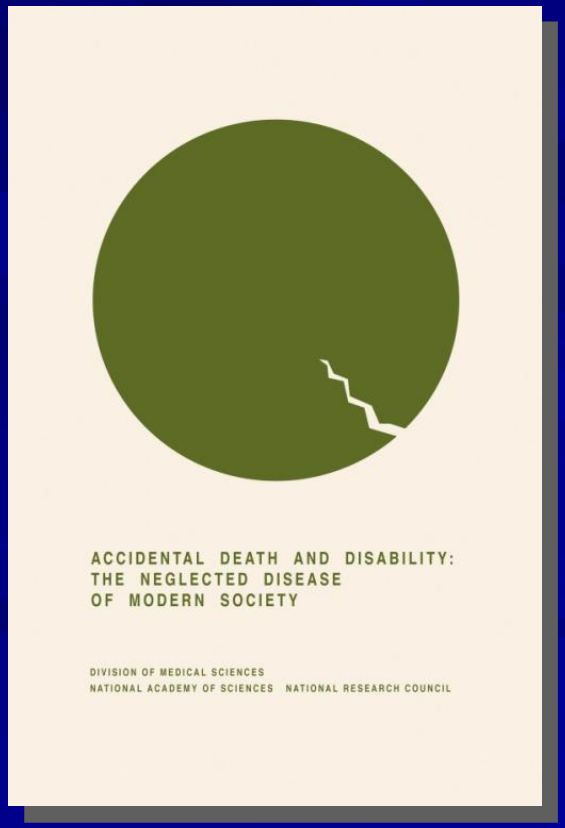
National EMS Advisory Council

An overview of NHTSA
Office of Emergency Medical Services

October 26th, 2010

Accidental Death and Disability 1966

National Academy of Sciences/
National Research Council



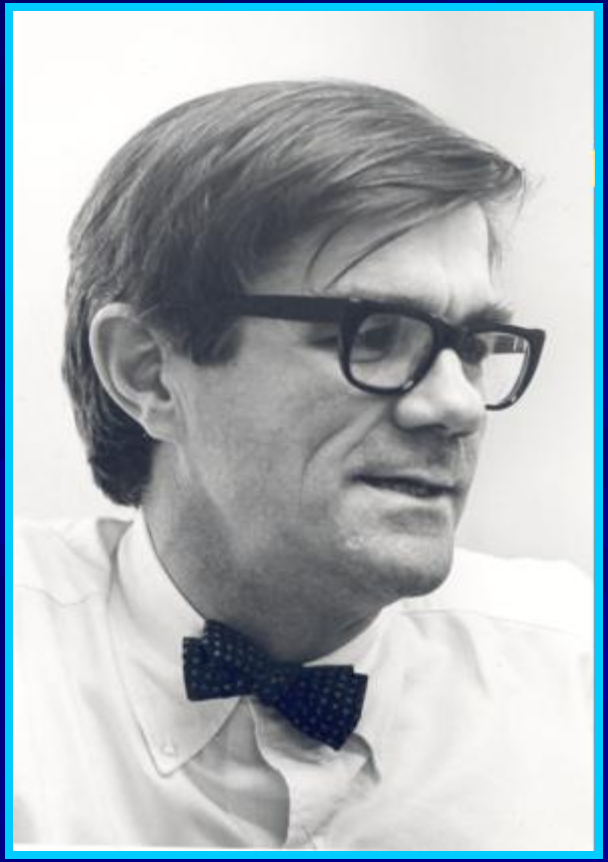
Accidental Death and Disability 1966

- Encouraged ambulance legislation and standards
- EMS personnel standards
- Pilot programs in rural areas
- Communications system improvements
- Trauma registries
- Rehabilitation studies
- Mass casualty care

Highway Safety Act of 1966

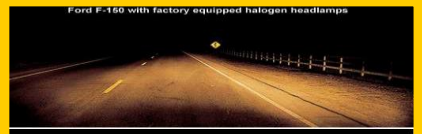
- Highway Safety includes emergency medical care and transportation of the injured

William Haddon



First NHTSA Administrator
1966-1969

Haddon Matrix

	Human	Vehicle	Environment
Pre-Event			
Event			
Post-Event			

Comprehensive Approach to Highway Safety

Early Highway Safety EMS Activities

- Highway Safety Standard 11
  - Promoting comprehensive state and local EMS systems
  - Guided by:
    - Accidental Death and Disability
    - American College of Surgeons
    - Armed Forces techniques
    - Experiences from selected states
- National Standard EMT and First Responder educational curricula
- Star of Life
- Model EMS systems legislation (1978)
- State EMS Assessments

What we do:

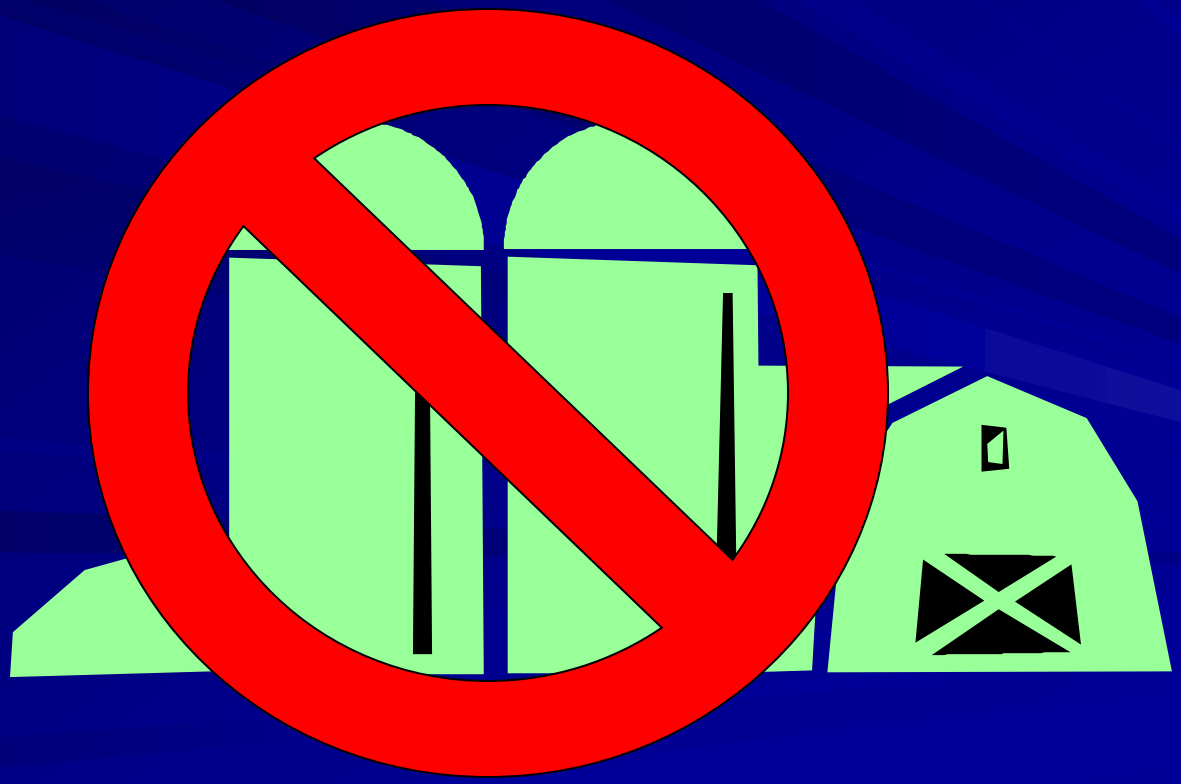
- Mission:
  To reduce death and disability by providing leadership and coordination to the EMS community in assessing, planning, developing and promoting comprehensive, evidence-based emergency medical services and 9-1-1 systems.

NHTSA Approach

- Comprehensive EMS system development
- Focusing on development of effective state and local EMS systems
- Coordination with national EMS organizations & Federal partners
- Facilitating consensus
  - Agenda documents
- Project selection
  - Projects of national significance
  - Guided by agenda documents
  - Strategic selection
- No Response Role

Modus Operandi

Accomplishments through Partnerships and Cooperation



Federal EMS Program Coordination

Projects of National Significance (Examples)

- National EMS Standard Curricula
- State EMS Assessment program
- EMS Agenda for the Future
- EMS Education Agenda for the Future
- EMS Research Agenda
- National Trauma System Agenda
- EMS Workforce Project
- National EMS Information System
- 9-1-1 Grant Program

Office of EMS

- Two major, inter-related program areas
  - Emergency Medical Service
  - National 9-1-1 Program
- Funding – FY10
  - Congressional Appropriations
    - OEMS – $2.144 million
    - 9-1-1 - $1.25 million
    - NEMSIS - $1.5 million
  - Emergency Medical Services for Children (HHS/HRSA)

