



# Washington Update

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**July 31, 2012**

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**1. NASEMSO AM12 Airport Transportation and Golf Scramble Details**

The 2012 NASEMSO Annual Meeting is fast approaching and we wanted to make you aware of two new items related to the Annual Meeting:

- **Golf Scramble:** This year NASEMSO will be holding a Golf Scramble courtesy of Air St. Luke’s on Sunday, September 23. For those who wish to participate you must register **by August 15** directly with Marc Essary at 417-894-2796; [essarym@slhs.org](mailto:essarym@slhs.org).
- **Transportation:** Our hosts have made arrangements with the Ada County Paramedics who will be providing transportation from the airport to the Grove Hotel to registrants who arrive on Sunday, September 23 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. For those arriving before 9:00 am or after 3:00 pm, the Grove Hotel also offers complimentary shuttle service for its guests to and from the airport. To access their services from the airport use the “Grove Hotel” phone located on the wall to the right of the baggage claim area. The shuttle will arrive within 5-10 minutes – see attached flyer for details

**Reminder:** On Sunday, September 23 from 10:00 am – 6:00 pm we will be also offering the Leadership Skills Program, an 8-hour seminar designed for newer state officials (medical directors, trauma managers, data managers, pediatric care managers, education/ licensing professionals and state directors) but experienced ones are also encouraged to attend. A small fee (\$55) is necessary now that the popular class is not supported by grant funding. For details go to [www.nasemso.org](http://www.nasemso.org) for a draft program and check the “Sunday Leadership Skills” box on your registration form to secure your participation. We look forward to seeing you in Boise!

**2. States Find Laws Against Sports Head Injuries Tricky to Enact**

Everyone wants to reduce the number of head injuries suffered by young athletes. But deciding just how to do that is more complicated than it might seem. Click [here](#) to read more.

**3. FEMA Announces its First Youth Preparedness Council**

FEMA announced the formation of its first Youth Preparedness Council. The Council supports FEMA’s continued commitment to involving the whole community in preparedness related activities. Additionally, it represents a unique opportunity for a select group of 13 young leaders to serve on a highly distinguished national council and to voice their opinions, experiences, ideas and solutions to help strengthen the nation’s resiliency for all types of disasters. Nominated by individuals who can attest to their preparedness activities, Council members demonstrate a willingness to represent the youth perspective on emergency preparedness and to share preparedness information from Council discussions with their communities. [For more information...](#)

**4. Free Emergency Preparedness Brochures, Posters & Publications**

September is fast approaching! With that in mind, we suggest you place orders for events during National Preparedness Month as soon as possible. The shipment of publications and brochures from the FEMA distribution warehouse usually takes four to six weeks, with standard shipping. An order placed today should arrive around the end of August. These materials will be great resources for Citizen Corps Councils, partners and affiliates to distribute at events or in their communities! You can find the Ready order form [here](#). Or contact the FEMA Distribution Warehouse directly at 1-800-480-2520 to place an order.

**5. Dealing with Disaster Trauma: How Behavioral Health Can Help**

Traumatic events have a significant impact on the individuals directly involved, their families and friends and the larger community surrounding the location where the event took place. The extent of the impact will depend on several factors including: how close the person was to the event; if the person has experienced previous trauma; the seriousness of the injury; loss of someone close; and the perception of the person involved, about the experience. A person’s perception is a critical factor in how much of an impact the experience has on them. Everyone reacts differently to the same event. The first responders are also at risk for adverse reactions; it is important to ensure that they have information and easily accessible and confidential resources available to them as well. Behavioral health organizations can educate the community about mental illness and offer support and resources to those in need through [Mental Health First Aid](#). For more resources, you can review [SAMHSA Tip Sheets](#) or [SAMHSA Disaster Technical Assistance Center](#).

