The Pony Express

Improving emergency medical care for children all across Texas





Headline News

A Variety of Pediatric CE Topics Offered at 2011 Texas EMS Conference

Each year in November, the Texas Department of State Health Services hosts the Texas EMS Conference, one of the biggest and best EMS conferences in the nation with nearly 4000 attendees, hundreds of exhibits, and up to 15 hours of high-quality continuing education hours for EMS personnel. This year's conference will be held in Austin, November 20 - 23, at the Austin Convention center.

EMSC will be well represented this year with a variety of fresh and informative topics in the pediatrics, special considerations, and patient assessment categories. Mark your conference schedules now to make sure that you don't miss these presentations. Here are some highlights:

Monday, November 21:

Lectures:

9:45 - 10:45 **Pediatrics** Sam Prater, MD

No Crybabies Allowed: Management of Neonatal Emergencies Through case-based scenarios, this lecture will reinforce use of the Pediatric Assessment Triangle, provide a framework to appraoch the most common potential neonatal catastrophies and provide rapid life-saving interventions. **Dr. Prater is a Pediatric Emergency Medicine fellow at Baylor College of Medicine and works with the EMSC State Partnership on a number of research and education initiatives.

11:00 - 12:00 Special Considerations Sara House, MICT Dealing with the Death of a Child

 $\label{thm:condition} \mbox{Healthcare providers are educated on how to recognize signs of death, how}$ to resuscitate, and when not to. Educating providers on what to do after death has been declared has been grossly overlooked. This presentation will guide providers down the path of dealing with the death of a child before, during, and after the incident.

*Ms. House is a 14 year veteran in EMS and is currently the Program Manager for the Kansas EMSC Program.

2:45 - 3:45 **Pediatrics** Sara House, MICT

Cars are Not Playgrounds: Non-Traffic Fatalities Involving Children Cars are not playgrounds, but they are often near areas where children play. This lecture will venture into the new concepts of non-traffic fatalities involving children, review case studies involving these incidents, and discuss resources available to educate others.

4:00 - 5:00 **Pediatrics** Manish Shah MD

What's New in Neonatal and Pediatric Resuscitation?

Understanding the science behind the new American Heart Association neonatal and pediatric CPR and ECC guidelines and being able to distinguish the guidelines that are unique to children are essential knowledge and skills tasks for all prehospital providers. Through discussion of several case-based scenarios, lecture attendees will be able to apply the new neonatal and pediatric resuscitation guidelines for future patient care.

*Dr. Shah is the Texas EMSC Program Director. He is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine and an attending physician at Texas Children's Hospital.

Tuesday, November 22:

Lectures:

2:00 - 3:00 Patient Assessment Jonathan Lewis, MD Initial Assessment and Intervention for Children with Cardiac Disease Recent self-reported data showed EMS personnel feel uncomfortable with the care of, and desire increased exposure to, pediatric cardiac emergencies. This lecture was developed specifically for EMS education in this regard. The lecture introduces concepts specific to pediatrics and

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Best Practices

The New Buzzword in EMS: Evidence-Based Protocols

In 1996, the EMS Agenda for the Future called for research and pilot projects to determine the affects of patient outcomes of emergency care and transport and the safety of treatments provided during transport by various personnel. A decade later, in 2006. the Institute of Medicine noted limited use of systematic evidence evaluation for emergency care research. This led to the recommendation that a multidisciplinary expert panel be convened to develop, evaluate, and update clinical practice guidelines and standards of care for pediatric emergency care.

The term "evidence-based medicine" (EBM) was first coined in 1995 and quickly became the hottest buzzword in health care, filtering its way into many health care disciplines, including EMS. The Federal Interagency Committee on EMS (FICEMS) and National EMS Advisory Council are currently developing a model for a process to create evidence-based prehospital guidelines. This model has been used to develop draft evidence-based protocols for pain management and air-medical transport from the scene of an injury accident. These guidelines are the product of a multidisciplinary team consisting of experts in adult and pediatric emergency medicine, guideline development, trauma surgery, pain management, medical library science, prehospital emergency care, and nursing.

EMSC has been on the forefront in the development of an evidence base since before it was cool, becoming one of the first government programs to support research and data collection for pediatric emergency care in the mid 1980s. Early efforts were focused on pediatric-specific programs, improving systems of care for children, safe medication dosing, and development of a pediatric trauma score. The program has since created the National EMS Data Analysis Resource Center (NEDARC) and the Pediatric **Emergency Care Applied Research Network** (PECARN), and has funded many Targeted Issues grants, some of them aimed specifically at the creation of EB guidelines.