OEMS - Staff

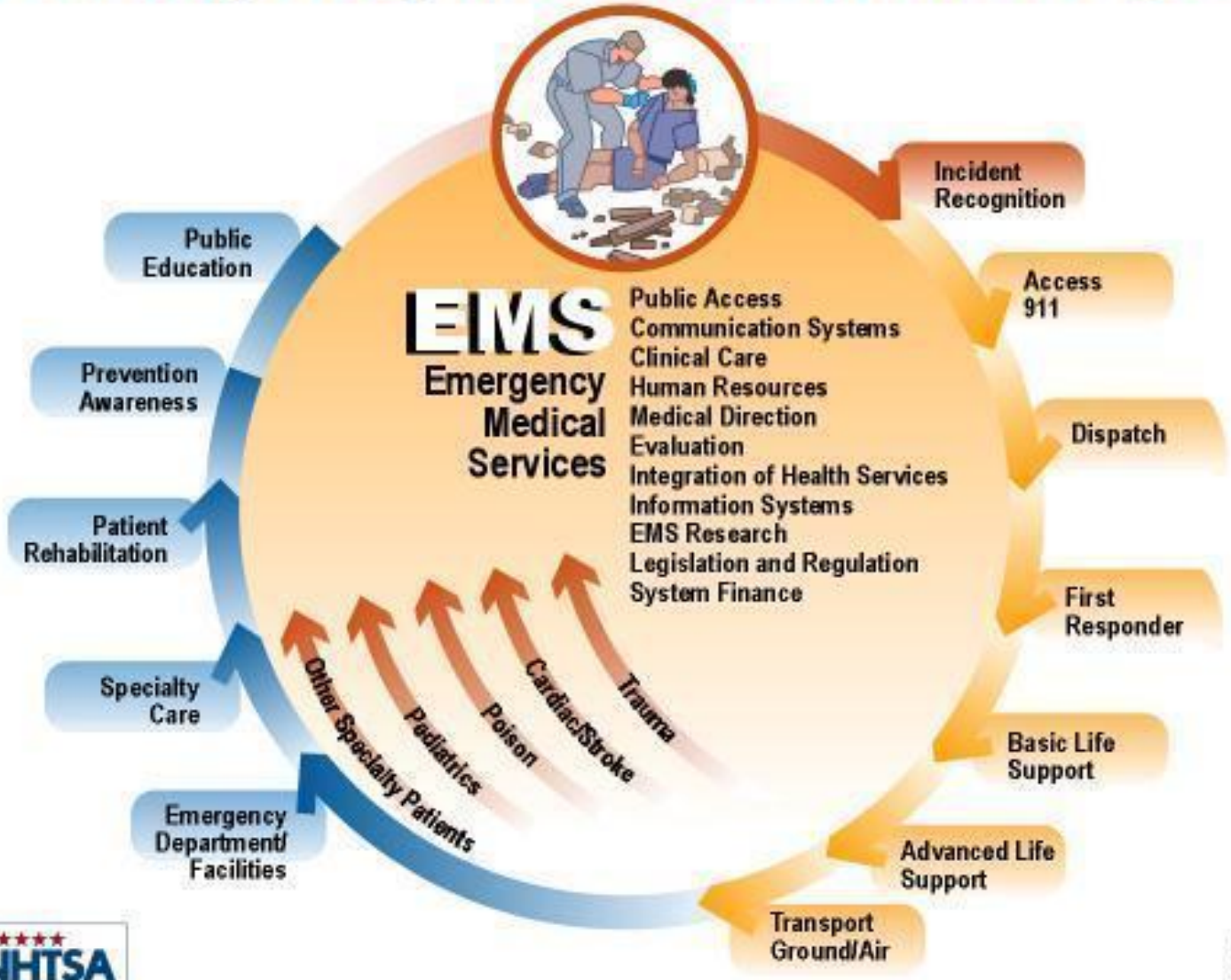
- Drew Dawson
  - Director
- Susan McHenry, MS
  - NEMSIS
  - EMS Research
  - State Assessments
- Dave Bryson
  - Education
  - Health and Safety
  - Office Administration
- Gam Wijetunge, NREMT-P
  - Workforce
  - Preparedness
  - Air Ambulance
- Laurie Flaherty, RN, MS
  - 9-1-1
  - Public Relations & Communications
- Cathy Gotschall, ScD
  - Evidence-Based Guidelines
  - National EMS Assessment
  - AACN
  - EMS Research
- Hector Williams
  - AACN
  - 9-1-1
- Noah Smith
  - FICEMS
  - NEMSAC
- Cynthia McNair
  - Administrative Support

OEMS – Support

Public Health Fellows

- Anthony Oliver, MPH
- Bernice Boursiquot, MPH

The Emergency Medical Services System



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R

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Susan McHenry

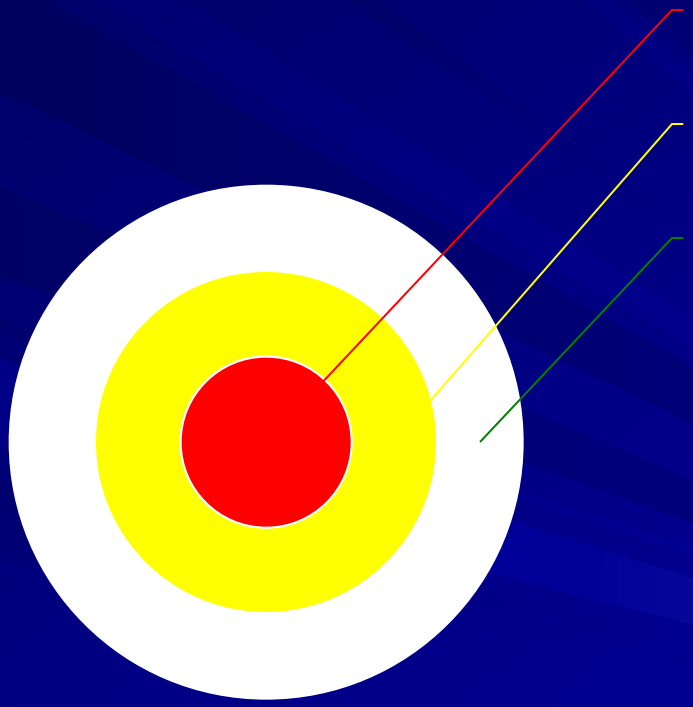
NEMSIS, Research Agenda

National Association of State EMS Officials

National EMS Information System

www.nemsis.org

National EMS Information System



National Database to be housed at NCSA

Revision to NEMSIS 3.0

- The revision process is complete
  - Led by Greg Mears, MD of UNC
    - Address Time Sensitive Systems of Care (STEMI, Stroke, OHCA, Trauma)
    - Facilitate national research (e.g., CDC triage scheme)
  - Process will be more electronic
    - Wiki, teleconferences, involve vendors
  - Product available in 2011
  - Pursuing HL7 Approval

