



# ***EMSC***

## ***Update***

New York State Department of Health  
Bureau of Emergency Medical Services

*Emergency Medical Services for Children Update*

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### **EMS Instructors Receive Training to Teach NYS PPCC**

On Saturday, April 20, 2002 the New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services EMS for Children (EMSC) Program hosted a Train-the-Trainer for Certified EMS Instructor Coordinators to teach the new *New York State Prehospital Pediatric Care Course (PPCC)*. Fourteen instructors representing 9 EMS regions attended the one-day program that provided an overview of the set-up and content of the course on CD-ROM, along with suggestions for teaching approaches. The class instructors were Sharon Chimento, BSN, EMT-P and Janice Rogers, RN, PNP, both active instructors in the field of emergency

care and both members of the state's EMSC Advisory Committee.

EMS regions participating in the class included, Finger Lakes, Hudson Mohawk, Westchester, Hudson Valley, Adirondack-Appalachian, Nassau, Mountain Lakes, and Mid-State. Monroe-Livingston was represented by instructor Sharon Chimento.

The New York State Bureau of Emergency Medical Services is promoting the use of this comprehensive pediatric prehospital care curriculum throughout the state and is providing an incentive for EMS regions to offer up to two additional train-the-trainer courses to EMS

instructors and agency-level training officers. The goal is to reach as many EMS providers as possible in order to increase their confidence and skills in assessing and treating children in the field. EMS agencies interested in attending a rollout of this course should contact their Regional EMS Program Agency.

In addition, to increase its use, the Department has made the entire course available in .PDF format on its web site. Course chapters, student guides, and handouts can be downloaded at [www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/ems/ppctoc.htm](http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/ems/ppctoc.htm).

## **PEPP takes place in Albany and Lancaster, New York**

The American Academy of Pediatrics, Division of Life Support Services brought its Train-the-Trainer course, *Prehospital Pediatrics for Prehospital Professionals (PEPP)* to Albany May 18-19, 2002 and to Lancaster, New York June 8-9, 2002. The NYS DOH, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services EMSC Program partnered with them in offering another invaluable training opportunity to certified EMS instructors.

Dr. Arthur Cooper, Chief, Pediatric Surgical Critical Care at Harlem Hospital, PEPP steering committee member and current Chair of the NYS Emergency Medical Services Council served as Medical Director for the courses. Three New York State instructors already certified as PEPP course coordinators participated as instructors for the rollouts. They included Joli Yuknek, M.D., Director, Pediatric Emergency Medicine at Westchester Medical Center, Sharon Chiumento, RN, EMT-P, QA/QI Coordinator of the Monroe-Livingston Regional EMS Program Agency, and

Mickey Forness, RN, Emergency Department staff nurse at Olean General Hospital and staff nurse for Mercyflight of Western New York. Several other PEPP instructors also participated from around the country.

The two-day course included lectures, scenarios, and many concurrent skills stations. Topics, to name just a few, included the Pediatric Assessment Triangle, Child Development, Respiratory Emergencies, Children with Special Health Care Needs, and Child and Family Interaction. Skills stations focused on Airway, Spinal Immobilization, IO/IV administration, Children with Special Health Care Needs, Cardiovascular Emergencies, Medical Emergencies, and Trauma.

A total of 73 instructors completed the course and instructor orientation and passed the on-site exam to become certified as PEPP course coordinators. These newly certified PEPP course coordinators join 69 others throughout New York State, increasing the total of currently certified PEPP course coordinators to 142.

We extend our thanks to Jeff Hummel, BA, EMT-I, PEPP Coordinator, AAP, Division of Life Support



Services for bringing such a professional and well-organized course to Albany and Lancaster to help increase the number of EMS instructors whom are both qualified and highly motivated to improve pediatric prehospital care in New York State.

**NYS EMSC Pediatric Prehospital Care Reference Cards for use in Ambulances or First Response Vehicles, or for use as adjunct educational tools, are still available from the EMSC office. To request copies of the color-coded laminated or non-laminated cards, please call Gloria Hale, EMSC Coordinator, at (518) 402-0996, ext. 14. Thank you!**

## AEDs in NYS Schools

Legislation was signed into law May 7, 2002 requiring all New York State public school facilities to have on premises at least one automatic external defibrillator (AED). Training for AED users will be required as outlined in the public health law pertaining to Public Access Defibrillation programs. The new law comes under the purview of the New York State Education Department in consultation with the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Health. State public schools are required to comply with the law by September 1, 2002. The law was recently amended however, to allow public schools to apply for a waiver to extend the implementation date to December 1, 2002.

To start a PAD Program, you must do the following:

- ◆ Complete a NYS DOH Bureau of EMS approved training program.
- ◆ Determine which AED unit is appropriate for your school.
- ◆ Develop policies on use, such as where it will be

kept and how the unit will be maintained.