**6. Prevention & Control of Healthcare-Associated Infections Guideline Updated**

This document provides guidelines on the prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections in primary and community care. The target populations are:

- All adults and children receiving healthcare where standard infection control precautions apply in primary and community care
- Healthcare professionals, family members and carers who provide healthcare in primary and community settings

[For more information...](#)

**7. GHSA Reacts to Early Estimates of Traffic Deaths for 2012**

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) released an early estimate of traffic deaths for the first quarter of 2012. The agency estimates that deaths increased 13.5 percent during that period. The Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) is disappointed in the news but not particularly surprised. As NHTSA notes, unprecedented gains have been made since 2006 in reducing traffic deaths. So, from that low baseline, an increase is not unexpected. While it is too early to draw conclusions about the data and the reasons for the increase, the strengthening economy and the warm winter may be factors. Any increase in traffic deaths is unacceptable and we remain absolutely committed to working with our partners at NHTSA and across the country to keep the roadways safe. Fortunately, the recently enacted highway bill gives states the resources to fund proven programs that save lives. As the news from NHTSA reminds us, these programs remain critically important. To download the Early Estimate of Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities for the First Quarter (January-March) of 2012, click [here](#).

**8. Pediatric All-Terrain Vehicle Trauma: The Epidemic Continues Unabated**

A [study](#) published in *Pediatric Emergency Care* aimed to: (1) examine the epidemiology of all-terrain vehicle (ATV) injuries in Arizona with emphasis on pediatric injuries, and (2) compare ATV injuries to those associated with motorcycle (MCC) and motor vehicle crashes (MVC). The trauma registry of a level 1 trauma center was used to

identify all ATV crashes during a 5-year period (2004-2008) in patients younger than 16 years. A total of 250 pediatric ATV crashes were observed, rising from 29 in 2004 to 53 in 2008. ATV-related crashes were at least 30 times more likely than MVCs and almost 20 times more likely than MCCs. The study concluded ATV-related crashes have increased and have become a significant source of injury. More public education and awareness of the dangers associated with ATV is needed.

**9. Website on Sports Concussions Updated**

The website [SportsConcussions.org](http://SportsConcussions.org), founded in 2008, has been updated. This website includes information on research, policies, and medical publications available on concussions and sports-related injuries. A weekly newsletter that highlights concussion-related news, medical breakthroughs, and legal issues, as well as a Q&A is also available. To subscribe to the newsletter, access the SportsConcussions.org website and click on "Join Our Newsletter."

**10. HRSA Releases 2011-2012 Area Resource File**

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) released the 2011-2012 [Area Resource File \(ARF\)](#). The ARF is a searchable database with more than 6,000 variables for each of the nation's counties. ARF includes information on health facilities, health professions, measures of resource scarcity, health status, economic activity, health training programs, and socioeconomic and environmental characteristics. The basic file contains geographic codes and descriptors that can be linked to many other files to aggregate counties into various geographic groupings.

**11. HHS Launches Web-Based Tool to Track Performance of Nation's Health Care System**

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has developed a new web-based tool, the [Health System Measurement Project](#), which will allow policymakers, providers, and the public to develop consistent data-driven views of changes in critical U.S. health system indicators. The project brings together datasets from across the federal government that span a variety of topical areas, such as access to care, cost and affordability, prevention, and health information technology. The indicators are presented by population characteristics, such as age, sex, income level, insurance coverage, and geography.

**12. HHS Releases 2012 Public Health Emergency Medical Countermeasures Enterprise Strategy**

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released the [2012 Public Health Emergency Medical Countermeasures Enterprise \(PHEMCE\) Strategy](#), the strategic direction for federal efforts to protect the U.S. population from national health security threats through the use of medical countermeasures. The 2012 PHEMCE Strategy establishes the following strategic goals:

- **Goal 1:** Create develop, manufacture, and procure critical medical countermeasures.
- **Goal 2:** Establish and communicate clear pathways to facilitate medical countermeasures development and use.
- **Goal 3:** Develop logistics and operational plans for optimized use of medical countermeasures at all levels of response.
- **Goal 4:** Address medical countermeasure gaps for all sectors of the American population.

