

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



**Ron DeSantis**  
Governor

**Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD**  
State Surgeon General

**Vision:** To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

## Florida EMS for Children Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Thursday, January 20, 2022, 1300 - 1500 EST

Online and in person hybrid meeting

### **Welcome & Call to Order**

Attendees:

#### Committee Members and Liaisons

Dr. Marshall Frank, Michael Rushing, Nichole Shimko, Tracey Vause, Dr. Phyllis Hendry, Dr. Jennifer Fishe, Ernest Weishaupt, Barbara Tripp, Sandra Nasca, Julie Downey, Lauren Young, Lisa Nichols, Sarah Weed

#### State Office Personnel:

Lorrianna Jean-Jacques, Jane Bedford, Mike Hall, Kate Kocevar, Ty Carhart, Ina Leinas

#### Other attendees:

Abigail Marquenez, Amii Kennedy, Christine Simpson, David Summers, Dylan Rogers, Elijah Virgin, Julie Bacon, James Bland, Jeremy Fischler, Keith Hernandez, Melissa Keahey, Peter Antevy, Richard Nettles, Robin Ritola, Jamie Walker, Samantha League, Tiffany Dunlap, William Wallack, Wendy Devaney, Mary Farrell, Tom Ruffin, Jodi Moman, Leonard Anderson, Geoff Miller, Alicia Buck, Amy Berger, David Hudak, Scott DeBoer, John Eikes, Shaun Fix, Rich Scot, Julie Long, Chantelle Bennett, +7 other unidentified participants, +2 other unidentified callers

### **EMSC Advisory Committee Announcements and Liaisons**

- Please email [pedready@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:pedready@jax.ufl.edu) if interested in serving as committee PICU/critical care physician liaison
- Travel needs to be approved in advance for Committee Members and Liaisons; packets and forms disseminated
- Next meeting week will be week of June 13th in Hollywood FL at Seminole Hard Rock Café in collaboration with the First There First Care Conference

### **Opening Announcements and Key Updates from Other Committees and Constituency Groups**

- Congratulations to Dr. Kenneth Schepke, MD, FAEMS, new Florida Deputy Secretary for Health
- Retirement of Melia Jenkins after 24 years of service to FL EMSC announced.
- Retirement of Dr. Robert Luten announced. Dr. Luten was a key leader in creating PALS, the inverted pyramid for neonatal resuscitation, and color-coded, length-based dosing and equipment selection for pediatric patients.
- EMSC program infrastructure changes were discussed. Several key DOH EMS employees have retired accounting for over 100 years of dedicated experience. Ms. Jean- Jean-Jacques is assisting with several programs. Dr. Hendry and her department are advertising for a part-time EMSC program assistant and educator. Please use the [pedready@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:pedready@jax.ufl.edu) group email for correspondence. This email goes to Dr. Hendry, Amy Kennedy and Ms. Jean-Jacques.
- Dr. Hendry gave an update on the FAIR EMS Measurement Project. The steering committee met on January 18<sup>th</sup> and there will be several recommended pediatric measures.
- The Florida Trauma System Advisory Council met on January 18<sup>th</sup> and Final 2022 Trauma Center Standards were discussed. There are several proposed pediatric changes, copies of the documents are at the DOH table and a copy will be emailed.

### **Presentations and Special Topics**

#### **1. Pediatric DKA Case Presentation by Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children (see presentation slides)**

Drs. Tom Ruffin and Mary Farrell were invited by committee liaison Ernest "Sonny" Weishaupt to give a pediatric DKA case presentation. The presentation was emailed to committee members and PECCs. Dr. Hendry provided

resource handouts listed below. There were several questions and discussion regarding fluid boluses given in DKA and the importance of giving fluids. Sample DKA pathways from Arnold Palmer, UF JAX, and CHOP were disseminated.

