



July 25, 2013

Joan Shook MD
Chair of AAP COPEM
Wendy Simons
Division of Life Support
The American Academy of Pediatrics
141 Northwest Point Boulevard
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-10
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dr. Shook and Ms Simons,

This letter is in follow up to the concerns I raised at the June AAP COPEM meeting on behalf of the Pediatric Emergency Care Council (PECC) of the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO). We are concerned about the ongoing delays in the publication of the 3rd edition of the Pediatric Education for Prehospital Providers (PEPP) textbook and instructor resource materials over the past three years.

Since PEPP was originally published in 2000, PEPP has provided our states and territories with a comprehensive pediatric emergency care educational resource for both BLS and ALS providers written by the leaders in pediatrics from across the country. We have counted on PEPP for both core and continuing education in pediatrics for EMS providers. This education supports the EMS for Children federal performance measure #78 [*The adoption of requirements by the state/territory for pediatric emergency education for license/certification renewal of BLS/ALS providers*]. The second edition was released in 2006 with the American Heart Association (AHA) 2005 guidelines and the text and instructor materials were available within one year of those changes. PEPP Coordinators were provided with both email and online resources throughout 2005-2006 years.

The AHA 2010 Guidelines were released in 2010 with the pediatric teaching recommendations through Pediatric Advance Life Support by the end of 2010. Conversations with both the AAP Life Support office and Jones & Bartlett regional managers about the 3rd edition of PEPP indicated that publication was planned to follow quickly after the AHA publication. Over the past three years the PEPP coordinators have received reliable communication from Jones & Bartlett and online dates for publication continue to be postponed. Calls and emails to Jones & Bartlett from some EMS for Children managers have not been returned in the past twelve months.

We are very concerned that other AAP life support products have been updated and released within the anticipated timeline and PEPP has not. Examples of current educational programs include Neonatal Resuscitation Program and Advanced Pediatric Life Support. PEPP courses currently have a pretest and post test from 2000 and teaching materials from 2005. We recognize that the AHA guidelines will again be updated in 2015 and will require modifications in 2013 or 2014 PEPP publications.



We raise these concerns with the goal of increased communication and transparency about the PEPP 3rd edition curriculum. The commitment of the authors to provide an educational resource for EMS providers and instructors on pediatric care is of great value. Please feel free to contact me if there is a need for additional information.

Respectfully,

Cynthia Wright Johnson MSN RN
Liaison to AAP COPEM for
Pediatric Emergency Care Council, NASEMSO

CC: David Edwards, NASEMSO PECC Chair
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