**13. FEMA Welcomes Two of its Newest Employees: Flat Stanley and Flat Stella**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is excited to welcome two of its newest employees: Flat Stanley and Flat Stella! The pair will be working at FEMA to [help kids learn more about disasters and emergencies](#). Children and their parents can build their own FEMA Flat Stanley or Flat Stella and share with their

friends and classmates the steps they have taken to support preparedness throughout their homes, schools and communities. What a great activity to do with your kids this summer and then have them show off their project when they return to school. You can follow Stanley and Stella's FEMA adventures by checking out their [blog postings](#), FEMA's [Twitter feed](#), FEMA's [Facebook page](#), or you can [email](#) them. Flat Stanley and Stella are just another way in which FEMA continues to emphasize the critical nature of [youth preparedness](#).

**14. NIH creates Office of Emergency Care Research**

To help improve health outcomes of patients who require emergency care, the National Institutes of Health has created a new Office of Emergency Care Research (OECR). The office is a focal point for basic, clinical and translational emergency care research and training across NIH.

OECR will not fund grants, but it will foster innovation and improvement in emergency care and in the training of future researchers. [For more information...](#)

**15. NAEMSE is Proud to Present Two Courses: EMS Educator and Level III Instructor**

The National Association of EMS Educator (NAEMSE) is proud to present two educator courses:

- The EMS Educator Course represents the didactic component and practical application of the beginning education process to become an EMS instructor. The content of this course aligns the NAEMSE developed modules with the curriculum objectives of the 2002 National Guidelines, and has been designed to provide a basic introduction of concepts for the beginning EMS educator. Click [here](#) for more information.
- The Level II Instructor Course is representative of the 2002 National Guidelines for EMS Educators and will provide educators and program directors with the tools and information needed to further build their leadership skills and better evaluate programs, students, and faculty. This course also includes an online portion that will enhance the two-day in-person sessions. Topics covered include: Mentoring \* Student Centered Learning \* Lesson Plans \* Program Evaluation \* Social Intelligence \* Research \* Presentation Technologies \* Leadership \* Administrative Issues. Click [here](#) for more information.

**16. CDC Provides Update on Pertussis Outbreaks and Washington State Epidemic**

During the first half of 2012, increased pertussis activity or outbreaks have been reported in a majority of states, and Washington declared a pertussis epidemic in April. On July 18, Mary Selecky (WA) presented on a CDC [telebriefing](#) with Anne Schuchat, MD, director of CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. Read more on [pertussis outbreaks](#) and the [Washington epidemic](#).

**17. ASTHO to Host Webinar on IOM Crisis of Care Standards**

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), in cooperation with the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response and the Institute of Medicine (IOM), will host a webinar to help you navigate IOM's recently released "Crisis Standards of Care--A Systems Framework for Catastrophic Disaster Response" on Friday, Sept. 7, 3-4 p.m. The webinar will cover the following topics:

- Quick introduction to IOM's crisis standards of care (CSC) framework and its purpose, value, and importance.
- Simple tutorial on navigating the systems framework for catastrophic disaster response (state and local government, emergency medical services [EMS], and hospitals).
- Operational considerations (including examples of templates).
  - Core functions for CSC plan development (within states).
  - Core functions for implementing CSC plans in states during CSC incidents.

Ample time will also be budgeted to address questions. We will provide you with background materials, registration instructions, and the call-in/log-in information closer to the webinar.

**18. Value Generation and Health Reform in Emergency Medical Services**

American Emergency Medical Services (EMS) agencies largely have been untouched by the dramatic health care reform efforts underway, although change seems imminent. Clarifying the role of the modern EMS system, and the yardsticks used to evaluate its performance, will be a challenge. This paper introduces the concept of value (or outcomes to cost ratio) in EMS, and offers value assessment as a means by which reform decisions can be framed. The best reform decisions are those that optimize both costs and outcomes. This includes: (1) attention to the patient experience; (2) disallowing the provision of unhelpful, harmful or disproven prehospital care; and (3) expanding patient dispositions beyond Emergency Departments. Costs of care will need to be tracked carefully and acknowledged. Value generation should serve as the goal of ongoing EMS reform efforts. [For more information...](#)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**\*\*\*STATEWIDE EMS CONFERENCES\*\*\***

