set After Cardiac Arrest) to improve consistency in reported outcomes of clinical trials of adult cardiac arrest survivors and has since supported a new P-COSCA initiative (Pediatric COSCA). The P-COSCA includes assessment of survival, brain function, cognitive function, physical function, and basic daily life skills. Survival and brain function are assessed at discharge or 30 days (or both if possible) and between 6 and 12 months after arrest. Cognitive
function, physical function, and basic daily life skills are assessed between 6 and 12 months after cardiac arrest. Because many children have prearrest comorbidities, the P-COSCA also includes documentation of baseline (ie, prearrest) brain function and calculation of changes after cardiac arrest. Supplementary outcomes of survival, brain function, cognitive function, physical function, and basic daily life skills are assessed at 3 months and beyond 1 year after cardiac arrest if resources are available. To access P-COSCA (Pediatric Core Outcome Set for Cardiac Arrest) in Children: An Advisory Statement From the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation, go here.

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**Rural**

**NEW!! NQF Rural Telehealth and Healthcare System Readiness Committee**

The National Quality Forum (NQF) is convening a multi-stakeholder committee to create a measurement framework linking quality of care delivered by telehealth, healthcare system readiness, and health outcomes in a disaster. The new Rural Telehealth and Healthcare System Readiness Committee will build on the [2016-2017 Framework to Support Measure Development for Telehealth](https://www.qualityforum.org/ProjectDescription.aspx?projectID=93747) and the [2019 Healthcare System Readiness Measurement Framework](https://www.qualityforum.org/ProjectDescription.aspx?projectID=93747). The Committee will focus on quality of care provided in rural areas and will discuss, update, and enhance the previously developed telehealth framework to ensure its relevance for person-centered measurement, patient safety, and value-based measurement and to ensure it addresses new as well as ongoing opportunities and challenges, in part due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For more info on the committee or to sign up for project updates, go to [http://www.qualityforum.org/ProjectDescription.aspx?projectID=93747](http://www.qualityforum.org/ProjectDescription.aspx?projectID=93747).

**HRSA Proposes Revised Geographic Eligibility for FORHP Grants**

Although the short public comment period has now closed, HRSA’s Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) has proposed to modify the rural definition it uses to determine geographic areas eligible to apply for or receive services funded by FORHP’s rural health grants. The background and proposed methodology is described [here](http://www.qualityforum.org/ProjectDescription.aspx?projectID=93747).

**CMS Describes CHART Model and New Grants in FAQ**

The Community Health Access and Rural Transformation (CHART) Model is a voluntary payment model designed to meet the unique needs of rural communities. The CHART Model will test whether aligned financial incentives, increased operational flexibility, and robust technical support promote rural health care providers’ capacity to implement effective health care delivery system redesign on a broad scale. The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) will evaluate the impact of the CHART Model on Medicare and Medicaid expenditures, access to care, quality of care, and health outcomes for rural residents. CMMI intends to award cooperative agreements of up to $5 million to up to 15 award recipients. Application materials are available at [https://www.grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov). Please note that CMMI requires applications for all Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs) to be submitted electronically through the Grants.gov website. Click [here](http://www.qualityforum.org/ProjectDescription.aspx?projectID=93747) to read more.

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**Federal**

**CRS Offers Overview of Accreditation**

The Congressional Research Service has updated its primer on the accreditation of higher education programs for members and committees of Congress. It includes a great explanation on the differences between institutional accreditation and program accreditation as reflected in U.S. Department of Education regulations. “An Overview of Accreditation of Higher Education in the United States” is available [here](http://www.qualityforum.org/ProjectDescription.aspx?projectID=93747).
In related news, on July 1, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education published "New Procedures and Criteria for Recognizing Accrediting Agencies" that is linked from the Agency's website here.

**RAD Updated to Provide Violent Death Data to Researchers**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recently updated its Restricted Access Database (RAD) to include 2018 data from the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS). The NVDRS RAD consists of data from 38 states, 21 California counties, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The NVDRS RAD is a de-identified, multi-state, case-level dataset comprised of hundreds of unique variables. The data set is available to researchers who meet specific criteria. The RAD database also uses includes short narratives that describe the circumstances related to violent deaths, including descriptions from law enforcement and medical examiner or coroner reports. There is no cost for accessing the NVDRS RAD. CDC provides data in a flat-file format for ease of use. Documentation of local institutional review board (IRB) is only necessary if required by your home institution or if linking to other datasets. Detailed data documentation (e.g., a RAD Users Guide) is available, and the RAD application has word limits. Response times to RAD user/applicant inquiries are typically 1-2 business days, and applications are reviewed in 2-3 weeks. To learn more about these data, eligibility requirements, and the application process, please visit our web page. Questions can be directed to nvdrs-rad@cdc.gov.

