



**February 28, 2007**

## **Table of Contents**

1. National EMS Scope of Practice Model Published
2. Trauma Systems Bill Reintroduced
3. NASEMSO Signs Letter to DHS on the National Homeland Security Consortium
4. NASEMSO Invited to Comment on Federal Specification for Star-of-Life Ambulance – Submit Comments to NASEMSO by March 6
5. NHTSA-Funded Paper Published on Determining Cost of an EMS System
6. *The Future of EMS in Canada* is Released
7. EMSC Issues 2007 Target Grant Guidance
8. NACDD Publishes Report on PHHS Block Grants
9. CDC Releases Community Mitigation Strategy for Pandemic Flu
10. APHA Releases *Prescription for Pandemic Flu*
11. NENA Publishes Legislative Agenda
12. TIIDE Annual Report Released
13. President Issues Directive on Medical Countermeasures Against WMD
14. FEMA Will Take on Command-and-Control Capabilities over All Parts of Emergency Function #6, Including Mass Care
15. NAEMT Releases Public Service Announcement to Educate Public About EMS
16. HHS Issues Report on Commissioned Corps' Response to Katrina/Rita
17. New \$10 Million CDC Funding Opportunity Announced
18. DHS Awards \$194 Million to States for Emergency Management
19. New NEMSIS Compliant Software Announced
20. NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center Announces Additional Compliance Testing Sessions
21. CAMTS Issues New Accreditation Standards
22. NIDRR-Funded Report Issued on Assessing the Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Persons with Disabilities
23. NIDRR Announces New Research Grants Related to EM and Individuals with Disabilities
24. EMSC Mourns the Passing of Janet Berkenfield
25. GAO Issues New Report on Hurricanes Katrina and Rita
26. Nursing Scholarships Available
27. Upcoming Events

### **1. National EMS Scope of Practice Model Published**

The National EMS Scope of Practice model is a continuation of the commitment of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to the implementation of the "EMS Agenda for the Future." It is part of an integrated, interdependent system, first proposed in the *EMS Education Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach*, which endeavors to maximize efficiency, consistency of instructional quality and student competence. The National EMS Scope of Practice Model supports a system of EMS personnel licensure that is common in other allied health professions and is a guide for states in developing their scope of practice legislation, rules and regulations. States following the National EMS Scope of Practice Model as closely as possible

will increase the consistency of the nomenclature and competencies of EMS personnel nationwide, facilitate reciprocity, improve professional mobility, and enhance the name recognition and public understanding of EMS. The document is available at <http://www.nasemso.org/documents/FINALEMSSept2006PMS314.pdf>.

## **2. Trauma Systems Bill Reintroduced**

On Jan. 30, 2007, Representatives Gene Green (D-TX) and Michael Burgess (R-TX) have reintroduced the Trauma Care Systems Planning and Development Act (H.R. 727) that nearly passed the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress. Led by the American College of Surgeons, advocates are working to get a companion bill introduced in the Senate. The bill reauthorizes Title XII of the U.S. Public Health Service Act – Trauma Systems, to assist states and sub-regions of states with development and implementation of trauma systems. The bill provides \$12 million in FY 2008, \$10 million in FY 2009, and \$8 million thereafter in both competitive and formula grants to affect systems. For the full text of the bill and periodic updates, visit <http://thomas.loc.gov> and query by bill number.

## **3. NASEMSO Signs Letter to DHS on the National Homeland Security Consortium**

On Jan. 18, 2007, the National Homeland Security Consortium met and Undersecretary for Preparedness George Foresman participated. On Feb. 8, 2007, many members of the consortium, including NASEMSO, issued a letter to Foresman thanking him for his participation and describing 17 priority issues that were common for the majority of the consortium members. The letter urged continued support of the consortium as it addresses these issues. For more information on the January meeting, visit <http://www.nemaweb.org/?1777>.

## **4. NASEMSO Invited to Comment on Federal Specification for Star-of-Life Ambulance – Submit Comments to NASEMSO by March 6**

NASEMSO has been asked to comment on the draft *Federal Specification for the Star-of-Life Ambulance, KKK-A-1822F*. A copy of the draft standard has been shared with the NASEMSO Executive Committee. Any state EMS official who would like to submit a comment to be included in the association's final comment must provide the comments to headquarters by March 6. Email Sharon Kelly, [kelly@nasemso.org](mailto:kelly@nasemso.org) for a copy of the draft specification. Comments also should be submitted to Sharon Kelly.