- <https://media.chop.edu/data/files/clinical-pathways/pdf/diabetes-dka-care-map-1.pdf>

- <https://www.chop.edu/clinical-pathway/diabetes-type1-with-dka-clinical-pathway>

#### DKA resources:

- CHOP PEM Podcast: DKA with Drs. Glaser and Kuppermann

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/chop-pem-podcast/id1543470608?i=1000547070548>

- Managing Diabetic Ketoacidosis in Children. Annals of Emergency Medicine, Volume 78, Issue 3, September 2021, Pages 340-345. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0196064421001608?via%3Dihub>

#### 2. Safe transport working group report (Dr. Marshall Frank, Niki Shimko and David Summers presented workgroup update)

See presentation slides. The following links include the committee's 2018 safe transport report and transport products. The group presented a draft position statement for the committee to review with the plan to then obtain review and support from the FL Association of EMS Medical Directors. Educational workshops were discussed and Dr. Hendry recommended a proposal to the upcoming First There First Care conference or something similar in the Fall. EMSC funds can be used to buy sample restraint devices for training or obtain from vendors. The group continues to meet on a monthly basis.

[https://www.emlrc.org/wp-content/uploads/Safe-Transport-Summary-and-Resources\\_2018\\_FLPEDReady.pdf](https://www.emlrc.org/wp-content/uploads/Safe-Transport-Summary-and-Resources_2018_FLPEDReady.pdf);

<https://www.emlrc.org/wp-content/uploads/Pediatric-Transport-Products-for-Ground-Ambulances-v2.0-1.pdf>

### ***Pediatric Disaster and Mental Health***

The following resources and updates were reviewed to address pediatric disaster planning and pediatric mental health issues.

1. Trinka and Sam Series, Another Child Friendly Disaster Readiness Resource for Your Community  
<https://piploproductions.com/stories/trinka-and-sam/>
2. Rocket Rules program teaches emergency preparedness, safety awareness and social emotional skills to children PreK to 3rd grade. <https://rocketrules.org/>
3. JumpSTART badge buddies- very popular item with over 4000 disseminated. Working on setting up an option for direct purchase from vendor for large (>1000) quantities  
<https://emlrc.org/wp-content/uploads/JumpSTART-badge-buddy-2021-v2.pdf>
4. Communication cards for disaster communication during a pediatric decontamination (R Ritola)  
The issue of how to explain to child what is happening during a decontamination procedure was discussed by Robin Ritola of Advent Health with the idea of developing demonstration cards similar to the PEDReady Communication cards with existing and possibly new action emojis showing clothing removal, showering, etc. This resource would also be helpful when language barriers exist. A working group consisting of Robin, Julie Downey, Dr. Hendry, and Sandy Nasca will work on this project along with input from the regional coalition group. Please email [pedready@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:pedready@jax.ufl.edu) if interested in participating or if you have ideas or resources.
5. EIIC CHECKLIST OF ESSENTIAL PEDIATRIC DOMAINS AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR EVERY HOSPITAL'S DISASTER POLICIES draft (Nasca and Jean-Jacques working group members, reviewed by Chief Downey). The final version of this policy will be shared once finalized by EIIC.
6. NAEMSP Pediatric Committee project on De-escalation and Prehospital Behavioral Health Emergencies  
There is significant national and state interest in this topic as pediatric mental health emergencies have dramatically increased during the pandemic. Dr. Jennifer Fishe is leading an initiative on this subject for the NAEMSP pediatric research subcommittee – if you have sample protocols or resources, please email [Jennifer.fishe@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:Jennifer.fishe@jax.ufl.edu).

7. CSHCN discharge planning and disaster checklist examples: Sandy Nasca is looking for examples

**National EMSC Related Updates (Hendry and Jean-Jacques)**

1. NEDARC EMSC 2022 EMS Agency Survey is in progress, closes March 31, 2022 with a focus on performance measures 2 and 3 (PECC and pediatric equipment). For example, does your agency have a PECC or some type of pediatric coordination plan, how do you teach the use of pediatric equipment, etc. It is important to have the most qualified person in the agency complete the questions. HRSA would like to see an 80% completion rate.

