

2-Year Work Plans

Standing Committees
of the
FICEMS
Technical Working Group

June 2008

Overview of Goals and Objectives

Preparedness Committee	
Goals	Objectives
Goal 1: EMS resources are effectively and appropriately dispatched and provide prehospital triage, treatment, transport, tracking of patients and documentation of care appropriate for a disaster, while maintaining the capabilities of the EMS system for continued operations	1.1 Develop EMS system preparedness standard(s), as appropriate
	1.2 Complete a nationwide EMS system preparedness assessment
	1.3 Develop preparedness education requirements for EMS personnel, as appropriate
	1.4 Clarify Federal responsibilities for EMS response to disasters
Data and Research Committee	
Goals	Objectives
Goal 1: Improve outcomes for illness and injury from the time point of emergency telephone access until arrival and transfer of care to the hospital	1.1 Ensure methods of coordination among Federal agencies in the field of EMS data and research
Goal 2: Ensure a comprehensive body of scientific evidence regarding the practice of prehospital EMS	2.1 Ensure that departments represented within FICEMS have available data on the state of prehospital research and areas where further investment is needed in order to inform departmental decision-making as it relates to funding and policies in the field of EMS research
Goal 3: Enhance the environment for EMS research	3.1 Reduce Federal impediments to prehospital research
Goal 4: Ensure consistent standardized nationwide prehospital information	4.1 Improve availability of standardized prehospital EMS information through coordination of resources and strategies to support the National EMS Information System

	(NEMSIS)
Assessment Committee	
Goals	Objectives
Goal 1: Oversee a national assessment of EMS systems	1.1 Conduct a short-term EMS assessment using existing data
	1.2 Develop a national EMS assessment instrument with benchmarks, indicators, and a scoring system
Medical Oversight Committee	
Goals	Objectives
Goal 1: Promote development and implementation of evidence based practice guidelines for prehospital care	1.1 Organize national conference to that will result in consensus-based recommendations for a process to develop and implement evidence-based guidelines for prehospital care
Goal 2: Incorporate medical oversight requirement into future federal grants and cooperative agreements	2.1 Develop standardized language for medical oversight requirement to be used in EMS- related federal grants and cooperative agreements
9-1-1 and Medical Communications	
Goals	Objectives
Goal 1: ENSURE COORDINATION AMONG FEDERAL AGENCIES IN THE AREAS OF 9-1-1 SERVICES AND MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS.	1.1 Optimize emergency communication among relevant stakeholders to support and enhance the interaction of all components of the EMS system.
	1.2 Establish and increase the number of mechanisms through which federal agencies can provide specific input to the activities of the National 9-1-1 Office
Goal 2: FACILITATE AND ENHANCE THE UTILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF INFORMATION RELATED TO	2.1 Act as a broker for sharing and disseminating information to all agencies' constituent groups as

9-1-1 AND MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM
FEDERAL AGENCIES.

appropriate.

Action Steps for Standing Committees' Goals and Objectives

Preparedness Committee Goal 1, Objective 1.1

GOAL 1: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) RESOURCES ARE EFFECTIVELY AND APPROPRIATELY DISPATCHED AND PROVIDE PREHOSPITAL TRIAGE, TREATMENT, TRANSPORT, TRACKING OF PATIENTS AND DOCUMENTATION OF CARE APPROPRIATE FOR A DISASTER, WHILE MAINTAINING THE CAPABILITIES OF THE EMS SYSTEM FOR CONTINUED OPERATIONS.				
Objective 1.1: Develop EMS system preparedness standard(s), as appropriate.				
Indicator: Publication of a standard(s) for EMS system preparedness.				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Review the Target Capabilities List (TCL) Emergency Triage and Pre-Hospital Treatment Capability	Preparedness Committee	Staff time	November 26, 2007	Completed