## **5. NHTSA-Funded Paper Published on Determining Cost of an EMS System**

"A Comprehensive Framework for Determining the Cost of an Emergency Medical Services System" was published in the March 2007 issue of *Annals of Emergency Medicine*. The full citation is as follows: Lerner, EB, Nichol G., Spaite DW, Garrison HG, Maio RF: A Comprehensive Framework for Determining the Cost of an Emergency Medical Services System. *Ann Emerg Med*. 2007; 49:304-313. An abstract is available at <http://www.annemergmed.com/article/PIIS0196064406022748/abstract>.

## **6. The Future of EMS in Canada is Released**

On Feb. 22, 2007, the EMS Chiefs of Canada released their white paper, *The Future of EMS in Canada*. Canada is the third country to release an EMS futures document. *Taking Healthcare to the Patient: Transforming the NHS Ambulance Services* was released in the United Kingdom in 2005, and *Emergency Medical Services: At the Crossroads* was released in the United States by the Institute of Medicine in 2006. Each of these documents builds on the vision of EMS becoming more integrated into health care systems as published in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's *EMS Agenda for the Future* (1996) and the National Rural Health Association's *Rural and Frontier EMS Agenda for the Future* (2004). These documents are available for download (only a summary of the final IOM document is available at this time, as the final edition has not yet been published) on the International Roundtable

on Community Paramedicine Web site at <http://www.ircp.info>, under the *Future of EMS* tab. For more information on the new Canadian report, visit <http://www.emscc.ca>.

### **7. EMSC Issues 2007 Targeted Grant Guidance**

The Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) has released the *EMSC Guidance for Targeted Issues*. Grant support is available from the Division of Child, Adolescent and Family Health, part of the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Targeted Issue Demonstration grants are intended to meet HRSA/MCHB priorities of improving health infrastructure and systems of care as well as assuring quality of care. Applicants should address specific needs in the field of pediatric emergency care that transcend state boundaries. Typically, the projects result in a new product/resource or the demonstration of the effectiveness of a model system component or service of value to the nation. State governments and accredited schools of medicine are the only eligible applicants for funding under the EMSC Program. The guidance document is available at <http://www.grants.com> and is titled "HRSA-07-014 EMSCT FINAL.DOC." The EMSC National Resource Center can assist with applications or with questions regarding the guidance. For more information or assistance, contact [tsigh@emscnrc.com](mailto:tsigh@emscnrc.com).

### **8. NACDD Publishes Report on PHHS Block Grants**

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) has released a report on the Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant program, titled "Public Health at Work." The report provides a glimpse of how all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and the Western Pacific Islands use the PHHS Block Grant to address state and local public health needs. The state, territory, and tribe overviews and success stories found in the publication illustrate the wide range of activities for which PHHS Block Grant funds are used to improve health, save lives, and leverage or secure health care dollars. Copies of the report may be ordered through the CDC Web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/blockgrant>. The information from the report also is available on the same Web site.

### **9. CDC Releases Community Mitigation Strategy for Pandemic Flu**

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) on Feb. 5 released *Interim Pre-Pandemic Planning Guidance: Community Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Mitigation in the United States*, intended to be the cornerstone of the statewide EMS guidelines for pandemic flu. The document outlines CDC guidelines on actions, primarily to reduce contact between people, that community government and health officials can take to try to limit the spread of infection should a pandemic flu develop. To download the document, visit [http://www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/community/community\\_mitigation.pdf](http://www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/community/community_mitigation.pdf).

### **10. APHA Releases Prescription for Pandemic Flu**

The American Public Health Association (APHA) on Feb. 22, 2007, released its *Prescription for Pandemic Flu*, a blueprint for strengthening U.S. pandemic preparedness amid ongoing concern about a potential influenza pandemic. For a copy of the report, visit <http://www.apha.org/advocacy/policy/APHA+Prescription+for+Pandemic+Flu.htm>.

### **11. NENA Publishes Legislative Agenda**

The National Emergency Number Association has published its legislative agenda for the 110<sup>th</sup> U.S. Congress. NENA is supporting: critical federal funding for 9-1-1 and emergency communications; the advancement of E9-1-1 solutions; and the need for definitions, funding considerations, planning and all homeland security policies to be broadly defined to include 9-1-1 and all other entities involved with emergency response. Visit <http://www.nena.org/pages/Content.asp?CID=324&CTID=17> for a copy of the agenda.