<https://www.emscsurveys.org/>

<https://www.emscsurveys.org/docs/EMS%20for%20Children%20Assessment.pdf>

<https://nedarc.org/performanceMeasures/documents/2021NationalReportforEMSAgencies-final.pdf>

2. The 2021 NPRP Assessment (ED pediatric readiness) survey is complete with some preliminary data available: FL had a 58% response rate. New ACS standards will include the pediatric readiness survey for trauma centers. It is not recommended to compare to 2013 NPRP results as many questions have changed. The numbers are down for PM 06 and 07 but scoring of impact factors may have changed. Dr. Hendry will discuss with NEDARC.

<https://pedsready.org/>

2021 National Pediatric Readiness Assessment  
December 1, 2021

Frequency Report from the 2021 National Pediatric Readiness Assessment:  
Data Collected May 1 – August 31, 2021

	Overall Numbers > Numbers by Pediatric Volume in the Last Year				
	Overall (N = 170)	Low (N = 63)	Medium (N = 56)	Medium High (N = 28)	High (N = 23)
<b>Weighted Pediatric Readiness Score</b>					
Mean	74.8	70.1	72.8	77.6	88.9
Median	75.5	67.5	76.4	78.5	90.5

**EMSC 06:**

**Interfacility Transfer Guidelines with all 8 Components of Transfer**

(a) EMSC 06 Numerator: 123

(b) EMSC 06 Denominator: 170

(c) EMSC 06 Percentage: 72%

**EMSC 07:**

**Interfacility Transfer Agreements**

(a) EMSC 07 Numerator: 130

(b) EMSC 07 Denominator: 170

(c) EMSC 07 Percentage: 76%

3. EIIC Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Toolkit and Checklist:

[https://media.emscimprovement.center/documents/Prehospital\\_Pediatric\\_Readiness\\_Checklist\\_Final.pdf](https://media.emscimprovement.center/documents/Prehospital_Pediatric_Readiness_Checklist_Final.pdf)

4. EIIC Pediatric Readiness for EDs- checklists updated 2021

[https://media.emscimprovement.center/documents/NPRP\\_Modified\\_Interactive\\_Checklist\\_Final.pdf](https://media.emscimprovement.center/documents/NPRP_Modified_Interactive_Checklist_Final.pdf)

[https://media.emscimprovement.center/documents/NPRP\\_Checklist\\_Final\\_Apr2021.pdf](https://media.emscimprovement.center/documents/NPRP_Checklist_Final_Apr2021.pdf)

5. EIIC PECC workforce Collaborative: <https://emscimprovement.center/collaboratives/pwdc/>

6. EIIC EMSC Pulse monthly newsletter: <https://emscimprovement.center/news/>.  
It is recommended that all committee members and PECCs sign up for the newsletter.
7. National Association of EMS Physicians Compendium of Airway Management Position Statements and Resource Documents: Volume 26, 2022 supplement. This supplement has great pediatric and adult resources. To be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting.

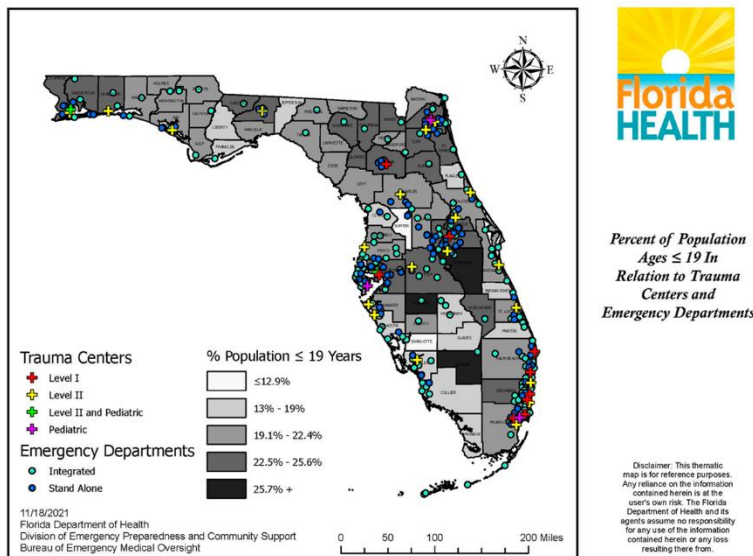
Matthew Harris, John W. Lyng, Maria Mandt, Brian Moore, Toni Gross, Marianne Gausche-Hill & J. Joelle Donofrio-Odmann (2022) *Prehospital Pediatric Respiratory Distress and Airway Management Interventions: An NAEMSP Position Statement and Resource Document*, *Prehospital Emergency Care*, 26:sup1, 118-128, DOI: 10.1080/10903127.2021.1994675. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35001823/>