**Preparedness Committee
Goal 1, Objective 1.2**

GOAL 1: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) RESOURCES ARE EFFECTIVELY AND APPROPRIATELY DISPATCHED AND PROVIDE PREHOSPITAL TRIAGE, TREATMENT, TRANSPORT, TRACKING OF PATIENTS AND DOCUMENTATION OF CARE APPROPRIATE FOR A DISASTER, WHILE MAINTAINING THE CAPABILITIES OF THE EMS SYSTEM FOR CONTINUED OPERATIONS.				
Objective 1.2: Complete a nationwide EMS system preparedness assessment.				
Indicator: Publication of a nationwide EMS system preparedness assessment.				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Develop National EMS Preparedness Assessment Strategy	TWG	Staff time	September 21, 2007	Completed
Review the Target Capabilities List (TCL) Emergency Triage and Pre-Hospital Treatment Capability	Preparedness Committee	Staff time	November 26, 2007	Completed
Recommend TCL priority preparedness measures for inclusion in the Capabilities Assessment Tool (CAT)	Preparedness Committee	Staff time	November 26, 2007	Completed
Completion of nationwide state-by-state capabilities assessment	DHS		2008	Ongoing. DHS Office of Health Affairs is assisting

**Preparedness Committee
Goal 1, Objective 1.3**

GOAL 1: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) RESOURCES ARE EFFECTIVELY AND APPROPRIATELY DISPATCHED AND PROVIDE PREHOSPITAL TRIAGE, TREATMENT, TRANSPORT, TRACKING OF PATIENTS AND DOCUMENTATION OF CARE APPROPRIATE FOR A DISASTER, WHILE MAINTAINING THE CAPABILITIES OF THE EMS SYSTEM FOR CONTINUED OPERATIONS.				
Objective 1.3: Develop preparedness education requirements for EMS personnel, as appropriate.				
Indicator: Publication of preparedness education requirements for EMS personnel.				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Review the draft <i>National EMS Education Standards</i> in regard to preparedness issues	Preparedness Committee	Staff time	November 26, 2007	Completed
Examine interface between the EMS Education Agenda and the FEMA National Emergency Responder Credentialing: EMS Job Titles	Preparedness Committee	Staff time	November 26, 2007	Ongoing
Recommend minimum preparedness education standards for EMS	Preparedness Committee	Staff time	December 2007	Completed
Coordination of funding support for EMS preparedness education	FICEMS			Ongoing

**Preparedness Committee
Goal 1, Objective 1.4**

GOAL 1: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) RESOURCES ARE EFFECTIVELY AND APPROPRIATELY DISPATCHED AND PROVIDE PREHOSPITAL TRIAGE, TREATMENT, TRANSPORT, TRACKING OF PATIENTS AND DOCUMENTATION OF CARE APPROPRIATE FOR A DISASTER, WHILE MAINTAINING THE CAPABILITIES OF THE EMS SYSTEM FOR CONTINUED OPERATIONS.				
Objective 1.4: Clarify Federal responsibilities for EMS response to disasters.				
Indicator: Recommendations on the interstate use of ambulances during a disaster using the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) and FEMA's Ambulance Contract are developed.				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Debrief the TWG on the response to Hurricane Dean	Preparedness Committee	Staff time and travel support	December 2007	White paper under development
Develop recommendations to improve coordination of Federal responsibilities for EMS response to disasters	TWG	Staff time	2008	Ongoing

Data and Research Committee (Dan Kavanaugh and Susan McHenry, Chair)

The Data & Research Committee has met three times with excellent participation from DOT, HRSA, CDC, ASPR, as well as AHRQ, NIH and the Office of Human Research Protection (OHRP). The committee developed a two-year work plan focusing on (1) increasing the coordination of federal agencies in the fields of EMS data and research; (2) increasing the number of federal agencies that utilize the EMS research agendas (NHTSA, CDC, etc) to inform policy and funding priorities; and (3) improving the availability of standardized prehospital EMS information through coordination of resources and strategies to support the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS). The committee is also committed to improving the environment for EMS research