- ◆ Develop a policy that ensures 911 or other local EMS agency will immediately be contacted.
- ◆ Enter in to a collaborative agreement with an Emergency Health Care Provider, either a physician with knowledge of cardiac care or a hospital.
- ◆ Notify, in writing, the local emergency communications center/911 center/ambulance dispatch of the availability of an AED at your site.
- ◆ Agree to participate in the regional quality improvement program which is part of the Emergency Medical Services Council for your area.
- ◆ Complete a Notice of Intent to provide PAD and send it with the collaborative agreement to the Regional EMS Council for your geographical region.



Important questions for schools to address when planning to participate in the PAD program include: deciding who and how many should be trained, determining whether trained staff can get to the victim in less than 5 minutes from the time of collapse, determining how the PAD provider will be notified, how and when to call EMS, how to keep members up-to-date on their training, and liability considerations.

For technical assistance and additional information on School PAD programs, access the CHAPS website located at [www.emsc.nysed.gov/rscs/chaps/chapshome.htm](http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/rscs/chaps/chapshome.htm). This site contains relevant legislation and regulations, funding options, additional resources, and a list of technical assistance workshops.

The State Education Department can also be contacted at (518) 486-6090 or by e-mail at [mchaps@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:mchaps@mail.nysed.gov).

For information on the New York State PAD program, visit the Department's web page at [www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/ems/98.10.htm](http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/ems/98.10.htm).

## National Toll-Free Poison Control Number Released

In an effort to make public access to the nearest Poison Control Center much easier for those having recently re-located or who may be traveling, the American Association of Poison Control Centers has developed a new nationwide toll-free number. When 1-800-222-1222 is dialed, the caller is automatically routed to the nearest Poison Control Center for assistance.

There are five Poison Control Centers in New York State, located in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Long Island, and New York City. Staff of the Centers are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year to handle poisoning emergencies, prescription and non-prescription drug information inquiries, in addition to offering poison prevention education to both health professionals and the general public. A Medical Director oversees all trained and certified staff at each Poison Control Center.



There are over 2 million calls to Poison Control Centers throughout the United States each year. The largest risk group for unintentional poisonings are children under the age of 6. Children in this age group represented just over half of all poisoning cases reported in the 2000 annual report of the American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC) Toxic Exposure Surveillance System. The top three most frequently involved substances in pediatric (< 6 yrs.) exposures were cosmetics/personal care products, cleaning substances, and analgesics.

Each September the *American Journal of Emergency Medicine* publishes the annual report of the AAPCC which provides a review of the data submitted by many of the nation's poison centers to the Toxic Exposure Surveillance System. For a copy of the 2000 annual report of the AAPCC, please see the *American Journal of Emergency Medicine*, Volume 19, Number 5, September 2001.

### Poison Prevention Education

If you or your organization are interested in helping to promote the new nationwide Poison Control Center number, are

interested in poisoning prevention educational materials, or in obtaining a speaker on a poisoning topic, you can contact the Poison Control Center in your area by calling 1-800-222-1222. Your call will automatically be routed to the nearest poison control center. For organizations and EMS agencies interested in doing child injury prevention activities in schools or other child venues, a video can be obtained on loan entitled, "Potions, Pills and Pain" which is suitable for Pre-K through Grade 3.

### Syracuse, New York to Host 19<sup>th</sup> Annual EMS Conference "Vital Signs 2002"

The New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services is pleased to announce it's 19<sup>th</sup> annual EMS Conference, "Vital Signs 2002" to take place at the Onondaga County Convention Center in Syracuse, New York, November 1 – 3, 2002. The conference includes one day of half day or full day pre-conferences, 2 days of concurrent workshops in tracks for BLS, ALS, Educator, Agency, and Potpourri, and a Saturday

evening Awards Banquet at The Hotel Syracuse Grand Ballroom.

Pediatric-related sessions include a full day pre-conference session entitled, "Pediatric Prehospital Care Colloquium" in which members of the state's EMSC Advisory Committee will discuss the real differences between children and adults and why they are important, in addition to a protocol-by-protocol review of the scientific evidence behind pediatric prehospital practice.

Saturday workshops with a focus on pediatrics include: "Death Right Under Our Noses: Inhalant Abuse", by Mark Laubacher, RN, NREMT-P, which discusses various aspects of inhalant abuse, including patient presentation and treatment recommendations, and "Comfortably Numb," by Scott Bolleter, EMT-P which will offer insight into pain management and sedation for the emergent adult and pediatric population.

Sunday workshops with a pediatric focus will include: "Flambe ´" by David Fending, NEMT-P, which will review types of burns, their classification, extent, factors affecting burn injury, and treatment, and "Mandatory Child Abuse

Reporting", by David Markenson, MD, which will present findings from a national assessment of EMS personnel on their knowledge, attitudes, management, reporting and documentation of possible signs and symptoms of abuse or neglect.