8. Pediatric Pad Defibrillator Compatibility and material shortages  
Dr. Hendry reviewed correspondence from the NASEMSO PEC regarding pediatric defibrillator supply shortages. The Lifepak 12 Manual states it is not intended for less than 8 yrs of age. Due to order backlogs of pediatric pads, there is an updated letter from the manufacturer stating using the device will not harm the patient if under 8 yrs of age. All agencies and EDs are asked to review their pediatric supplies as there are numerous national equipment shortages.

### Florida EMSC/PEDReady Updates

1. The PEDReady website was updated with meeting materials, disaster badge buddies, new ED and EMS checklists: <https://emlrc.org/flpedready/>.

The annual EMSC map was updated in November 2021. Florida continues to have rapid growth of EDs with over 300 ED's, a large increase of Free-standing EDs, and 303 EMS Agencies. Federal funding is not representative of population.



2. Transport of minors and documentation of parental consent in the ED: Parents' Bill of Rights <https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/billsdetail.aspx?BillId=70313>.  
Details regarding this legislation and upcoming revisions were discussed. Very strict language about documentation of consent and who can provide emergency care. See slides for details. Very important at EMS to ED handoff to discuss who gave consent and obtain guardian contact information. In ED setting, attending physician must document details if written consent not obtained.

3. Target Zero Initiative (FDOT) to reduce number of transportation-related injuries and deaths across Florida to ZERO. Focuses on identifying behaviors that contribute to crashes, understanding who makes up the target audience, and creating impactful messages to influence specific behaviors. [TargetzeroFL.com](http://TargetzeroFL.com)  
David Summers offered to be a participant and provide updates
  
4. Button Battery ingestion prevention campaign and legislation  
Dr. Hendry contacted to ask for EMSC support in Button Battery ingestion prevention campaign and legislation in collaboration with consumer protection agency. There have been several high-profile cases in Florida with poor outcomes. There is a limited treatment window to prevent injury to the esophagus and/or airway and a very high-risk scenario compared to swallowing a coin. Often the ingestion is unknown. EDs and EMS agencies are recommended to have protocols for button (disc) battery ingestions.
  - Dr. Antevy – parents not aware of immediate issue and just call for EMS services. Giving honey can neutralize some of the acid and has been added into protocols in some areas.
  - Facebook resources for more information: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/455075855696705/>; <https://www.facebook.com/Handtevy/photos/a.210812315625650/6079574622082694/?type=3>
  - Wendy Devanney with Ascension – working on a Button Ready Campaign, in the early stages
  - Lisa Nichols with Baptist/WCH – added button battery ingestions confirmed by Xray as a Trauma Activation to elevate treatment.
  - Protocols are especially needed in free standing EDs and rural settings.
  
5. Monique Burr Foundation Child Safety Matters Program: offers prevention programs for four types of child abuse (physical, emotional, sexual, and neglect), exploitation, bullying, cyberbullying, human trafficking, digital abuse, and other digital dangers. <https://www.mbfpreventioneducation.org/resources/>  
**“Be an upstander, not a bystander”**  
Dr. Hendry will coordinate a future presentation. Program free to Florida schools.
  