National Association of State EMS Officials

- Leadership Skills Workshop
- Monograph Series
- Communications and Preparedness Technical Assistance
- Model State EMS Plan and Evaluation Document
- Model State EMS Legislation

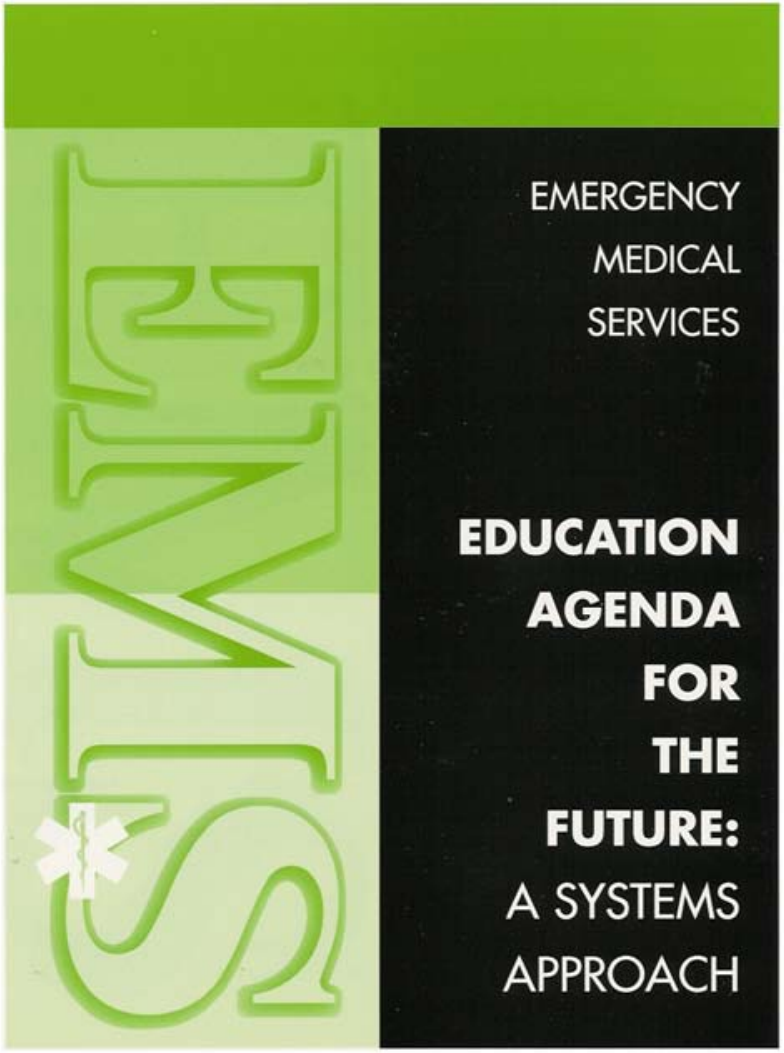
EMS Research Agenda

- National EMS Research Agenda -2002
- EMS Research Strategic Plan -2005
- EMS Research Ethics Conference -2007
- EMS Research Guide for IRB's
- EMS Research Gap Analysis (EMSC – NRC on behalf of FICEMS)