Texas EMSC is helping to lead the way forward. State Partnership Director, Dr. Manish Shah, is leading a multi-site study on the integration of an evidence-based protocol into practice. This study is taking EBM in EMS to the next level through the implementation and evaluation of and EB protocol. In addition, the Partnership has contracted the Texas Children's Hospital Evidence Based Outcomes Center (EBOC) to review and appraise evidence to develop summarized recommendations for stakeholder driven protocol questions.



EMSC State Partnership, TX

Check out the EMSC State Partnership website at www.bcm.edu/pediatrics/emsc

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EMSC State Partnership, Texas

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Pediatric Offerings at Texas EMS Conference (continued)

discusses a number of clinical case scenarios as they pertain to presentation, diagnosis and in-field management.

**Dr. Lewis is a Pediatric Resident in the Baylor College of Medicine at Texas Children's Hospital and works with EMSC's Continuing Education program.

Tuesday, November 22

Workshops: (Each presented three times at 7:30 - 9:30 AM, 9:45 - 11:45 AM, and 2:00 - 4:00 PM)

Sara House, MICT

You want me to sit where? Safe Transport in Ambulances

As healthcare providers we know the risks of children riding unrestrained in motor vehicles and have seen the consequences first hand. Why is it with all of this knowledge and education that we do not practice as we preach when transporting children in an ambulance? In this presentation we will review the basics of child passenger safety, discuss the NHTSA Recommendations for Safe Ambulance Transport, and build on that knowledge to make good transport decisions for our pediatric patients when seconds count.

Manish Shah, MD; Tony Gilchrest, MPA, BS, EMT-P

I'm in Here, Can You See Me? Assessment and Communication for Children with Special Health Care Needs
This class will provide students with a fresh and unique perspective on the approach to assessment and management of children with a variety of physical, mental, and behaviorial conditions and associated communication barriers, and the underlying family- and patient-centered principles can be adapted to any patient care situation. In this one-of-a-kind hands-on workshop, students will be learning through direct interaction in a variety of situations with some very special kids and their families. The course is designed for all levels of EMS provider.

**Tony Gilchrest is the Program Manager for the Texas EMSC State Partnership at Baylor College of Medicine. He has over 24 years experience in EMS and and is an adjunct faculty member of the Houston Community College EMS program.

In addition to these presentations, be sure to check your EMS Conference shcedules for even more great pediatric continuing education opportunities and outstanding speakers, or drop a note in the <u>Mail Pouch</u> for more information.

EMSC State Partnership Update

Survey of EMS Providers Planned for Texas EMS Conference

In a continuing effort to assess the needs of the EMS system in Texas, the EMSC State Partnership will be conducting a survey of EMS personnel at this year's Texas EMS Conference. This study is designed to supplement data collected in the 2010 EMSC surveys in order to learn more about the experiences of Texas EMS providers with both online and offline medical direction and in what ways demographics may affect essential elements of medical direction. Together with results of a related survey of EMS medical directors planned for later this year, the information gained from this study will be utilized to inform decisions about how best to approach identified gaps in pediatric on-line and offline medical direction in Texas.

Please stop by the EMSC booth in the Exhibition Hall and take just a few minutes to complete this brief questionnaire. The survey will be completely anonymous and all responses will remain confidential. The Exhibition Hall will be open on Sunday, November 20, 2 pm - 7 pm; Monday, November 21, 11 am - 6 pm; and Tuesday, November 22, 8 am - 11 am. We look forward to seeing you there.

Highlights from NASEMSO Pediatric Emergency Care Council

The Pediatric Emergency Care Council (PEC) of the National Association State of EMS Officials met on October 3-4 at the NASEMSO Annual Meeting in Madison Wisconsin. EMSC Program Manager, Tony Gilchrest, attended as the PEC Council representative from Texas. Highlights of the meeting include presentations from Ellen Shmidt from the Children's Safety Network on national resources available and a number of potential collaborative initiatives and Angela Moore from the CDC Injury Prevention Network on new grant programs that recently awarded two Core Injury Prevention grants. In addition, each representative provided their State Project Reports and shared successes and challenges. Texas was among several states highlighted for various projects being done to meet EMSC performance measures.

Texas Pediatric Society Emergency Medicine Committee

Members of the EMSC staff and Advisory Committee attended the Texas Pediatric Society Emergency Medicine Committee meeting on September 23, 2011. The committee discussed the development of evidence-based guidelines in the pediatric emergency department and proposals for sharing knowledge with both children's and non-children's hospitals throughout the state. Issues surrounding resource utilization for interfacility transfers were also discussed along with possible ways to improve the system through data collection and dissemination, targeted education initiatives, and collaboration. Updates on the EMSC State Partnership and Governor's EMS and Trauma Council (GETAC) Activities were also provided.

Final Thought

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.

William James

Upcoming Events



- GETAC Committee Meetings: November 18-20, Austin Hilton, Austin, TX
- <u>Texas EMS Conference</u>: November 20-23, Austin Convention Center; Austin, TX.