Goals	Objectives
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Goal 2: Ensure a comprehensive body of scientific evidence regarding the practice of prehospital EMS	2.1 Ensure that departments represented within FICEMS have available data on the state of prehospital research and areas where further investment is needed in order to inform departmental decision-making as it relates to funding and policies in the field of EMS research
Goal 3: Enhance the environment for EMS research	3.1 Reduce Federal impediments to prehospital research
Goal 4: Ensure consistent standardized nationwide prehospital information	4.1 Improve availability of standardized prehospital EMS information through coordination of resources and strategies to support the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS)

Data and Research Committee
Goal 1, Objective 1.1

GOAL 1: Improve outcomes for illness and injury from the time point of emergency telephone access until arrival and transfer of care to the hospital				
Objective 1.1: Ensure methods of coordination among federal agencies in the field of EMS data and research				
Indicator: Increase the number of mechanisms through which federal agencies can demonstrate coordination				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Develop a collaborative research agenda that integrates priorities across departments represented in FICEMS	FICEMS Member Agencies	HHS/HRSA/EMSC and FICEMS Data and Research TWG	10/1/08	In process
Expand the role of emergency and trauma care researchers in the grant review process through development of a common roster of grant reviewers to be utilized by departments represented in FICEMS	DOE HHS/HRSA/EMSC HHS/ASPR HHS/NIH/OD HHS/AHRQ DOT/NHTSA/OEMS	EMSC National Resource Ctr	10/1/08	Request to agencies for participation in this process has been sent out
Coordinate information for the public and professionals as it relates to EMS data and pre-hospital research through www.ems.gov website	DOT/NHTSA/OEMS	All FICEMS Member Agencies	Ongoing activity	Website ems.gov is operational
Departments represented across FICEMS publish a joint program announcement (PA) that addresses EMS clinical interventions and system design issues	HHS/NIH HHS/HRSA/EMSC	EMSC National Resource Center and appropriate NIH staff	8/30/2009	In place for HHS now – identify means of expanding to other federal agencies

Data and Research Committee
Goal 2, Objective 2.1

GOAL 2: Ensure a comprehensive body of scientific evidence regarding the practice of prehospital EMS				
Objective 2.1: Ensure that departments represented within FICEMS have available data on the state of prehospital research and areas where further investment is needed in order to inform departmental decision-making as it relates to funding and policies in the field of EMS research				
Indicator: Increase the number of agencies within Departments represented within FICEMS who utilize the gap analysis to inform policy and funding priorities				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Increase the number of agencies within Departments represented within FICEMS who utilize gap analysis to inform policy and funding priorities	HHS/HRSA/EMSC	EMSC National Resource Center Staff	10/1/2008	In process
Work collaboratively with FICEMS TWG Medical Oversight Committee to develop the agenda for the September 2008 meeting re evidence-based practices in prehospital care.	DOT/NHTSA/OEMS	DOT/NHTSA/OEMS	9/4-5/2008	Planning Underway

Data and Research Committee
Goal 3, Objective 3.1

GOAL 3: Enhance the environment for EMS research				
Objective 3.1: Reduce Federal impediments to prehospital research.				
Indicator: Increase the number of funding opportunities targeted to prehospital research				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Provide technical assistance to departments represented within FICEMS as it relates to recommended improvements to the emergency exception to informed consent procedures in order to reduce impediments to research while at the same time adequately protecting research subjects.	FICEMS Data & Research TWG members	Staff Time & TBD; EMS Research Ethics Documents	TBD	Documents under development
Provide technical assistance to departments within FICEMS as it relates to steps needed to create viable EMS research career paths for clinicians and doctoral trained researchers	FICEMS Data & Research TWG members	TBD	Spring 2009	Not yet started
Departments represented across FICEMS agree to a memorandum of agreement and request form for federal-to-federal requests for funding for prehospital research and data needs to include determining specific opportunities and resources to support NEMSIS at	FICEMS Data and Research TWG members	Staff Time	10/1/08	Not yet Started

local, State and national levels				
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Data and Research Committee
Goal 4, Objective 4.1