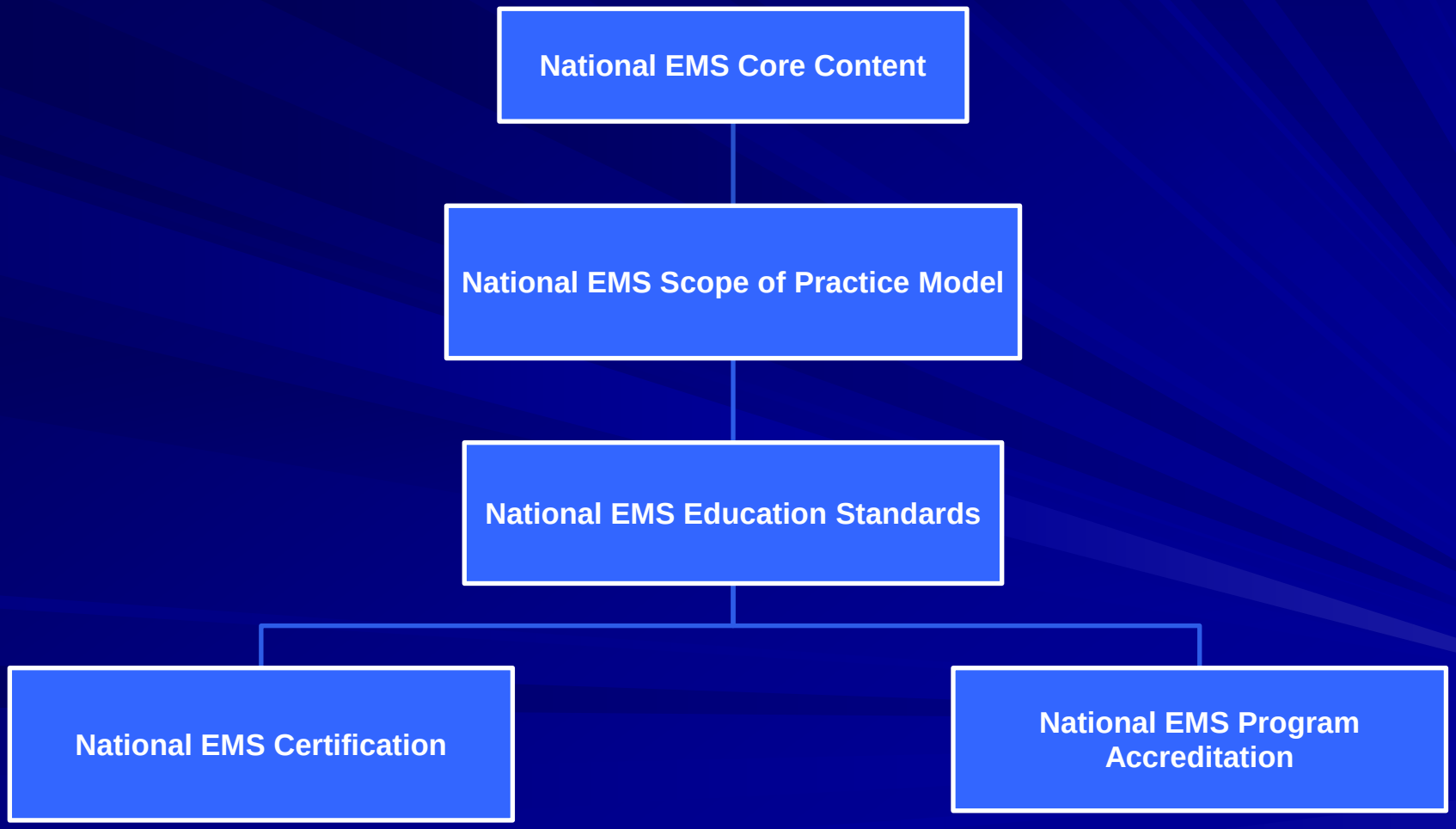
- EMS Cost Analysis Project

Dave Bryson

EMS Education Agenda, Ambulance Safety and Culture of Safety


EMS
EMERGENCY
MEDICAL
SERVICES
EDUCATION
AGENDA
FOR
THE
FUTURE:
A SYSTEMS
APPROACH

EMS Education Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach



Implementation Strategy for EMS Education Agenda

- National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) is leading the coordinated effort
  - Toolkit available at www.nasemso.org
    - Implementation Timetable
    - Education Gap Analysis Template
    - Talking points
    - State Implementation Progress

Ambulance Safety

Ground Ambulance Safety

- NIOSH 4-year project to improve existing standards
- NFPA 1917 Ground Ambulance Standards
- Safely Transporting Children in Ground Ambulances
- Transportation Research Board (TRB) Summits
- NAEMSP Ambulance Safety Meeting

Ambulance Crash Investigations

- **NHTSA Special Crash Investigations…**
  - SCI regularly screens for ground ambulance crashes with serious or fatal injuries to an occupant of the ambulance and when a crash is identified, SCI forwards information to NHTSA's OEMS to determine if further pursuit of the crash would potentially provide substantive, relevant data to the Agency.
  - Goal is to provide actual crash data for all to use in an effort to best protect EMS personnel and those traveling within the ambulance.

Culture of Safety

- Three year agreement awarded to the American College of Emergency Physicians after competetive award
- The NEMSAC recommended, as its top priority, that NHTSA and the rest of its Federal partners move forward with promoting the development of the “Culture of Safety” in EMS.
- Agenda type document outlining strategy to move forward with “Culture of Safety”

Gamunu Wijetunge, NREMT-P

Preparedness, Workforce and Air Ambulances

Preparedness

Under FICEMS leadership, the Office of EMS seeks to integrate and improve ongoing coordination and planning for EMS systems and emergency preparedness with the Departments of Transportation, Homeland Security, Health and Human Services, and other agencies.

