



NASEMSO Safe Transport of Children (STC) Committee

MEETING RECORD

September 3, 2020
1:30 PM EDT

Attending – Eric Hicken, Chair, Mary Hedges (NASEMSO), Hannah Degn (NASEMSO), Dale Adkerson (OK), David Harden (AZ), Norma Campbell (GA), Mike Kulig (Calspan), Laura Dunn (NHTSA), Rich Perl (Quantum EMS), Kevin Gallagher (Innovative Safety Solutions), Charlie Vits (IMMI), Carolina Roberts Santana (RI), Jason Hamm (First Line Technology), Stephanie Busch (VT), Julia Vinton (AZ), Dr. Marilyn Bull (Riley Children’s at IU) Jim Green, (Intrepid Solutions), Liz Kendrick (MO), Katherine Schafer (NM), Karter Kistler (EVS), Amanda Perry (LA), Stefanie Zucker (Pediatric Medical), Rachel Ford (OR), Jacob Cartner (Ferno), Amy Haughn (AAMS), John McDonald (GSA), Cyndy Wright Johnson (MD)

Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions – Eric Hicken called the meeting to order at 1:38 PM ET and welcomed everyone.

Review and Approve June 25th Meeting Record (attached)– Stefanie Zucker moved/ David Harden seconded the motion to approve the meeting record. Motion carried.

National Child Passenger Safety Board Update – Laura Dunn, NHTSA, reported they received a number of qualified applicants for the EMS vacancy on the National Child Passenger Safety Board and they intend to conduct interviews with the candidates. Child Passenger Safety Week is coming up. They have a new feature on the Child Passenger Safety (CPS) website which identifies CPS information on an interactive map. Stephanie Busch shared Vermont reached 900 seat checks this month.

Pediatric Product Spreadsheet Update, Sept 2020 (attached) – Mary Hedges reported that in July she emailed the companies with products on the list requesting any changes. She received responses from all but one or two. The changes made to the revised list include the following:

1. New product - EMS Solutions Emergency Child Restraint, (S, M, L),
2. Removed product – Guardian Safety Seat, which is no longer in production
3. Several requested minor changes to child weight (Ferno’s Pedi-Pal) and Quantum’s ACR-4
4. Change to cleanability for Ferno’s Pedi-Pac (from washable to wipe clean)
5. The missing name of Ferno’s Model 78 Pedi-Pac was added to the document
6. Hartwell requested its brand name be used, EVAC-U-SPLINT Pediatric Vacuum Mattress and that it be included in situations 1,2,3,6, instead of only situation 4, (spinal immobilization)

Stephanie Busch pointed out some typographical errors – International Biomedical Airborne Infant Positioning Straps contain the number 16 in the immobilization capable

column. Also, the EMS Solutions products incorrectly indicate “Yes” for immobilization capable. It was also noted there are three (3) page 16s. Mary said she will ensure these errors are corrected.

Stephanie Busch noted the Hartwell EVAC-U-SPLINT is advertised as an immobilization device and their website does not indicate it is appropriate for the other situations. Kevin Gallagher said a number of EMS services in Arizona use it as an immobilization device, including Phoenix Fire. Cyndy suggested we request Hartwell to provide their guidelines verifying the use of their product in the additional situations beyond the immobilization category.

ACTION ITEM: Eric appointed Stephanie Busch, Cyndy Wright Johnson and Katherine Schafer to further research and decide which situations are appropriate for the EVAC-U-SPLINT product. Once the modifications and corrections are made, the revised product will be sent to the STC Committee via email. Once it is approved by email vote of the Committee, it can be posted.

Dr. Marilyn Bull asked about the notion of cleaning vs. disinfection, which has been a recent topic by the CPS community and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Disinfection of the webbing is not “allowed” by the manufacturer, but it is commonly done. Charlie Vits said this has been a big topic at IMMI lately. The nylon materials used in the webbing are very sensitive to most of the disinfectants commonly used. Jason Cartner said Ferno advises against using many of the cleaning solutions and abrasive cleaning compounds. Wiping down with a mild cleaner or disinfectant is what they recommend.

ACTION ITEM: Eric suggested adding a statement to the product list advising that the manufacturer instructions for disinfecting and cleaning the product be followed in order to retain its integrity.

Pediatric Emergency Care Council (PEEC) Discussion of Pediatric Transport Work Group Report – Cyndy Wright-Johnson reported that the PECC created a small group to develop a sample training for EMS providers on safely transporting children in ambulances. Katherine Schafer is participating in this effort. They want to ensure that the training includes hands on skills. The goal is to complete the product by early 2021.

David Harden asked if there is any plan to update the 2017 Interim Guidance on Transporting Children in Ambulances. Eric Hicken said he did not think there was a plan to do revise the document until the crash testing project is completed.

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Discussion – Dr. Marilyn Bull reported she had an extensive discussion with AAP leadership about the need to fund the STC project. The AAP has great contacts and extensive experience with grant writing. They were very responsive and agreed to make this a higher priority. Dr. Bull promised to follow up with them. Mary added that Dia Gainor also met with Sue Tellez of the AAP who suggested we develop a letter to the AAP President, outlining how they may be able to assist. Dr. Bull suggested the letter be directed to Dr. Debra Waldron, Senior Vice President of AAP. Cyndy said she has regularly updated the COPEM of AAP on this project. Mary will arrange for Dr. Bull and Dia Gainor to confer about their discussions with AAP on this matter.

Safe Transport Project Update – Jim Green reported he has an upcoming meeting arranged with the WVU Children’s Hospital Foundation. It is his hope NASEMSO and the WVU Children’s Hospital Foundation can work together within the Foundation’s local network of philanthropic organizations to secure some funding for the Safe Transport Project. If successful, perhaps STC members can recreate this process with other Children’s Hospital Foundations to secure additional funding for the project.

Federal Partner Update / Member Comments (for those with information to share)

John McDonald from GSA had to leave the meeting, but Eric shared on his behalf that Change Notice 13 to the Federal Specification for Ambulances has been issued with an effective date of July 1, 2020.

Other - Stefanie Zucker suggested that if we intend to pursue federal funding, it might be helpful to use the 2015 Save the Children report that referenced the work done by the National Commission on Children and Disasters following Hurricane Katrina. The Commission was created to identify everything that went wrong when it came to kids during Katrina and present a report to Congress with recommendations to close the gaps. In 2015, Save the Children created a report card entitled “Still at Risk: U.S. Children 10 Years after Hurricane Katrina” to show how little progress had been made in closing the gaps. With 6 recommendations specific to the ability of EMS to transport children in a disaster, none had been met. The Save the Children report also provides examples that show why government needs to help fix this – primarily because they get called in as backup to help and in reality, they don’t always have what they need. In the case of Hurricane Katrina, if others hadn’t stepped in to back up the federal government, kids would likely have died. Stefanie has found both reports helpful in conversations with the Department of Defense and will forward them for posting on the STC committee website.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 3:18 PM ET.

Next Meeting – October 22nd

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