



NASEMSO Safe Transport of Children (STC) Ad Hoc Committee

MEETING RECORD

May 15, 2019
3:30 PM MDT
Salt Lake City, Utah

Attending – Eric Hicken (NJ), Katherine Schafer (NM), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO), Charlie Vits (IMMI), Patrick Wilson (Quantum EMS), Mark Van Arnam (CAAS), Dave Zaiman (BioSpatial), Dave Bryson (NHTSA), Eric Chaney (NHTSA), John McDonald (GSA), Stefani Zucker (Pediatric Medical), Gregg Lord (Pediatric Medical), Dave Edwards (VA), Cyndy Wright Johnson (MD), Jocelyn Hulbert (HRSA), Lorah Ludwig (HRSA), Sam Vance (EIIC), Jon Gondek (Calspan), David Tracy (Frazer Ltd), Jacob Cartner (Ferno), Mike Ely (NEDARC), Morgan Skaggs (KY), Carolina Santana (RI), Jolene Whitney (UT), Yukiko Yoneoka (UT), Tia Dickson (UT), Sara Lifsey (UT), Tracy Cleary (KS), Karen Moore (SC), Eric Duvall (AR), Merrill Pine (VT), Marc Minkler (ME), Tina Sessa (NH), Dr. Joey Scollan (NH), Mike Bologlu (NV), Katherine Hert (AL), Wendy O'Hare (KS), Emily Berquist (KS), Paul Fishwick (FirstLine Technology), Sue Morris (OH), Jim Green (Intrepid Solutions), Victoria Barres (CT), Jay Taylor (PA), Ryan Greenburg (NY), Erica Kane (WI)

Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions – Eric Hicken, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM MDT.

Self-Introductions – Attendees introduced themselves.

Review and Approve April 25th Meeting Record – The meeting record was approved as submitted.

Special Presentation: Ambulance Crash Data from NHTSA - Dave Bryson shared a presentation on ambulance crashes which had previously been given but recently updated with limited new data. There were an annual 4500 aground ambulance crashes per year during a 20-year period (1992- 2011). During this time span, there were an average of 33 fatalities annually from ambulance crashes and an estimated average of 1500 injury crashes. There were 662 persons killed in crashes involving an ambulance during that period, and about 25% of those killed were occupants of the ambulance.

Dave shared new data from 2012 through 2016. In 2012, there were 11 fatalities in the ambulance -- 3 drivers and 8 passengers.

NHTSA has other offices involved with gathering data on ambulance crashes: NHTSA Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) and NHTSA Special Crash Investigations (SCI) Program. SCI investigations of ambulance crashes found that 97% of patients were restrained at the time of the crash (but not restrained very well). 84% of EMS providers were not restrained in the patient compartment, but 805 of ambulance drivers were restrained.

NHTSA's Office of EMS is partnering with NHTSA's Office of Behavioral Safety Research (OBSR) to update the ambulance crash data presentation.

NHTSA data from 2008-2017 (patients 0-12): 1 child killed in 2014; 4 children were injured: 2 in 2008, 2 in 2011.

The 2014 pediatric fatality crash occurred on August 24, 2014 in Buffalo, NY, when an ambulance was struck by a person driving with suspended license. Five persons were inside the ambulance, including an 8-year old boy who was killed.

NHTSA's SCI investigation of the 2015 Albuquerque ambulance crash involving an infant patient who was injured has been completed but is still awaiting clearance before it can be released to the public.

Updated Pediatric Product Spreadsheet – Katherine Schafer thanked those who provided input to revise the pediatric transport product list, which was projected on screen. It was also available on the meeting mobile app. She noted it can be sorted by child's weight or by scenario/situation. Rachael Alter revised the format so that the data is only entered once (for ease of updating) but can be sorted by scenario. Weight of child is shown in both pounds and kilograms. The list will be placed on the Board's agenda for approval (presumably in June) before it can post on the website or otherwise released.

Proposed NASEMSO Bylaws Change: STC to become a standing committee – Eric stated that NASEMSO leadership has proposed changing the committee's status as an ad hoc committee to a standing committee. The proposed change to the bylaws is on the agenda for a vote at the NASEMSO Business meeting later this week. The Board recognized that the Committee's work requires more time than an ad hoc committee's duration, which is intended to be short term (2 years).

Project Manager Update – Jim Green shared a presentation outlining the ambulance crash research project. The goals are to develop test methods for transporting a child in three situations: supine patient, seated patient or not injured or sick and supine neonate. The proposal is to develop test methods (standards) for the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) adoption. The SAE is a nationally recognized standard setting organization and is where the 10 recently published ambulance standards (test methods) were published. Those 10 SAE test methods are now referenced in the federal government (GSA) ambulance specifications and the CAAS GVS Ambulance Standards. Jim has been working

as a contractor for NASEMSO to develop the proposal. The proposal includes a working committee that develops the test methods. He envisions the project will require 5 years to complete once it is funded. It will be an expensive project because it will require time to test many different products at a crash testing lab. Once weaknesses are found, they will have to adjust the test method and repeat the crash test. The testing part of the project will likely take two years, as products are tested, redesigned and retested until they pass. Once the test methods are determined based on successful tests, they will be submitted to SAE for approval and publication, which should take 18 months or so. The final stage is getting the published test methods adopted by the General Services Administration (GSA), Commission on Ambulance Accreditation (CAAS) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). At that point, states can also include them in their state statutes or administrative rules. However, the industry will likely be building products to meet the standards regardless of state laws.

Dia Gainor has been leading a team to develop the proposal which was approved yesterday by the NASEMSO Board. The proposal will now be distributed to potential funders. It has a target budget of \$2.2 million. Dia asked committee members to send any potential funding partners to Rachael Alter for NASEMSO to review. She also recognized that some state EMSC programs (Virginia EMSC) have been approved to contribute funding to this project.

Tracy Cleary reported that at the recent Lifesavers conference, several car seat manufacturers are requesting that their car seats not be used in the back of an ambulance.

Katherine Schafer suggested that the topic of integrated car seats be placed on the June meeting agenda.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 4:47 PM MDT.

Next Meeting – June 27th

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