☆ For more information on "Vital Signs 2002", contact Donna Gerard or Valerie Ozga at (518) 402-0996, ext. 3.

## News You Can Use

### **Training Opportunity:**

Want to become a certified child safety seat technician? Technician training will be offered September 10-14, 2002 by Monroe County Child and Traffic Safety. For information, please contact Ken Beck, Monroe County Office of Traffic Safety at (585) 428-4903.

### **Buckle Up On-Line**

#### **Resource**

The new Buckle Up America On-Line Headquarters website, [www.buckleupamerica.org/index.htm](http://www.buckleupamerica.org/index.htm), includes news, strategies, research, tools, partners, and upcoming events. Users can register to receive periodic e-mail notification of changes to the website and updates on

breaking occupant protection news.

### **Fact Sheets Available:**

Fact sheets on bioterrorism, including guidelines for public health professionals, notification protocols, news, answers to frequently asked questions, and links to other Web sites can be obtained at [www.bt.cdc.gov](http://www.bt.cdc.gov).

### **Continuing Education**

The web site, [www.TrainingFinder.org](http://www.TrainingFinder.org) provides information on more than 40 distance learning courses on bioterrorism and emergency preparedness for public health professionals.

### **Continuing Education**

A web site of the University of Alabama at Birmingham Center for Disaster Preparedness, sponsored by the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, offers free continuing education credits in bioterrorism preparedness. The web address is [www.bioterrorism.uab.edu](http://www.bioterrorism.uab.edu).

### **Info for Disability Community**

The web site, [www.vwcdexpo.com](http://www.vwcdexpo.com), offers an informational resource for people with disabilities and special healthcare needs, as well as those involved in

their care and development. Through the Virtual WCD (World Congress & Exposition on Disabilities) the site enables participants to communicate with national and local organizations, offers a bulletin board for interaction with others in similar situations, and provides information from over 250 service providers and manufacturers from 50 industries.

**School Health Guidelines**

School Health Guidelines to Prevent Unintentional Injuries and Violence, published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), are available from the web site, [www.cdc.gov/mmwr](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr). The guidelines identify school policies and practices that are most likely to be effective in preventing unintentional injury, violence, and suicide among youth. They provide recommendations in the following eight areas:

- \* social environments that promote safety;
- \* safe physical environments;
- \* health education curricula and instruction;
- \* safe physical education;
- \* sports and recreation activities;

- \* health, counseling, psychological and social services for students;
- \* appropriate crisis and emergency response;
- \* involvement of families and communities; and
- \* staff development to promote safety and prevent unintentional injuries, violence, and suicide.

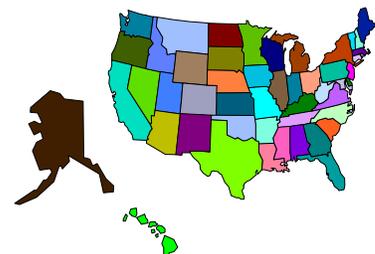
**EMSC Coloring and Activity Books available for children ages 3 – 9 years. Great for OPEN HOUSES! To request, contact Gloria Hale, EMSC Coordinator, at (518) 402-0996, ext. 1,4.**

**Mid-Atlantic EMSC Region Symposium Slated for October 10-11, 2002**

The Mid-Atlantic EMSC Region will be holding its first regional symposium on October 10-11, 2002 in Baltimore, Maryland at the Columbia-Hilton Hotel. Selected EMSC stakeholders from New York State, New Jersey, Pennsylvania,

Maryland, Washington, D.C., Virginia, West Virginia, and Delaware will attend to share information on statewide EMSC programs and products, research, and baseline statistics. Workshops will be held on the topics of Pre-Incident and Disaster Planning, Injury Prevention, Regionalized Pediatric Critical Care and Trauma Care, and Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Networks. In addition, Dr. Bruce Klein from Children’s National Medical Center will be the keynote speaker at the two-day event. He will present “Pediatric Emergency Medicine – the past 30 years and the next 30 years” based on a comprehensive review of nearly 200 articles upon which he will address prevention, primary care, research and technology, home care and families, and social issues for political change.

The newly formed Mid-Atlantic EMSC Region joins eight other EMSC regions in the nation.



For any questions regarding the NYS EMSC Program, or for article submissions on EMSC-related topics, please contact Gloria Hale, MPH, EMSC Coordinator, New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services, 433 River Street, Suite 303, Troy, New York 12180. Phone: (518) 402-0996, ext. 1,4. E-mail: [ghc08@health.state.ny.us](mailto:ghc08@health.state.ny.us)

Please also contact the NYS EMSC Program if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter.

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