



## NASEMSO Safe Transport of Children (STC) Ad Hoc Committee

---

### MEETING RECORD

**February 15, 2018**  
**1:00 PM EST**

**Attending** – Cyndy Wright Johnson (MD), Carolina Roberts-Santana (RI), Jim Green (Project Manager), Dia Gainor (NASEMSO), Suzanne Prentiss (NASEMSO), Tom Downey (EVS), Pater McHugh (Quantum EMS), Brandon Kelly (WY), Jacob Cartner (Ferno), Tracy Brim (FL), Kjelsey Polzin (MN), Elena Sierra (AAMS), Dan Sjoquist (Serenity Safety), Dr. Marilyn Bull (Riley Hospital for Children), Teresa Merk (AAMS), Phil Holt (Nationwide Children’s Hospital)

**Call to Order, Welcome** – Cyndy Wright-Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:08 PM EST.

**Review and Approve January 17th Meeting Record** (attached) – The meeting record was approved as submitted.

**NC Ambulance Crash Involving Young Child** - Cyndy stated that in the last 5 days we have lost a child and a provider in an ambulance crash. It was reported that a very recent ambulance crash resulted in 3-year old child fatality when the ambulance was hit and rolled on its side. We should learn more after the crash investigation is completed.

#### **New Product for Mom/Newborn**

<http://www.ferno.com.au/products/emergency-and-rescue/patient-handling/infant-transport/ferno-kangoofix>

This item was placed on the agenda because an EMSC program manager had seen it and passed it along to Eric Hicken. Jacob Cartner, Ferno, said this product is not new, but has been on the European and Australian markets where it passed the adult standards applicable there (which are tested at a lower G-force than in the US). They would have to apply to the FDA for approval to market it here. Elena Sierra commented that it seems to encourage a potentially unsafe practice of mom holding baby during transport. Cyndy noted that it may interfere with observation of newborn, but on the other hand it may be a helpful device for newborns born at home who are then transported. Dr. Bull believes she saw this product in Sweden where it is in popular use. She shares the concerns others have expressed, but feels it is better than mom holding baby unrestrained. She does not believe we should prioritize this device but instead focus on what transport restraint options are currently available. Cyndy added that we still have a great deal of education to perform to ensure that EMS is not transporting newborns on the new mother’s chest. It has been a

very difficult practice to break especially when they get pushback from midwives, EMS providers and EMS instructors, some of whom still advocate for this practice.

Phil Holt commented that this device may be useful when a mom and newborn are being transported from a free-standing ED and there is no need for a critical care ambulance. Dan Sjoquist suggested there are other products out there that provide a safe means of transport.

### **Update on Corporate & State Partner Initiative**

- **New Jersey Highway Safety Grant** – Cyndy reported that she spoke with Eric and the \$150,000 highway safety grant has been awarded and he is hoping to have the details worked out in 6-8 weeks. The grant period would presumably end September 30, 2018, unless the grant period is extended.
- **Project Manager Update**– Jim Green reported he has been very busy since our last meeting. First, he met with several officials from VFIS (a major insurer of ambulance agencies) and they were very interested in our project. Jim’s contact was Justin Eberle, who heard the STC panel presentation at EMS Expo. He will be presenting with Mr. Eberle next week at EMS Today. Second, he met with the SAE Truck Crash Worthiness Committee (who published the 10 ambulance standards with which Jim was involved). They have reaffirmed their commitment to work with this project. Third, Dave Bryson helped Jim connect with Steve Summers of NHTSA’s Office of Structures and Restraints. After learning the extent of what had been accomplished, Summers felt confident they could find money for this testing. The caveat is that we would use NHTSA’s test lab in East Liberty, Ohio. Fourth, Jim also met with Beth Armstrong and Rachael Alter at NASEMSO headquarters where they completed and submitted a grant application to the State of Florida Department of Health, EMS office to fund a 2-year project to undertake testing of the supine pediatric patient. Members thanked Jim for his extremely productive past few weeks.
- **Planning Meeting Update**– Cyndy Wright-Johnson said she spoke with Eric and they developed a list of possible dates for a planning meeting in March at the NASEMSO headquarters in Falls Church, Virginia. The meeting would have to occur before March 31 because that is when the grant period ends. Elena Sierra offered their (AAMS) conference room in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia that month, which can accommodate 15 people. Mary, Cyndy, Eric and Jim will do further planning after this meeting.

### **Other Comments/Update**

Suzanne Prentiss shared that the Agency Vehicle and Licensing (AVL) Committee is offering an ambulance remount webinar on February 22, 12 noon to 1:15 EST. Mary will send registration information to committee members.

Elena Sierra shared that AAMS Critical Care Ground (CCG) and Children's (KIDS) Special Interest Groups (SIGs) held their quarterly conference calls earlier this month. Two relevant topics discussed include: 1) AAMS efforts to hold LifePort accountable on the [Clip Deck Issue](#) that many ground service providers have recently discovered; and 2) recent activities around pediatric transports during mass evacuation disasters. Nationwide Children's Denny Swick recently developed a NICU Evacuation Grid for hospitals and referral facilities to be used during mass evacuation events.

**Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 2:11 PM EST.

**Next Meeting – March 28, 2018**

*The meeting record was respectfully prepared by NASEMSO Program Manager Mary Hedges.*