

The Pony Express

Improving emergency medical care for children all across Texas



EMSC State Partnership, TX

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Headline News

EMSC Advisory Committee Charts Course for 2013-2017 State Partnership Grant

On August 17, 2012, the EMSC Advisory Committee (EAC) convened their annual workshop at [Dell Children's Medical Center in Austin](#) to assess the State of the State Partnership and develop a strategic plan for the EMSC program in Texas. This year marks an especially important milestone as the State Partnership comes to the end of its first 4-year grant cycle at Baylor College of Medicine and prepares to submit the EMSC State Partnership Competing Continuation Grant proposal for 2013-2017.

The EMSC State Partnership Grant Program is administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), through the [Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Division of Child, Adolescent and Family Health \(DCAFH\)](#), EMSC and Injury Prevention Branch. The grant is aimed at supporting projects focused on integrating the unique healthcare needs of children into the prehospital and hospital healthcare system. In order to guide national efforts and to measure state and national project success, the EMSC Program instituted specific [performance measure standards](#) to assure that nationally-recommended pediatric equipment are readily available in ambulances; pre-hospital providers receive pediatric-focused training regularly and frequently to assure they are prepared to manage pediatric medical and traumatic emergencies; pre-hospital providers have access to pediatric medical direction whenever needed to assure the right care at the right time; hospitals are equipped to medically-manage pediatric medical and traumatic emergencies; healthcare facilities have well-defined guidelines and clearly understood processes that assure the immediate transfer of children to the most appropriate facility when medically-necessary; and that emergency medical services for children are institutionalized within the State EMS system.

In 2010 MCHB released additional performance measures for EMSC grantees intended to increase family, consumer, and youth participation; increase the number of MCHB programs that have integrated cultural and linguistic competence into their policies, guidelines, contracts and training; develop infrastructure that supports comprehensive and integrated services through core public health functions; promote sustainability of EMSC programs and initiatives beyond the life of MCHB funding; and increase the prevalence of medical homes within the systems that serve MCHB populations.

With the Performance Measures as a guide, the EAC discussed the goals and objectives of the EMSC State Partnership Project for the next 4 year grant period, building upon the foundations that have been laid, to develop a strategic plan that is simple, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time bound. The project proposal is divided into four main categories, each encompassing the relative performance measures, including Prehospital Pediatric Readiness, Hospital Pediatric Readiness, Texas EMSC Program Sustainability, and Policy Initiatives. The overarching aim of the project is to reduce the prevalence of pediatric morbidity and mortality that may occur as a result of acute illness and severe injury

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Best Practices

Dr. Philip Ewing Receives 2012 EMSC Champions for Children Award



Congratulations to Dr. Philip Ewing, M.D., the 2012 recipient of the EMSC Champions for Children Award. This award is presented annually to one or more individuals who have demonstrated unwavering dedication and commitment to improving emergency medical care for all children across the great State of Texas.

Dr. Ewing is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics' Division of Emergency Medicine at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas and is an Attending Pediatric Emergency Medicine physician at Children's Medical Center in Dallas. He has also been an active champion for EMSC, serving on the EMSC Advisory Committee since 2009 where he has been instrumental in the development and success of the State Partnership program in Texas. In addition, Dr. Ewing is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics, co-chair of the Texas Pediatric Society - Emergency Medicine Committee, and member of the Pediatric Trauma Society.

Dr. Ewing's leadership and dedication continues to guide the EMSC State Partnership into the future in its ongoing mission to reduce the rates of child and youth morbidity and mortality resulting from severe illness or trauma. Thank you, Dr. Ewing, for your commitment to the improvement of emergency care for children throughout Texas and across the nation.



Mail Pouch

EMSC State Partnership, TX

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

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

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EMSC

Strategic Planning (continued from page 1)

by enhancing prehospital and hospital readiness to deal with pediatric emergencies and by expanding the existing Texas EMSC State Partnership program for long-term sustainability and permanence. Key objectives include development of a National Pediatric Readiness Project (NPRP)-based quality improvement program for Texas hospitals, enhancement of the prehospital medical direction communication infrastructure, and the provision of pediatric continuing education in the rural setting through critical access hospitals and surrounding regions.