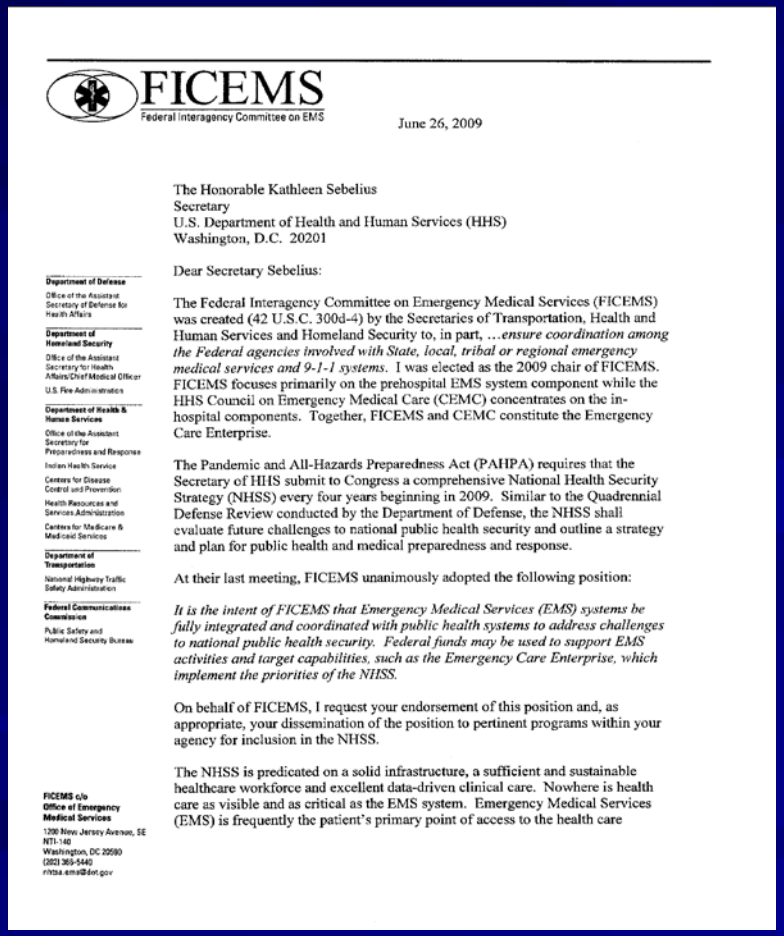
Preparedness Coordination

- FICEMS Preparedness Committee
  - Pandemic Influenza Preparedness
  - Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Triage
  - Mass Casualty Incident Preparedness
- DHS-HHS Grants Coordinating Committee (DHCC)
- Emergency Services Sector – Government Coordinating Council (chaired by DHS Office of Infrastructure Protection)
- Health Response Authorities sub-Interagency Planning Committee (chaired by White House/National Security Staff)
- IOM Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness

Preparedness Collaboration

- NIMS credentialing
  - EMS credentialing
- Target Capabilities List
  - Emergency Triage and Prehospital Treatment
- IOM Rural Mass Casualty Response workshop (on behalf of FICEMS)
- National Health Security Strategy (on behalf of FICEMS)

National Health Security Strategy



FICEMS
Federal Interagency Committee on EMS

June 26, 2009

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Sebelius:

The Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services (FICEMS) was created (42 U.S.C. 300d-4) by the Secretaries of Transportation, Health and Human Services and Homeland Security to, in part, *…ensure coordination among the Federal agencies involved with State, local, tribal or regional emergency medical services and 9-1-1 systems.* I was elected as the 2009 chair of FICEMS. FICEMS focuses primarily on the prehospital EMS system component while the HHS Council on Emergency Medical Care (CEMC) concentrates on the in-hospital components. Together, FICEMS and CEMC constitute the Emergency Care Enterprise.

The Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA) requires that the Secretary of HHS submit to Congress a comprehensive National Health Security Strategy (NHSS) every four years beginning in 2009. Similar to the Quadrennial Defense Review conducted by the Department of Defense, the NHSS shall evaluate future challenges to national public health security and outline a strategy and plan for public health and medical preparedness and response.

At their last meeting, FICEMS unanimously adopted the following position:

It is the intent of FICEMS that Emergency Medical Services (EMS) systems be fully integrated and coordinated with public health systems to address challenges to national public health security. Federal funds may be used to support EMS activities and target capabilities, such as the Emergency Care Enterprise, which implement the priorities of the NHSS.

On behalf of FICEMS, I request your endorsement of this position and, as appropriate, your dissemination of the position to pertinent programs within your agency for inclusion in the NHSS.

The NHSS is predicated on a solid infrastructure, a sufficient and sustainable healthcare workforce and excellent data-driven clinical care. Nowhere is health care as visible and as critical as the EMS system. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is frequently the patient's primary point of access to the health care

Department of Defense
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs

Department of Homeland Security
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs/Chief Medical Officer
U.S. Fire Administration

Department of Health & Human Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response
Indian Health Service
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Health Resources and Services Administration
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Federal Communications Commission
Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau

FICEMS c/o
Office of Emergency Medical Services
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"It is the intent of FICEMS that Emergency Medical Services (EMS) systems be fully integrated and coordinated with public health systems to address challenges to national public health security. Federal funds may be used to support EMS activities and target capabilities, such as the Emergency Care Enterprise, which implement the priorities of the NHSS [National Health Security Strategy]"

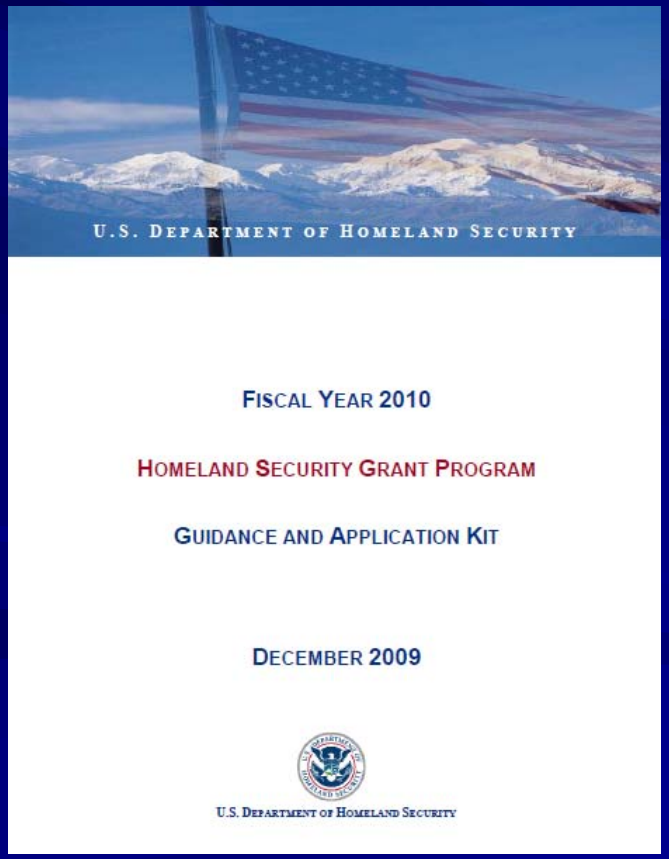
Dr. Kevin Yeskey (FICEMS Chair) to Sec. Sebelius, June 26, 2009.