## **12. TIIDE Annual Report Released**

A pdf version of the *TIIDE 2006 Annual Report* has been posted on the Web site of the State and Territorial Injury Prevention Directors (STIPDA). To view the document compiled by grantees of the CDC Terrorism Injuries Information Dissemination and Exchange program, visit <http://www.stipda.org> and click on "Activities and Programs" where there is a link describing the TIIDE project. NASEMSO is one of the grantees.

## **13. President Issues Directive on Medical Countermeasures Against WMD**

President George W. Bush on Feb. 7, 2007, issued Homeland Security Presidential Directive/HSPD-18, "Medical Countermeasures Against Weapons of Mass Destruction." The document provides background on the threat, U.S. policy, and U.S. policy actions. For a copy of the directive, visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/02/20070207-2.html>.

## **14. FEMA Will Take on Command-and-Control Capabilities over All Parts of Emergency Function #6, Including Mass Care**

Through the Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006, Congress mandated that FEMA and other federal agencies take on additional responsibilities during emergencies. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has announced that it will now have command-and-control capabilities over all parts of (Emergency Support Function) ESF #6, including mass care. FEMA and the American Red Cross (ARC) have worked diligently with their ESF #6 partners at the national level to revise the ESF #6 standard operating procedures, and FEMA has recognized that the process has been valuable in identifying and defining authorities, roles and capabilities of all ESF #6 agencies. FEMA continues to recognize and value the essential service that ARC performs, and intends to continue relying on and supporting ARC's local, state and national level capability. ARC will remain as a support agency to ESF #6, as they do for six other Emergency Support Functions. Both FEMA and ARC intend to continue maintaining a strong preparedness, mitigation, and response and recovery relationship within the ESF #6 structure. FEMA's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs at (202) 646-3873 welcomes questions.

## **15. NAEMT Releases Public Service Announcement to Educate Public about EMS**

In an effort to raise awareness about the importance of emergency medical services in local communities across the United States, the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT) has released a public service announcement (PSA). The NAEMT PSA has action-oriented screen shots to reflect a multi-part message that stresses four ways in which the public can recognize the value of and support for EMS. All of the individuals appearing in the PSAs are real EMS professionals who donated their time to the project without any compensation. For more information and to view the PSAs, visit <http://www.naemt.org/publications/PSAannouncement.htm>.

## **16. HHS Issues Report on Commissioned Corps' Response to Katrina/Rita**

The U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services' Office of Inspector General on Feb. 20 issued a report on "The Commissioned Corps' Response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita." The report recommends changes that it states will assist the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps to improve its efficiency and effectiveness. Recommendations include more training for officers and an improved system for contacting officers for deployment. Download the report at <http://www.oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-09-06-00030.pdf>.

## **17. New \$10 Million CDC Funding Opportunity Announced**

A new \$10 million CDC-wide funding opportunity announcement (OPHR RFA-CD-07-005) has been published at <http://www.grants.gov>. Improving Public Health Practice through Translation Research

(R18) was posted on Feb. 12, 2007, and the NIH Guide posting is forthcoming. A synopsis of the grant is available at <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?opplD=12558&mode=VIEW>.

### **18. DHS Awards \$194 Million to States for Emergency Management**

The U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS) has released \$194 million to help states and local governments prepare and implement emergency management activities through the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program. Emergency managers have been awarded more than \$750 million since fiscal year 2004 through the program. For a list of the state allocations, visit [http://www.dhs.gov/xgovt/grants/gc\\_1172607766048.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xgovt/grants/gc_1172607766048.shtm).

### **19. New NEMSIS Compliant Software Announced**

On Feb. 24, 2007, the NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center has announced the results from the January NEMSIS Compliance Testing Session. The NEMSIS team received eight applications for testing. The results were four newly certified Gold packages and one Silver package. The results are posted at <http://www.nemsis.org/compliance/compliantSoftware.html>.

### **20. NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center Announces Additional Compliance Testing Sessions**

The NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center (TAC) has announced additional testing sessions for 2007. Visit <http://www.nemsis.org/compliance/complianceTestingSchedule.html> for the complete testing schedule.

### **21. CAMTS Issues New Accreditation Standards**

The Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS) approved the *Seventh Edition of Accreditation Standards* in 2006. The standards became effective Jan. 1, 2007. Visit [http://www.camts.org/component/option,com\\_docman/task,cat\\_view/gid,17/Itemid,44/](http://www.camts.org/component/option,com_docman/task,cat_view/gid,17/Itemid,44/) to order or download the standards.

