



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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Acting Commissioner

**Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory
Council MINUTES of September 19, 2023**

Members Present: Dr. Navin Ariyaprakai (video), Dr. Maya Baas (video), Ms. Debra Bell (video), Ms. Kelly Boyd (video), Dr. Frank Castello (video), Dr. Angela D'Alessandro (video), Ms. Denise Serbay (video), Ms. Maureen Donnelly (video), Dr. Lisa Drago (video), Dr. Neil Miele (video), Ms. Sonia Rita (video), Mr. Dan Sullivan (video)

Members Absent: Dr. Ernest Leva, Mr. John Napolitano, Dr. Nilesh Patel, Dr. Anderson Richard

Guests/Attendees: Dr. Louis DiFazio (video), Ms. Jenna Ferlazzo (video), Dr. Richard Flyer (video), Mr. Todd Rapczynski (video)

Dept. of Health: Ms. Judy Faulkner (video), Mr. Eric Hicken (video), Mr. Daniel Kazar (video), Ms. Fatima Manzoor (video), Mr. Colin Taylor (video)

The Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Advisory Council convened virtually on September 19, 2023, via GoToMeeting, with a call to order at 10:00 AM by Dr. Lisa Drago.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is a formal meeting of The Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Council. Adequate notice of this meeting has been published in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, c-10:4.10 of New Jersey entitled, "Open Public Meetings Act". Notices were sent to the Secretary of State, who posted the notice in a public place. Notices were forwarded to 12 New Jersey newspapers, two New York newspapers, two wire services, two Philadelphia newspapers, and WNET (non-commercial educational public television). Notices were posted to the Department's website at www.nj.gov/health/ems

CORRESPONDENCE

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the June 2023 meeting were distributed to the members of the council via email before this meeting and were voted on for approval

Motion to approve the June 2023 meeting minutes (Mr. Sullivan). Seconded (Dr. Castello). Approved (Unanimous)

COMMITTEE/SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairperson's Report – Dr. Drago

- By-laws are on hold with the State and we will hopefully be able to present them at the December Council Meeting
- TEN-4 Day is coming up on October 4th
 - Ten-4 is a mnemonic used to recognize signs of child abuse
 - EMSC will be hosting/promoting TEN-4 Day activities in 2024
- Dr. Drago mentioned that the past Commissioner prioritized Pediatric Disaster Preparedness on her agenda which led to the creation of the Disaster Network Collaborative
 - The first meeting of the Disaster Network Collaborative is today (September 19, 2023), and Dr. Drago will be attending

OEMS Report

- OEMS Staffing Update – Mr. Kazar
 - No new hires at this time
 - New positions will be posted shortly if anyone is interested
- EMSC Grant Program – Mr. Hicken
 - Currently waiting on the year two non-competitive application announcement
 - The current EMSC Grant budget was \$190k which was reduced from \$205k. Currently, we are expecting a reduction to \$175k for years two through four
 - The mid-year program report has been completed
- EMS Agency Survey – Mr. Hicken

- The EMS Agency Survey is part of the Pediatric Readiness Survey conducted Nationally
 - The survey will launch in mid-January of 2024
 - New Jersey will be one of two states and one territory conducting the survey field test to identify any roadblocks to successful response rates
- The last Emergency Department survey was conducted in 2021, resulting in a few areas of weakness that can be improved upon. New Jersey conducted another independent hospital survey in 2023 and had 100% participation from all hospitals in New Jersey
 - The results revealed a 1% improvement in Pediatric Readiness
 - A full report from EMSC Data Center in Utah should be available soon
 - Detailed discussion took place between Mr. Hicken and Dr. Flyer regarding pre-hospital and hospital pediatric care and ensuring pediatric patients receive the best care
- The 2023 National Conference on EMS and Awards Program – Mr. Hicken
 - The National Conference on EMS will be on November 2nd – 4th

Registration is now open at www.nationalconferenceonems.com

- The 2023 SIM Competition registration is open. Currently, there is a waitlist for competitors
- The 2023 EMS Awards nominations have been reviewed and winners identified
- There was one Outstanding EMS Action by a Youth award submitted this year

FAN (Family Advisory Network) Report – (Ms. Rita)

- Ms. Rita attended the EMSC All Grantee and FAN meeting in Austin, Texas representing the EMSC Advisory Council of New Jersey

- Mr. Hicken and Ms. Rita have been working on FAN representative Strategic Planning which will be submitted in October

OLD BUSINESS

EMSC Appointment Update

- Mr. Hicken has a meeting later in the afternoon and will have an update on appointments for the December meeting
- All positions are filled except Pediatric Physiatrist

EMSC Newsletter

- On hold since October 2022

Clinical Corner

- Ms. Manzoor found a platform to upload the video Dr. Alfred Sacchetti created

Creation of Criteria for Pediatric Emergency Departments

- Mr. Hicken informed everyone the EMSC team is currently reviewing the Hospital Regulations Chapter 12 – Emergency Department and Trauma Services ensuring that the performance measures are included in the updated regulations
- Mr. Hicken will inform everyone once the regulations are available for public comment

Performance Measures

- The new performance measures manual was published in July 2023 and is currently available at <https://shorturl.at/eoqLV> or by going to the EIIC <https://emscimprovement.center> website

EMS Pediatric Protocol Update

None

Improving Pediatric Acute Care through Simulation (ImPACT)

- Currently working on the EMS component of the program
- Will be launched as a pilot in the summer of 2024

School Nurse Education Program

- Mr. Taylor is working on the School Nurse Education Program
- There will be a total of six (6) classes offered throughout the State annually

Janet's Law

- Mr. Hicken informed the council Dr. Leva wrote a letter to express his concerns to his elected representative regarding updating Janet's Law

Always Ready for Children

- Always Ready for Children ED (Emergency Department) is being finalized
 - Mr. Taylor is leading this project
- Always Ready for Children EMS (Emergency Medical Services) was launched on EMSC Day
 - Ms. Manzoor is leading this project
 - The EMSC program has been experiencing some minor technical difficulties related to the issuance of recognition certificates that should be resolved soon
 - Two agencies have submitted applications and are under review

NJ Interventions for Families

None

Safe Transport of Children Committee (STC)

- The National Association of State EMS Officials has secured funding for phase one (1) of the child passenger restraint crash test development
- The testing will take about 15 months to be completed before phase two (2) can be initiated

NEW BUSINESS

- Dr. Castello requested the performance measures being developed for prehospital and emergency department
- Dr. DiFazio shared his perspective on utilizing pediatric trauma levels for improving pediatric patient care

- A detailed discussion took place regarding the pediatric level of care in the Emergency Department

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Mr. Hicken explained the rules of engagement for the public comment period and how it will be utilized moving forward
- A member of the public who wishes to speak may do so during this portion of the meeting. The comment period should not exceed 5 minutes per public member

MEETING SCHEDULE

- December 12, 2023, at 10:00 AM via GoToMeeting

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting (Dr. Drago). Seconded (Mr. Sullivan). Approved (unanimous)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 AM

2024 EMSC Council Meetings

- February 20, 2024
- May 21, 2024
- September 17, 2024
- December 17, 2024

**All meetings in 2024 will be held via Microsoft TEAMS
A face-to-face meeting will be scheduled at a later time**