National Health Security Strategy

"Communities should also be protected by coordinated emergency medical services (EMS) systems. An EMS system is essential to the nation's preparation for the initial emergency medical response to catastrophic incidents. The surge capacity of the Nation's health care system can be improved through a focus on data-driven, evidence-based health care delivery. Patient care should be coordinated across the entire continuum of care, beginning with first responders and the emergency care system, to ensure optimal patient outcomes during disasters and other situations where resources are scarce." – NHSS, 2009.

Grant Coordination

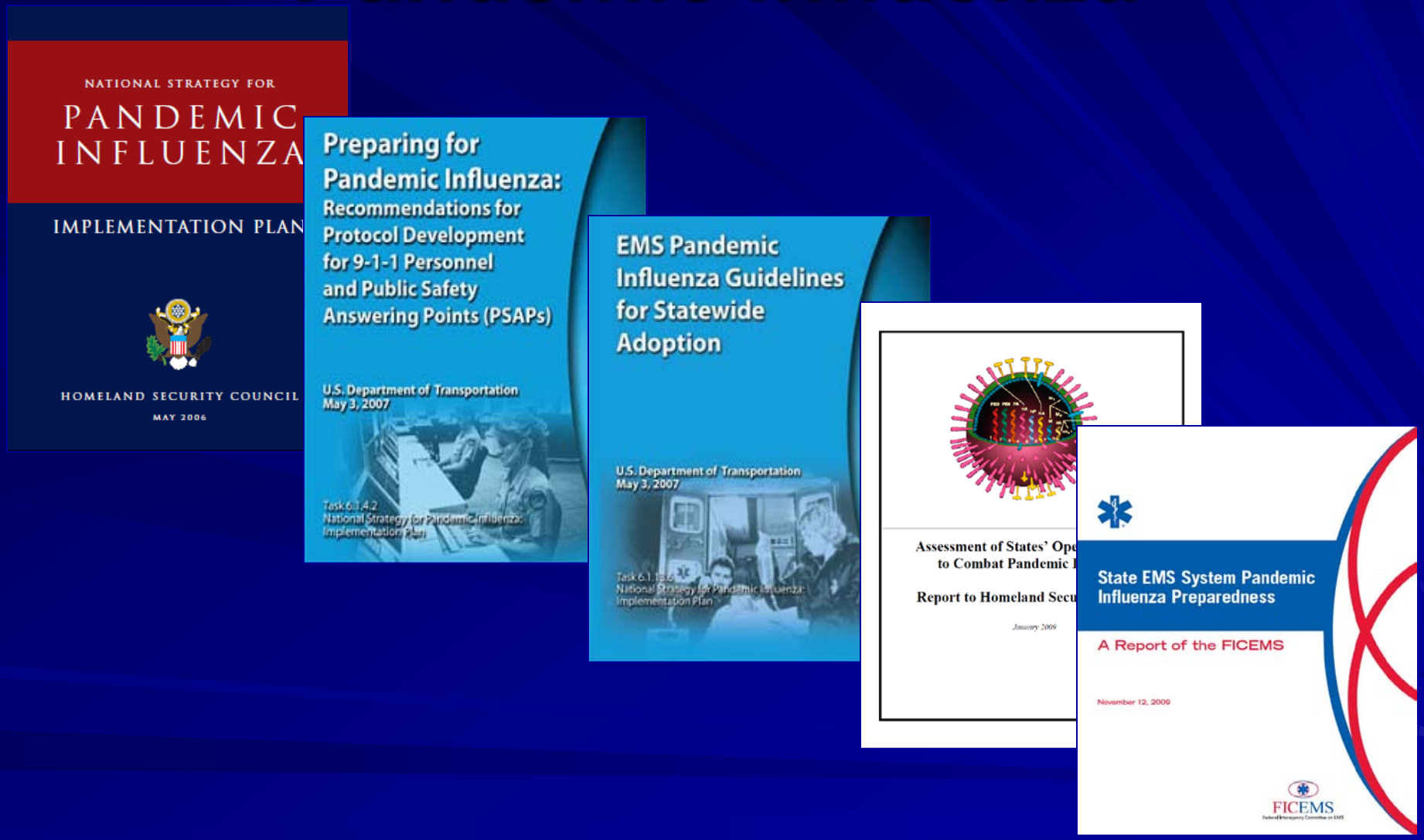
- 2010 Homeland Security Grant Program Guidance