### **22. NIDRR-Funded Report Issued on Assessing the Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Persons with Disabilities**

The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) in the U.S. Dept. of Education funded a recent study by authors from the University of Kansas and the University of New Mexico to identify major barriers faced during Hurricane Katrina by centers for independent living and emergency managers responding to the needs of people with disabilities. Through a combination of surveys, focus groups and interviews at six research sites in the Gulf Coast states, investigators gathered information on the experiences of respondents and developed recommendations for future policy, planning and practice to address identified gaps. Download the report at <http://www.iaem.com/publications/news/documents/nidrrreport0207.pdf>.

### **23. NIDRR Announces New Research Grants Related to EM and Individuals with Disabilities**

The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) in the U.S. Dept. of Education is inviting applications for two new research grants in the areas of "Emergency Evacuation and Individuals with Disabilities" and "Emergency Management Technologies." "Emergency Evacuation and Individuals with Disabilities" is a three-year Disability and Rehabilitation Research Project (DRRP) with projected funding at \$450,000 per year. "Emergency Management Technologies" is a five-year Rehabilitation Research and Engineering Center (RERC) Project with projected funding at \$950,000 per year. NIDRR will hold pre-application meetings (by teleconference) with anyone interested in applying for the grants. For more information, visit <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/grantapps/index.html>.

## **24. EMSC Mourns the Passing of Janet Berkenfield**

EMSC champion and long-time program friend Janet Berkenfield died Feb. 4, 2007, after suffering a stroke three weeks earlier. She was 64. In 1993, she became the first director of the Massachusetts EMSC project. For 15 years, Janet dedicated her life to enhancing the care children receive during a medical emergency. "Many people have stood by a cause, burned out, and are not heard from again, but not Janet. She has maintained her focus on helping children, keeping them her first priority," said Federal EMSC Program Director Dan Kavanaugh. "It is Janet who kept the EMSC program going and growing in her state. We are all benefactors of her dedication and energy, and for that we are truly grateful."

## **25. GAO Issues New Report on Hurricanes Katrina and Rita**

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has issued *Federal Actions Could Enhance Preparedness of Certain State-Administered Federal Support Programs* (GAO-07-219). In the report, GAO recommends that the Dept. of Health and Human Services take steps, such as disseminating information on promising practices and further study of case management approaches as part of its efforts to improve delivery of human services during disasters, as well as work with states to collect information on the need for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) disaster planning. To view highlights of the report, visit <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07219high.pdf>. The report is available at <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-219>.

## **26. Nursing Scholarships Available**

The Emergency Nurses Association Foundation has announced the availability of four undergraduate scholarships specifically for EMS personnel who are attending or plan to attend nursing school. The JEMS/Elsevier Nursing Scholarship will be awarded to pre-hospital personnel (EMT or EMT-paramedics) who want to pursue a nursing degree. The amount of the award is \$5,000. The Erin Eachus Reed Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship in the amount of \$5,000 will be awarded to a member of a state or national professional emergency services association who is pursuing a baccalaureate degree in nursing at a NLN or AACN accredited school. The New York State ENA September 11 Scholarship awards \$2,000 to rescue workers who are going to school to obtain their undergraduate nursing degree. Eligible rescue workers include pre-hospital care providers, firefighters, and police officers. The scholarship is not limited geographically. The Nurses Service Organization EMS Undergraduate Scholarship will award \$2,000 to a member of a state or national professional emergency services association who is pursuing a baccalaureate degree in nursing at an NLN or AACN accredited school. The deadline for application for these scholarships is June 1, 2007. The applications are available at <http://www.ena.org/foundation/scholarships/default.asp>.

## **27. Upcoming Events (\*denotes event is newly added)**

\*\*EMS Today Conference & Expo, March 3-7, 2007, Baltimore, MD. Information is available at <http://www.jems.com/emstoday>.

National Emergency Management Summit, March 4-6, 2007, New Orleans, LA. Sponsored by *Harvard Health Policy Review*, *Health Affairs* and the Louisiana Hospital Association. Information is available at <http://www.EmergencyManagementSummit.com>.

Second Medical Device Regulatory and Compliance Congress, March 28-30, 2007, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Information is available at <http://www.DeviceCongress.com>.

Fourth HIT Summit, March 28-30, 2007, Hyatt Regency, Washington, DC. Sponsored by the eHealth Initiative. Information is available at <http://ccbh.ehealthinitiative.org>.

Fourteenth National HIPAA Summit, March 28-30, 2007, Hyatt Regency, Washington, DC. Information is available at <http://www.HIPAAsummit.com>.