**Industry News**

**First Ever Hess Toy Ambulance on Sale; Free STEM Curriculum Also Available**

Of interest to collectors, the 2020 Hess Ambulance and Rescue (the series' first ever ambulance) is now available for purchase exclusively at HessToyTruck.com for $36.99 with free standard shipping and Energizer® batteries included. More importantly, Hess also has made available for free download the 5th edition of a science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) curriculum guide. Designed by Baylor College of Medicine's Center for Educational Outreach, the guide provides 7 lessons featuring the 2020 Hess Ambulance and Rescue as a STEM learning tool. Hess’ catalog of free STEM teaching tools is available at https://hesstoytruck.com/stem/#stem-curriculum.

**CAMTS Offers New Accreditation Standards on Community Paramedicine Programs**

The Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS) is proud to announce the release of the first national accreditation standards for Community Paramedic Programs. The standards reflect months of work with input from some of the national leaders in community paramedic services. As an accredited Standards Setting Organization through the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), CAMTS follows the ANSI essential elements for establishing new and expanding standards. This includes solicitation and consideration of comments and suggestions for standards development. The draft Community Paramedic Program Accreditation Standards are posted on the CAMTS website (camts.org) and are now open for public comments. An online comment/suggestion form allows for new comments and assures all recommendations are logged and addressed. Feedback is provided to the submitter of each recommended change. The draft standards will be available for comments until April 2021 and the final standards will be released in the fall of 2021, with an implementation date of January 1, 2022. Programs that believe they are in substantial compliance with the standards can apply for the voluntary accreditation at that time.

In related news, CAMTS is also establishing a Community Paramedic Program Accreditation Standards consensus committee that will review and approve any changes. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact CAMTS at admin@camts.org. Include your name and contact information and your relationship to community paramedic programs. The consensus committee will include representatives from providers, program administration, partners, and users.
NREMT Launches Monthly Podcast on EMS Competency

The National Registry of EMTs has launched a new podcast series, Reinventing Recert, on the NREMT continued competency project. Mark Terry, the Registry’s Chief of Certification will provide listeners insight about the journey of the Continued Competency project and emphasize the importance of the project to the EMS community. The podcast will feature many special guests and serve as a historical record for the successes – and road bumps – of the project. The podcast series launched on October 22 and will be available on a monthly basis for the next year non on Buzzsprout, Spotify, and Apple Podcasts. If you would like more information about the podcast or have questions regarding the content, please reach out to Mark Terry at mterry@nremt.org.

FirstNet Catalog Offers Range of System Compatible Apps

The FirstNet mission is to deploy, operate, maintain, and improve the first high-speed, nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety. Before choosing or promoting a mobile device application to serve first responder needs, all applications listed in the FirstNet catalog have been scanned for malware and severe security vulnerabilities to better protect the public safety community. Certified apps have passed more stringent security assessment. If it is in the FirstNet Catalog, it is relevant to public safety and the unique needs of first responders. All apps listed in the catalog have been evaluated to ensure sensitive data or important enterprise info will not be compromised. Apps are continuously being added-- readers can view the FirstNet catalog of compatible apps at https://apps.firstnet.att.com/?auth=false.

Last Chance to Comment on NFPA 1900/1917 Consolidation Proposal

As part of its consolidation plan, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has announced NFPA 1900 (the standard on automotive ambulances) is in a custom cycle due to the Emergency Response and Responder Safety Document Consolidation Plan (consolidation plan) as approved by the NFPA Standards Council. As part of the consolidation plan, NFPA 1900 (combining Standards NFPA 414, NFPA 1901, NFPA 1906, and NFPA 1917) is open for public input with a closing date of November 13, 2020. Find the revised standard at https://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards/detail?code=1900&tab=nextedition.

SPRC Offers Free Training on Locating and Understanding Data for Suicide Prevention

Effectively preventing suicide requires an understanding of who is attempting and dying by suicide, where the problem is most severe, and under what circumstances attempts and suicide deaths occur. But how do you find the data you need to answer these questions and others? "Locating and Understanding Data for Suicide Prevention" presents a variety of data sources that are useful for finding information about suicide deaths, suicide attempts, and suicidal ideation. A new course from the Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) explains key concepts that will help you better understand the data you find. For more info, go here.

UPCOMING Events

NOVEMBER 2020

Air Medical Transport Conference. (November 2-4) Visit the website for more information on the Virtual Meeting

IAEM EMEX 2020 (November 13-18) Visit the website for more information on the Virtual Meeting
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**

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**Your input to Washington Update is welcome and can be sent directly to our Editor:**

**Kathy Robinson, RN, EMT-P, QAS**

National Association of State EMS Officials
201 Park Washington Court
Falls Church, VA 22046
Email: robinson@nasmso.org
Phone: 703.538.1799 Ext. 1894

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**CONTACT NASEMSO STAFF**