The proposed plan of action emphasizes the importance of partnership and collaboration, and success in reaching our goals will be dependent on stakeholder and family participation and direction. While there are many EMSC partners and collaborators across the state, the EMSC Staff at Baylor College of Medicine would like to formally recognize the following organizations and agencies who submitted letters of support for the EMSC State Partnership Grant and/or endorsements for the NPRP-Quality Improvement Program for Texas hospitals:

City of Austin/Travis County EMS; Children's Hospital Association of Texas; Cook Children's Medical Center; Covenant Children's Hospital; Children's Medical Center Dallas/UT Southwestern School of Medicine; Dell Children's Medical Center; Texas Children's Hospital; Texas Department of State Health Services; Texas Emergency Nurses Association; Texas Hospital Association; Texas Parent to Parent; Texas Pediatric Society, Emergency Medicine Committee; Texas State Office of Rural Health.

EMSC State Partnership Update

National Pediatric Readiness Project Pushed Back to January

The national roll-out for the National Pediatric Readiness Project (NPRP) quality improvement program has been delayed until January to allow states more time to prepare for the initial assessment and avoid data collection during the holidays. However, a revised version of the assessment tool will be piloted in Maryland, Minnesota, and Guam beginning in November. The assessment was originally [piloted in California](#) under the direction of Dr. Marianne Gausche-Hill, with a response rate of 89.6%, and has since been through a number of revisions to produce a shorter and more focused questionnaire. Dr. Gausche-Hill recently spoke on emergency department pediatric readiness and the California NPRP experience at the University of Texas Medical School in Houston, where she issued Texas a direct challenge to match the California response rate. She also graciously offered to share best practices and available resources to assist Texas not only in the assessment phase, but in the ongoing NPRP quality improvement program.

At the national level, NPRP partners are creating a tool box with resources to help hospitals address specific gaps and improve their pediatric readiness scores. An NPRP website is now live at <http://www.pediatricreadiness.org/> and includes numerous resources and information for emergency departments, the general public, stakeholders and partners. Over the next few weeks, the Texas EMSC State Partnership will be working with partners and stakeholders to identify key emergency department managers and distribute important information about national project goals, the hospital assessment tool, and the vision for an NPRP-based quality improvement program in Texas. For more information about NPRP or how to improve the pediatric readiness in your facility, drop a note in the [Mail Pouch](#).

Pediatric CE Opportunities

Austin/Travis County EMS and EMSC to Host Emergency Pediatric Care Course

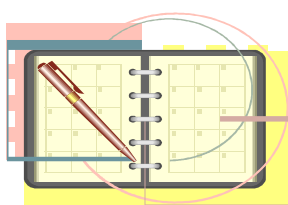
Austin/Travis County EMS and EMSC are teaming up to host the National Association of EMTs' (NAEMT) [Emergency Pediatric Care \(EPC\)](#) Provider and Instructor training September 28-29 in Austin. This will be the first EMSC sponsored EPC train-the-trainer course intended to help build a network of EPC instructors in Texas. The EPC course is a 16-hour comprehensive pediatric emergency care certificate course for basic and advanced level prehospital providers, nurses, mid-level practitioners, and physicians. While EPC will be a great addition to the CE tool chest, EMSC will continue to offer a variety of CE topics to meet local needs. To schedule a CE class in your area, contact EMSC Program Manager Tony Gilchrest at 832-824-6028, or drop a note in the [Mail Pouch](#).

Final Thought

You can do what I cannot do. I can do what you cannot do. Together, we can do great things.

Mother Teresa

Upcoming Events



- [Texas Parent to Parent 8th Annual Vine to Wine Fundraiser:](#)
Austin, September 21;
6:30 - 9:30 PM
- [Pediatric Emergency Services Network Conference:](#)
Dallas, October 30, 2012
- GETAC Meetings: Austin, November 10-12, 2012.
- [Texas EMS Conference:](#) Austin Convention Center.
November 11-14, 2012

Mark Your Calendar

- For information, drop a note in the [Mail Pouch](#).