



NASEMSO Safe Transport of Children (STC) Ad Hoc Committee

MEETING RECORD

**July 27, 2016
1:00 PM EDT**

Attending - Eric Hicken, Chair (NJ), Katrina Altenhofen (Washington County EMS), Dave Bryson (NHTSA), Kjelsey Polzin (MN), Elena Sierra (AAMS), Teresa Merk (AAMS), Cindy Wright-Johnson (MD), Dan Sjoquist (AMD), Theresa Morrison-Quinata (EMSC), Sandy Sinclair (NHTSA), Paul Phillips (KY), Carolina Roberts-Santana (RI), Dia Gainor (NASEMSO), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO)

Call to Order and Call Roll – Eric Hicken, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM EDT.

Approve June 16th Meeting Record – The June 16 meeting record was approved as submitted.

Introduction of New Members from AAMS - Elena Sierra is a staff member from the Association of Air Medical Services (AAMS), which also represents critical care ground ambulance services. Teresa Merk is Clinical Director for the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center Transport Team. She is Chair of the AAMS Critical Care Ground Special Interest Group (SIG). Amy Haughn is Program Manager for Nationwide Children's Hospital Critical Care Transport Team, and also serves as Chair of AAMS Children's Special Interest Group (KIDS SIG). She was unable to participate in today's meeting.

Federal Partner Comments/Update

- Dave Bryson reported that NHTSA's Risk Control Innovations Program (RCIP) has developed a rough draft of recommendations which is intended for NHTSA leadership. Two of the people leading RCIP teams have moved on to different positions, so they will need to determine where to forward the RCIP recommendations before the document is submitted to NHTSA leadership.
- T. Morrison-Quinata, EMSC Program, reported she had no updates at this time.

Safely Transporting Children Summary Proposal (attached) – Mary Hedges explained the two-page document was intended to be a brief summary of a project proposal for conducting crash testing of devices for securing children being transported by ground ambulance. The document was distributed at the recent meeting of the Department of Homeland Security First Responder Group, which was gathering ideas for future projects. Jim Green, NIOSH, and Kevin McGinnis, NASEMSO, participated in this meeting, as well as Tim Wiedrich, the Emergency Preparedness

Director at the North Dakota Department of Health. Tim, a former state EMS director, was a proponent of the proposal. Of approximately 60 project ideas discussed, the proposal made the top five. Dave Bryson commented that the SAE standards are being developed for adult patients and this is intended to focus on children. Teresa Merk suggested breaking down the cost estimate. Dan Sjoquist added that crash test facility time is expensive as he has found in testing his product. Dan clarified that that the crash testing is dynamic testing to determine the occupant's survivability, rather than static testing which is limited to showing the structural integrity of the parts being tested. Dia added that detailed budget information, when developed, should be a separate document available to members upon request.

NHTSA Cooperative Agreement 2016-17: STC Tasks (attached) – Mary Hedges explained that NASEMSO was recently awarded a 16-month cooperative agreement with NHTSA Office of EMS, which covers many of NASEMSO's activities. The three tasks shown are those related to this committee's work. The first two tasks involve pursuing long term research (crash testing to develop standards), while the third task requires that interim guidance be developed by March, 2017. Eric asked if something similar to an info graphic that could be posted in the back of an ambulance would be sufficient. Cindy mentioned the Maryland document that she sent to other states and agreed that a poster or info-graphic would be very helpful. Dan asked if there is a way to get product information distributed and ensure providers know options are available, even though they may not be based on complete science. Eric agreed that it would be helpful to provide one unified message. He suggested each PEC member bring their resources to the next meeting. Katrina added that we need to educate our EMS educators, such as those teach PTLs classes. Katrina said she believes that if you polled the receiving hospitals, we would find they see many kids arriving seated on the mother's lap. Carolina Roberts-Santana said each state should ensure their state protocols do not authorize transporting kids unsafely. Teresa Merck suggested sharing a video of what occurs in a crash when the child is held by an adult. Dan Sjoquist said he has such a video which he used recently at a conference in Indiana with Dr. Bull. He offered to show the video at the Committee's meeting in Albuquerque.

Planning for September 20 Meeting, Albuquerque – Eric suggested obtaining dash cam video of the recent ambulance crash in Albuquerque with the infant in the incubator. He added that Katherine Schafer has some details she will provide at a future meeting. Dave Bryson said NHTSA had a team on the ground investigating the Albuquerque ambulance crash and will eventually have information on the ems.gov website. They have 44 ambulance crash investigations on the website (none of which involve children), but the site is not the easiest to access. He will provide more information.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 2:17 PM EDT.

Next Meeting – August 18

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