GOAL 4: Ensure consistent standardized nationwide prehospital information				
Objective 4.1: Improve availability of standardized prehospital EMS information through coordination of resources and strategies to support the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS)				
Indicator: Increase the number of States submitting NEMSIS compliant information to the National EMS Database				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Departments represented across FICEMS review the NEMSIS dataset to identify the potential value of the information to each agency	TWG Members representing their respective agencies	DOT/NHTSA/OEMS	August 1, 2008	Revisions to NEMSIS dataset beginning in Spring 2008
Identify other important information systems (e.g., NTDS, NFIRS) that NEMSIS should coordinate/link with	FICEMS Data & Research TWG	DOT/NHTSA/OEMS	July 1, 2008	Already underway
Departments represented on FICEMS consider adopting grant language incorporating NEMSIS compliance	TWG & FICEMS		June 2008	Under Development

Assessment Committee
Goal 1, Objective 1.2

GOAL 1: OVERSEE A NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EMS SYSTEMS				
Objective 1.1: Conduct a short-term EMS assessment using existing data				
Indicator: Submission to Congress of national EMS assessment report				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Circulate and compile assessment questionnaire to chairs of TWG Standing Committees	Assessment Work Group (AWG)	Staff	11/27/07	Circulation complete; compilation in progress
Develop statement of work (SOW) incorporating information from TWG questionnaire	AWG, NHTSA	Staff	12/28/07	Complete
Review and approval of SOW	TWG	N/A	1/8/08	Complete
Award contract for short-term assessment.	NHTSA	N/A	3/3/08	Contract out for bid. Anticipated award date 8/1/2008
Prepare draft EMS assessment report, based on TWG questionnaire results	AWG	Staff	May 2008	In progress
Circulate draft EMS assessment report to TWG/FICEMS for review and comment	Contractor, AWG	N/A	June 08 FICEMS Meeting	Not Started
Submit preliminary EMS assessment report to Congress	FICEMS	Staff	August 2008	Not Started
Circulate final short-term assessment report to TWG/FICEMS for review	Contractor. FICEMS	N/A	April 2009	Not Started

Submit revised report to FICEMS for approval and submission to Congress	Contractor, AWG	Staff	June 2009	Not Started
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**Assessment Committee
Goal 1, Objective 1.2**

GOAL 1: OVERSEE A NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EMS SYSTEMS				
Objective 1.2: Develop a national EMS assessment instrument with benchmarks, indicators, & scoring system				
Indicator: Publication of national EMS assessment instrument				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Develop SOW for instrument development	AWG, NHTSA	Staff	June '08 FICEMS Meeting	Not Started
Identify sources of funding for instrument development and implementation	FICEMS	TBD	June 2008	Not Started
Award contract for instrument development	FICEMS	TBD	Spring '09	Not Started

**Medical Oversight
Goal 1, Objective 1.1**

GOAL 1: PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR PREHOSPITAL CARE				
Objective 1.1: Organize national conference to that will result in consensus-based recommendations for a process to develop and implement evidence-based guidelines for prehospital care				
Indicator: Publication of consensus-based recommendations of for a guideline development and implementation process				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Recommend members for conference Steering Committee	Committee members	Committee meeting time	Dec 1 2007	Complete
Develop conference agenda, invite speakers, prepare background document	Steering Committee, NHTSA, contractor	Staff time	April 30, 2008	Draft agenda complete; speakers invited; document in Progress
Arrange conference logistics	Contractor	OPM Contract	Through June 2/3 2008	Ongoing
Review and publish conference recommendations	Committee members, Steering Committee	Staff, contractors	September 2008	Not started

NOTE: The conference date has been changed to September 4-5, 2008. At the time of the previous FICEMS meeting an early June 2008 date was anticipated. According to the revised timeline, logistical planning will be ongoing through September 5, 2008. The anticipated date to publish the conference recommendations is now in the late fall of 2008.

