NASEMSO
Washington Update
Keeping EMS Stakeholders Informed

October 2021

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CONTACT NASEMSO STAFF

NASEMSO News

Pandemic Forces Cancellation of 2021 NASEMSO Annual Meeting

The NASEMSO Board of Directors recently found with a difficult decision about having a NASEMSO Annual Meeting scheduled for November 15-17. The unfolding pandemic, the continued lack protocols for mass at-risk crowds (with 60% of our state and territory members still not back to their offices), and the lack of a vaccine for children under 12 years of age, all factored into the Board's decision to cancel the meeting in Orlando. Please mark your calendars and look forward to a live again same-city campaign.

NASEMSO Annual Meeting 2021: June 14 - 16, 2022
Location: Orlando
Contact: Lynn Mann

NASEMSO Annual Meeting 2022: June 13 - 15, 2023
Location: Salt Lake City
Contact: Lynn Mann

NASEMSO Board Selects New President-Elect

At a virtual meeting, the Board voted to elect, without objection, Dr. Jeffrey Kuhn as President-Elect. Dr. Kuhn is the Medical Director for Mississippi as Prehospital Care, Inc., Mississippi's statewide, Medicaid-only EMS provider. He has previously served on the Board as Secretary-Treasurer and Vice President. Dr. Kuhn is also a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of State EMS Officials and has served on several committees and EMS concepts. Congratulations, Jeff!

NASEMSO EMS 360 Webinar Recordings Available on YouTube

NASEMSO's EMS 360 webinar series has gotten off to a good start with several hundred live participants, most thanks to the leaps of faith by our speakers who have never done a webinar before. Recordings are now available on our YouTube channel. Check out the recordings of the webinars on Leadership and Governance and Workforce Wellness.

NASEMSO Compiling Data to Celebrate 40th Anniversary

The National Association of State EMS Officials is asking individuals to participate and celebrate 40 th anniversary. We are asking for a photo and a few words about what EMS means, what experiences have shaped who you have mentored, what is a memory you share. If you have anything to contribute, please contact Mike O'Connell@nasemso.org.

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For The Sakes

NOSORH Offers Toolkit to Celebrate Rural Health

The National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have jointly launched a toolkit to celebrate rural health day, observed on the 4th Thursday of November. This year's theme is the Power of Rural Healthcare. Resources for celebration include a social media toolkit, a proclamation template, a photo contest, and a virtual celebration. The toolkit includes a variety of resources for rural health celebrations, including blogs, tweets, and Facebook posts, a photo contest, a proclamation template, and a virtual celebration. Rural health day is a great opportunity to highlight the unique challenges and opportunities in rural healthcare.

Treasury Releases Guidance on State Broadband Spending

According to the Department of Health Impact Expenditures (DHIE), states seek to broadband or unconstructed, yet, and may use the funds to provide broadband services to households and businesses with a minimum speed of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload. Rural Health and Rural Recovery Fund, the Department of the Treasury provided FAQ to guide states on spending its broadband. The guidance provides states with a wide range of options for broadband investments, including grants to broadband providers, loans or equity investments, and the provision of capital assets to a broadband provider. Treasury's guidance also provides states with the ability to use funds to provide broadband services to households and businesses with a minimum speed of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload in cases in which the broadband provider is not able to do so. The guidance also gives states the ability to use funds to "make the most of the opportunity to leverage partnership with Tribal nations to provide broadband to Tribal lands." Treasury's guidance also provides states with the ability to use funds to provide broadband to Tribal lands.

Contact: Jennifer Wilson, Jennifer.Wilson@nosorh.org

HHS Announces Coordinated Distribution System for mAbs

The CLIA Supplement Health and Human Services has announced that the agency is developing a a state-focus coordinated distribution system for monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) to treat COVID-19 patients. The system will allocate mAbs to hospitals and other treatment sites based on the state and territory's ability to care for patients with COVID-19 and the state and territory's ability to distribute the treatment. The system will also allocate mAbs to state and territory-specified sites, including those that are not hospitals, to ensure that the most vulnerable patients have access to the treatment. Distribution under HHS's system will be based on the number of COVID-19 hospitalizations, the number of COVID-19 cases, and the number of available mAbs. The system will also allocate mAbs to state and territory-specified sites, including those that are not hospitals, to ensure that the most vulnerable patients have access to the treatment. Distribution under HHS's system will be based on the number of COVID-19 hospitalizations, the number of COVID-19 cases, and the number of available mAbs. The system will also allocate mAbs to state and territory-specified sites, including those that are not hospitals, to ensure that the most vulnerable patients have access to the treatment.

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Air Medical

Health Affairs Explores Provisions of No Surprises Act

On October 1, 2021, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Labor, and the Treasury, alongside the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) issued a joint interim final rule implementing the provisions of the No Surprises Act. The rule implements the provisions of the No Surprises Act, which protect patients from surprise medical bills in certain situations, including when patients are unconscious and patients seek emergency care. The rule has not accomplished its purpose because, by the Biden Administration's own admission, it will not protect patients from surprise bills in the vast majority of cases. The rule does not protect patients and providers and separate parties in certain cases