



National Association of State EMS Officials

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August 13, 2013

Joan Shook, MD / Wendy Simons
Chair of AAP COPEM / Division of Life Support
The American Academy of Pediatrics
141 Northwest Point Boulevard
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1098

Dear Dr. Shook and Ms. Simons,

This letter is in follow up to concerns raised by the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) Pediatric Emergency Care Council (PECC) liaison to COPEM, Cyndy Wright Johnson, at the June AAP COPEM meeting. We are concerned about the ongoing delays in the publication of the Third 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, the curriculum has provided many of our member 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. These states/territories have counted on PEPP for both core and continuing education in pediatrics for EMS providers, which supports the EMS for Children (EMSC) 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, released in 2006, included the American Heart Association (AHA) 2005 Guidelines, and the text and instructor materials were available within one year of this release. PEPP Coordinators were provided with both email and online resources throughout 2005-2006 years.

Both the AHA 2010 Guidelines and the Pediatric Advance Life Support pediatric teaching recommendations were released before the end of 2010; the PEPP updates to these AHA 2010 Guidelines have yet to be released. Initial conversations with both the AAP Life Support office and Jones & Bartlett regional managers indicated the publication of the PEPP, Third Edition should have quickly followed the AHA publication. As of the writing of this letter, the PEPP, Third Edition curriculum has still to be released and online dates for publication continues to be postponed. Calls and emails to Jones & Bartlett from some EMSC Program Managers have not been returned in the past twelve months.

We are very concerned that other AAP life support products (i.e. Neonatal Resuscitation Program and Advanced Pediatric Life Support) have been updated and released within the anticipated timeline while PEPP remains outdated. Currently, PEPP instructors are using a pre-test and post-test from 2000 and teaching materials from 2005. We recognize that the AHA Guidelines will be updated in 2015 and will again require modifications in PEPP publications.



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We raise these concerns with the goal of increased communication and transparency about the PEPP Third 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,

Jim DeTienne
President, NASEMSO

CC: Susan Fuchs, MD Lead Author PEPP
Sue Tellez, Manager, Division of Hospital & Surgical Services
Elizabeth Edgerton MD, MCHB Branch Chief EMSC