42nd Annual Wyoming Trauma Conference. August 16-19, 2012. Little America Hotel and Resort Cheyenne, Wyoming. Sponsored by the Wyoming Office of EMS, contact Beth Hollingworth at: [beth.hollingworth@wyo.gov](mailto:beth.hollingworth@wyo.gov) or 307-777-7955. [For more information...](#)

Kansas EMS Association Annual Last Blast of Summer Conference. August 9-12, 2012. Wichita Marriott, Wichita, KS. [For more information...](#)

Pennsylvania's 35th Annual Statewide EMS Conference and 2nd Annual Pediatric Emergency Care Symposium. August 16-17, 2011. Lancaster County Convention Center & Marriott. Lancaster, PA. Click [here](#) for more information, including a call for speakers and exhibitor information.

New York State EMS Conference-Vital Signs. October 18-21, 2012. Syracuse, NY. [For more information...](#)

18<sup>th</sup> Annual Pocono EMS Conference. October 18-21, 2012. Inn at Pocono Manor, Pocono Manor, PA. [For more information...](#)

New Jersey Statewide Conference on EMS. November 1 -4, 2012. Sheraton, Atlantic City, NJ. [For more information...](#)

33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Virginia EMS Symposium. November 7-11, 2012. Norfolk Waterside Marriott. Norfolk, Virginia. Register online to save time and money. You can also check out the course catalog, which offers more than 250 courses, learn how to become a sponsor, review our call for presentations and additional event info. [For more information...](#)

27<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas EMS Conference. November 9-14, 2012. Austin Convention Center, Austin, Texas. [For more information...](#)

**\*\*\*National Conferences and Special Meetings\*\*\***

NAEMSE Annual Symposium and Trade Show. August 6-11, 2012. Coronado Springs Resort, Orlando, FL. [For more information...](#)

\*NAEMSE EMS Instructor Course. August 17-19, 2012. Somerset, KY. [For more information...](#)

2012 Transportation Hazards and Security Summit and Peer Exchange. August 20-24, 2012. Irvine, CA. [For more information...](#)

\*NAEMSE EMS Level II Instructor Course. August 24-25, 2012. New Brunswick, NJ. [For more information...](#)

\*NAEMSE EMS Instructor Course. September 7-9, 2012. Vancouver, WA. [For more information...](#)

AHRQ Annual Conference. September 9-11, 2012. Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, Bethesda, MD. [For more information...](#)

ENA Annual Meeting. September 11-15, 2012. San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA. [For more information...](#)

Emergency Cardiovascular Care Update. September 11-15, 2012. Rosen Shingle Creek, Orlando, FL. [For more information...](#)

\*NAEMSE EMS Level II Instructor Course. September 14-15, 2012. Macon, GA. [For more information...](#)

NASEMSO Annual Meeting. September 24-28, 2012. The Grove Hotel, Boise, ID. [For more information...](#)

ACEP Scientific Assembly. October 8-11, 2012. Denver, CO. [For more information...](#)

The AAP National Conference & Exhibition (AAP Experience). October 20-23, 2012. Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans. No matter your role in medicine, you belong at the world's largest pediatric conference. [For more information...](#)

Air Medical Transport Conference. October 22-24, 2012. Seattle, WA. [For more information...](#)

\*APHA 140th Annual Meeting and Exposition. October 27-31, 2012. Moscone Convention Center West, San Francisco, CA. [For more information...](#)

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Trauma Quality Improvement Program (TQIP) Scientific Meeting and Training. October 28-30, 2012. Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown, Philadelphia, PA. [For more information...](#)

EMSWorld Expo. October 29-November 2, 2012. Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA. [For more information...](#)

1<sup>st</sup> Annual World Trauma Symposium. November 1, 2012. Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA. [For more information...](#)

21<sup>st</sup> Annual NNAEMSA Education Conference. November 5-9, 2012. Golden Nugget, Las Vegas, NV. [For more information...](#)

30<sup>th</sup> Annual International Trauma Conference. November 8-11, 2012. Hilton at the Walt Disney World Resort, FL.  
[For more information...](#)

See more EMS Events on NASEMSO's web site at <http://www.nasemso.org/Resources/Calendar/index.asp>

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