6. Children with Special Healthcare Needs STAR questions (presented by Advent Health – Robin Ritola / Chantelle Bennet Child Life Specialist)  
**STAR stands for Sensory, Tactile, Auditory, Rockstar.** See question in presentation slides. The group discussed how to adapt for EMS and share with other EDs and agencies. STAR includes safety concerns- behaviors to be aware of, how does the patient communicate best, what procedures or health care experiences may be upsetting to patient, and what are the best ways to calm the patient? This resource is great for autism patients (1 in 44 US children have an autism spectrum disorder).
  - Lauren Young; Consider use with other children with mental health issues (PTSD, Sensory, etc.)
  - The group determined the need to continue the discussion and PEDReady will help develop materials for statewide dissemination
  - Working group to include Robin, Chantelle, Sandy N, Lauren, Dr. Hendry, and others TBD.
  
7. CARES/BioSpacial update and FL Resuscitation Academy with pediatric components (PEDReady sponsorship)
  - a. Dr. Hendry will work with Tom DiBernardo and Ty Carhart to develop a Pediatric Dashboard with intubations, arrests, etc.
  - b. FL Resuscitation Academy with pediatric components (PEDReady sponsorship)  
25th Anniversary First There First Care Conference & Gathering of Eagles: June 13th – June 17th, 2022  
<http://firsttherefirstcare.com/wp/>. Monday June 13th pre-conference.
  
8. Pediatric Hands-on Training Options
  - a. New NAEMT Emergency Pediatric Care 4<sup>th</sup> edition/PEPP 4<sup>th</sup> edition
  - b. Courses by Pediatric Emergency Standards, Emergency Medical Consultants, Pedi-Ed-Trics and others.  
Please email [pedready@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:pedready@jax.ufl.edu) for all pediatric training opportunities.
  
9. Rural update (Bedford/Vause): Jane Bedford has information about funding for pediatric certification training programs in rural areas.

10. Florida FAN Report (Nasca)

Ms. Nasca continues to serve on numerous national committees and is working with Eastern Great Lakes Pediatric Consortium for Disaster Response. They are looking to establish disaster response guidelines for children with special healthcare needs: physical and mental disorders in disasters. The group is requesting examples from Pediatric Offices, or when discharged from NICU/PICUs - discharge planning and disaster checklists, etc. to compile for next meeting. Email to [lsnasca@aol.com](mailto:lsnasca@aol.com) and [pedready@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:pedready@jax.ufl.edu).

11. Pediatric COVID: “Flurona” (COVID + Influenza), increased pediatric hospitalizations, increased incidence of COVID presenting with croup symptoms, and COVID vaccines for children briefly discussed.

12. Handtevy statewide systems: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/blog/2022/01/05/virginia-to-outfit-all-ems-agencies-in-the-commonwealth-with-nationally-renowned-handtevy-system/>  
Length/weight/age/color-based systems discussed.

**Upcoming Meetings and Conferences**

2022 EMSC Day Plans: EMS Week May 16-22, 2022 – EMSC Day is May 19th

April 8, 2022 ShandsCair Caring for Critical Kids Conference <https://shandscair.ufhealth.org/registration/>

ABC’s of Pediatric EMS conference in Orlando May 3, 2022 (Nemours and EMLRC), more information to follow

**New Business**

FL PEDReady Facebook page or Instagram, old FL EMSC Facebook has closed.

Feasibility of annual FL EMS-C conference (honor Dr. Gianas and Danny Griffin)

Issues in transport of children to CHs and TCs from free-standing and community EDs: How we are treating our community EDs and paramedics? Need a better system for care and awareness of what others are going through. Lauren Young suggested a care collaborative of the stakeholders to discuss the issues– different for each system. Further discussion at next meeting. Dr. Hendry working with AAP EMS subcommittee on this subject.

**Questions, Comments and Announcements:** Plan to have one online meeting prior to June meetings

