**What is a Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator and why are they important?**

**Definition**

An individual or individuals who are responsible for coordinating pediatric-specific activities.

A designated individual who coordinates pediatric emergency care need not be dedicated solely to this role; it can be an individual already in place who assumes this role as part of their existing duties. The individual may be a member of your agency, or work at a county or region level and serve more than one agency.

**What the research shows**

The Institute of Medicine 2007 publication “Emergency Care for Children: Growing Pains,” recommended that EMS agencies “appoint a pediatric emergency coordinator...to provide pediatric leadership for the organization.” This recommendation was based on findings that PECCs “are necessary to advocate for improved competencies and the availability of resources for pediatric patients.”

In 2016, an NAEMSP review concluded that existing literature supports PECCs as an improvement within EMS agencies which facilitates optimal care of children in a pre-hospital setting.

**Physician Oversight of Pediatric Care in Emergency Medical Services**

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**Resource Document: Coordination of Pediatric Emergency Care in EMS Systems**


The conclusion of this 2017 document is that an “EMS PECC facilitates the integration of pediatric needs into all aspects of EMS,” and that EMS agencies may benefit from having a PECC based upon results received from pediatric verification programs for emergency departments.
Based on responses to the 2017-2018 EMS for Children Program survey

8166 Responding Agencies

% National Data:
- Has a PECC: 22.9%
- Plans to Add a PECC: 3.4%
- Interested in a PECC: 24.6%
- No PECC: 49.1%

Staffing Plan Options:
- Agency:
  - One full-time individual (dedicated role)
  - One individual with additional duties
  - Multiple individuals sharing duties

- Regional:
  - Shared individual
  - Medical Directors Group
  - Pediatric Committee

Roles & Responsibilities Pick-list:
- Various roles & responsibilities can be given to a PECC, although there is no required set
- Protocol development/review
- Case review; feedback to providers
- Hospital outreach
- Pediatric education/training
- Availability of pediatric equipment, supplies, medication
- Research
- Injury prevention
- Pediatric QI/PI
- Community paramedicine
- Promoting family-centered care
- Look at trends; educate community

Additional Information:
- Various resources exist to help you implement and support a PECC in your agency

Brought to you by:
Prehospital Pediatric Emergency Care Coordination Learning Collaborative Resources