**Medical Oversight
Goal 2, Objective 2.1**

GOAL 1: INCORPORATE MEDICAL OVERSIGHT REQUIREMENT INTO FUTURE FEDERAL GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS				
Objective 1.1: Develop standardized language for medical oversight requirement to be used in EMS-related federal grants and cooperative agreements				
Indicator: Adoption of new language in EMS-related federal grants and cooperative agreements				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Draft language to be developed	Dr. Krohmer	Staff time	November 27, 2007	Complete
Draft language reviewed by TWG Medical Oversight Committee	Committee members	Staff time	November 27, 2007	Complete
Draft language presented to TWG	Dr. Krohmer and Dr. Hunt	Staff time	November 28, 2007	Complete
Language endorsed by FICEMS	FICEMS	Staff time	December 2007	Complete

9-1-1 and Medical Communications
Goal 1, Objective 1.1

The 9-1-1 and Medical Communications Committee has met several times, but due, in part, to turn over among the Federal agencies has not yet made much progress. The report of the *FCC's Joint Advisory on Communications Capabilities of Emergency Medical and Public Health Care Facilities* has been reviewed and following recommendations are referred to FICEMS: 1F, 1G and 3. The committee will continue to review the Joint Advisory Committee's recommendations.

GOAL 1: ENSURE COORDINATION AMONG FEDERAL AGENCIES IN THE AREAS OF 9-1-1 SERVICES AND MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS.				
Objective 1.1: Optimize emergency communication among relevant stakeholders to support and enhance the interaction of all components of the EMS system.				
Indicator: Establish and increase the number of mechanisms through which federal agencies can demonstrate coordination in the areas of 9-1-1 and Medical Communications				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Review the recommendations of the FCC's Joint Advisory Committee on the Communications Capabilities of Emergency Medical and Public Health Care Facilities for any appropriate actions	Members of 9-1-1/Medical Communication Committee	Committee time	Recommendations will be available February 2008.	Initial review completed; Several recommendations referred to FICEMS
As appropriate, utilize committee meetings to solicit input for draft grant regulations/guidance, in order to leverage resources, support each other's activities and avoid duplication.	Members of 9-1-1/Medical Communication Committee	TBD	Committee will review draft NPRM for 9-1-1 grants. September, 2008	

As appropriate, utilize committee meetings to solicit input for draft standards, in order to leverage resources, support each other's activities and avoid duplication.	Members of 9-1-1/Medical Communication Committee	TBD	Ongoing discussions	Not yet started
As appropriate, utilize committee meetings to solicit input for draft RFPs, in order to leverage resources, support each other's activities and avoid duplication.	Members of 9-1-1/Medical Communication Committee	TBD	As opportunities arise	N

GOAL 1: ENSURE COORDINATION AMONG FEDERAL AGENCIES IN THE AREAS OF 9-1-1 SERVICES AND MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS.				
Objective 1.2: Establish and increase the number of mechanisms through which federal agencies can provide specific input to the activities of the National 9-1-1 Office				
Indicator: Provide specific input to the establishment of a Technical Assistance Center for Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs)				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
As appropriate, utilize committee meetings to solicit input for draft RFP, in order to leverage resources, support each other's activities and avoid duplication.	Members of 9-1-1/Medical Communications Committee	NHTSA Staff time. Committee time	Summer, 2008	Draft completed by NHTSA. Committee will help review RFP responses

GOAL 1: FACILITATE AND ENHANCE THE UTILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF INFORMATION RELATED TO 9-1-1 AND MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.				
Objective 1.1: Act as a broker for sharing and disseminating information to all agencies' constituent groups as appropriate.				
Indicator: Establish and increase the number of mechanisms through which federal agencies can jointly collect, develop and disseminate useful information for the collective constituency.				
Action Steps	Responsibility	Resources	Milestones Dates	Status
Identify types and formats of 9-1-1 and/or medical communications information that would be most useful to collective constituency.	Members of 9-1-1/Medical Communication Committee	TBD	TBD	Not started
Identify, develop and implement three mechanisms designed to jointly collect, develop and/or disseminate useful information to the collective constituency of member agencies.	Members of 9-1-1/Medical Communication Committee	TBD	TBD	Not started