2007 Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference, "Continuing to Build Partnerships," April 10-11, 2007, Tacoma, WA. Information is available at <http://capps.wsu.edu/conferences/emergencyprep/>.

\*\*Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs Annual Meeting, April 13-14, 2007, Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, FL. Information is available at <http://www.caahep.org/content.aspx?ID=26>.

\*\*ACEP Advanced Pediatric Emergency Medicine Assembly, April 17-19, 2007, New York, NY. Information is available at <http://www.acep.org/pemassembly>.

Global Road Safety Week, April 23-29, 2007. Information is available at <http://www.who.int/roadsafety/en>.

"How to Survey Effectively in EMS & EMSC," April 25-27, 2007, Seattle, WA. Information is available at <http://www.nedarc.org/nedarc/workshopsTutorials/upcomingWorkshops.jsp>.

\*\*American Trauma Society 2007 Conference, April 27-28, 2007, Arlington, VA. Information is available at [http://www.amtrauma.org/conference/annual\\_conference.html](http://www.amtrauma.org/conference/annual_conference.html).

The Disease Management Colloquium, May 7-9, 2007, Hyatt Regency Philadelphia at Penn's Landing, Philadelphia, PA. Information is available at <http://www.DMConferences.com>.

EMS Week 2007: "EMS: Ordinary People, Extraordinary Service", May 20-26, 2007. Information is available at <http://www.acep.org/emsweek>.

\*\*"California EMS: The Road Ahead," EMS Administrators Association of California Annual Conference, May 29-30, 2007, Newport Beach, CA. Information is available at [http://www.emsaac.com/emsaac\\_documents/EMSAAC%20Conference\\_2007.pdf](http://www.emsaac.com/emsaac_documents/EMSAAC%20Conference_2007.pdf).

**NASEMSO Mid Year Meeting, June 18-19, 2007, Silver Spring, MD.**

EMSC Annual Grantee Meeting, June 19-21, 2007, Silver Spring, MD.

\*\*AMA/CDC Second National Congress on Health System Readiness, July 18-20, 2007, Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington, D.C. Information is available at <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/17239.html>.

Scientific Grant Writing," August 29-31, 2007, Chicago, IL. Information is available at <http://www.nedarc.org/nedarc/workshopsTutorials/upcomingWorkshops.jsp>.

EMS/EMSC Data Analysis," September 1, 2007, TBD. Information is available at <http://www.nedarc.org/nedarc/workshopsTutorials/upcomingWorkshops.jsp>.

3<sup>rd</sup> International Roundtable on Community Paramedicine and Rural Healthcare Delivery, September 19-21, 2007, Australia. Information is available at <http://ircp.ncemsi.org/>.

**NASEMSO Annual Meeting, October 28-November 2, 2007, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN. Information is available at <http://www.nasemso.org/Meetings/Annual/>.**

---

## **NASEMSO Staff Contacts**

Elizabeth B. Armstrong, CAE, MAM / Executive Director  
(703) 538-1799 ext. 7 - [armstrong@nasemso.org](mailto:armstrong@nasemso.org)

Melissa M. Trumbull / Program Manager  
(703) 538-1799 ext. 3 - [trumbull@nasemso.org](mailto:trumbull@nasemso.org)

Sharon Kelly / Executive Assistant  
(703) 538-1799 ext. 2 - [kelly@nasemso.org](mailto:kelly@nasemso.org)

Dawn M. Shiley-Danzeisen / Washington Update Editor  
(703) 533-0251 ext. 3 - [dshiley@asmii.net](mailto:dshiley@asmii.net)

201 Park Washington Court  
Falls Church VA 22046  
Phone: (703) 538-1799  
Fax: (703) 241-5603  
Website: [www.nasemso.org](http://www.nasemso.org)

---

The Washington Update is supported by a cooperative agreement between NASEMSO and NHTSA's EMS Division. Feel free to share this publication with your colleagues.

NASEMSO Washington Update is published two times a month by e-mail for association members and partners. Comments should be directed to the editor, Dawn M. Shiley at [dshiley@asmii.net](mailto:dshiley@asmii.net).

Cordially,

Dawn M. Shiley-Danzeisen  
Marketing & Communications Director  
NASEMSO  
201 Park Washington Court  
Falls Church, VA 22046  
Phone: 703-538-1799  
Fax: 703-241-5603  
Email: [dshiley@asmii.net](mailto:dshiley@asmii.net)  
Website: [www.nasemso.org](http://www.nasemso.org)