



NASEMSO Safe Transport of Children Ad Hoc Committee

MEETING RECORD

November 20, 2015

Attending: Jack Hill, Chair (AR), Katrina Altenhofen (IA), Dave Bryson (NHTSA), Dr. Brian Moore (NM), Sue Morris (OH), Paul Phillips (KY), Stephen Ridella (NHTSA), Katherine Schafer (NM), Dr. Manish Shah (TX), Tom Winkler (PA), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO)

Call to Order and Call Roll – Jack Hill called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM EST. He welcomed all and noted that today's meeting is an organizational meeting of the committee.

Review and Approve Agenda – Jack asked if there were any changes to the agenda, commenting that he will aim to keep the meeting to no longer than an hour. The agenda was approved.

Federal Partner Update – Dave Bryson thanked the committee for inviting him. He thanked Stephen Ridella, also from NHTSA, for joining the call, noting that Steve is very knowledgeable of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS). He explained that they formally received the 2014 Resolution and letter from NASEMSO this summer (2015), asking them to address the matter of child transport in ambulances. A newly formed internal NHTSA team, the Risk Control Innovations Program, has accepted the NASEMSO request to address the issue as one of their projects. The RCIP will be determining if there is a suitable product in existence. The timeline will be 9 to 10 months, after which he believes will likely lead to what needs to be done next. Dave thanked NASEMSO for the letter and resolution to get them to take a look at this issue. Jack thanked NHTSA for their willingness to respond.

Purpose & Goals of Committee – Jack reviewed the draft purpose and goals of the committee which was distributed to members. He emphasized this is a draft and is looking for input from the committee to clarify the purpose and goals. Dr. Shah asked if there is enough information in existence to determine best practices, as mentioned in the draft. He suggested modifying the purpose and goals to clarify so that the committee could move forward. Katrina agreed that we do not have the evidence to determine best practices. Jack said he would love to hear from everyone on the committee, and to please send him their goals for the committee. Stephen Ridella asked if the committee wants the agencies to develop guidance. Just creating a test procedure without knowing what/whom we are trying to protect would be problematic. Mary offered that the intent is to protect both the pediatric patient and the provider (from

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unrestrained or improperly secured pediatric patients). Steve asked how many EMS transports are pediatric calls resulting from motor vehicle crashes, as he understands only about ten percent of all calls are pediatric. Dave said they have looked at the FARS and crash data and there are well over 300,000 EMS transports of children in the US each year. Dave said the committee may want to begin with the 2012 NHTSA document ***Working Group Best-Practice Recommendations for the Safe Transportation of Children in Emergency Ground Ambulances***. Pages 21-22 discuss the limitations of the recommendations, which could be a good starting point.

Dave also recommended that the committee see Jim Green's recent presentation which covers current SAE standards. Most of these are now referenced in the GSA standards and NFPA 1917. He noted the crossover with the AVL Committee. Mary assured Dave that the committee has AVL representation from Paul Phillips. It was noted there is a group that represents the child safety seat manufacturers, which may be a good group to contact. Katrina said that child safety seat manufacturers (Evenflo) have previously shied away from discussion of using their seats in the ambulance. Dave suggested we concentrate on outreach and getting the information out there. Dave asked if this group is going to focus solely on pediatric emergency ground transport? Are we going to get into neonatal transport? Jack commented that is also a big issue which needs addressing. Dr. Brian Moore stated that although it may be a large task, we should be concerned with all pediatric transports, and it should not matter if it is a 911 call or inter-facility transport. The AAP recently published their recommendations on neonatal transports. He knows there is unsafe equipment being used for neonate transport. Jack agrees that we should include all pediatric transport.

Establishing Meeting Time – Jack asked the committee how often they want to meet. He suggested starting with a monthly meeting. Members agreed. It was suggested to continue with the Friday schedule and meet the 3rd Friday of the month. The next meeting would be December 18.

Other Members - Jack asked for suggestions of other members to invite. Katrina and Dave recommended Jim Green (NIOSH) and Dan Sjoquist, who is on the SAE Seating and Restraints Committee which is setting the J3026 standard. Dave also recommended John McDonald (GSA) because he is aware of all existing ambulance standards and Mr. Sandy Sinclair and Carole Guzetta from Occupant Protection.

Other

- **Safe Emergency Transport of Neonatal Patients** – Katrina wanted to make everyone aware of this recently released draft document that was distributed with today's meeting materials.

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Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 3:02 PM EST. The next meeting will be December 18.

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

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