Inclusion of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Providers

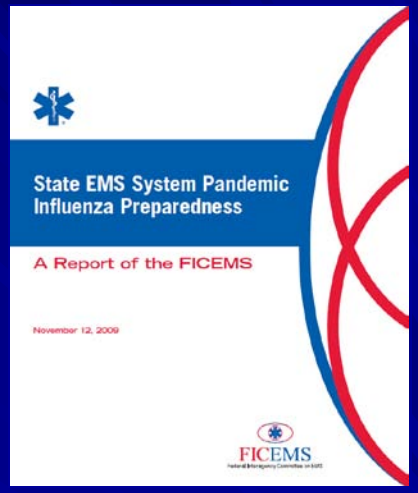
DHS requires State and local governments to include emergency medical services (EMS) providers in their State and Urban Area homeland security plans. Grantees should include a minimum number of quantitative and qualitative measures necessary to demonstrate achievement with regard to improving EMS system integration with public health systems. These measures should be drawn from the Emergency Triage and Pre-Hospital Treatment target capability. Such measures may include establishment of a recognized EMS medical direction program, establishment of a National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) compliant electronic documentation system, and other appropriate preparedness measures.

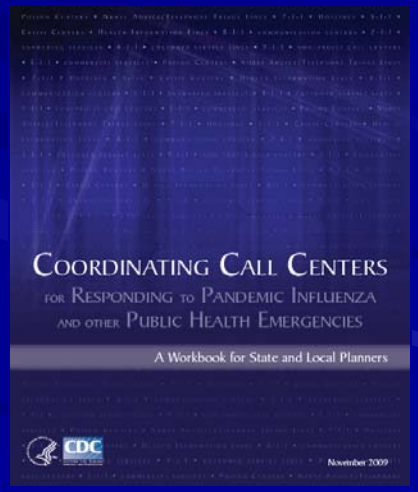
Pandemic Influenza



Pandemic Influenza

- FICEMS Flu Report (November 2009)
- On-going collaboration with CDC
  - H1N1 Guidance for EMS and 9-1-1 (May 2009)
  - Coordinating Call Centers (November 2009)

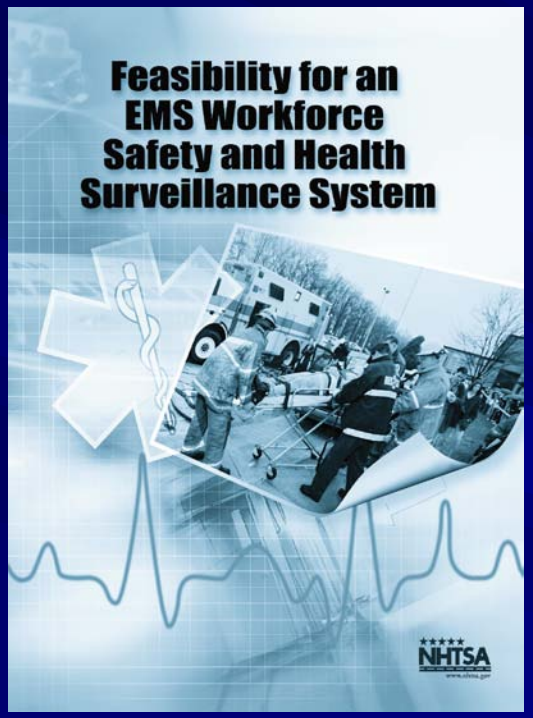




EMS Workforce Agenda

- National EMS Workforce Assessment
  - Science to guide policy development
- EMS Workforce Agenda for the Future
  - Publication in early 2011
- National EMS Workforce Data Definitions
- Longitudinal EMT Attributes and Demographics Study (LEADS)
  - Joint NREMT and NHTSA project

EMS Workforce Safety and Health



- Feasibility Study for EMS Workforce Safety and Health Surveillance System
- EMS Workforce Injury & Illness Surveillance Program – NIOSH Pilot Study (2008)
- National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS-Work)
  - NIOSH collecting ongoing nationally representative EMS worker injury data

Air Ambulances

- NHTSA current activities
  - NHTSA Office of EMS and NHTSA Chief Counsel engage in an ongoing dialogue with the DOT's General Counsel and the Federal Aviation Administration on air ambulance issues
- NTSB recommendations to FICEMS
  - Develop clinical guidelines
    - CNMC cooperative agreement
  - Develop EMS system integration guidelines

Cathy Gotschall, ScD

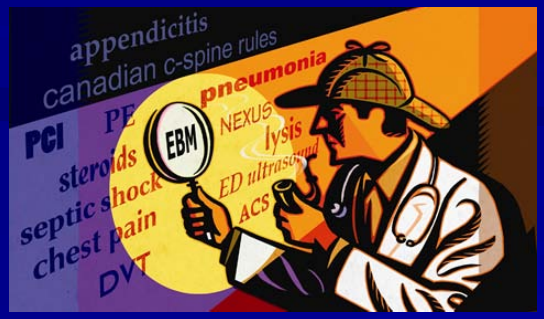
Evidence-Based Practice Guidelines Process; National EMS Assessment

National Conference on Prehospital Evidence-Based Guidelines

From Evidence to EMS Practice: Building the National Model

From Evidence to EMS Practice

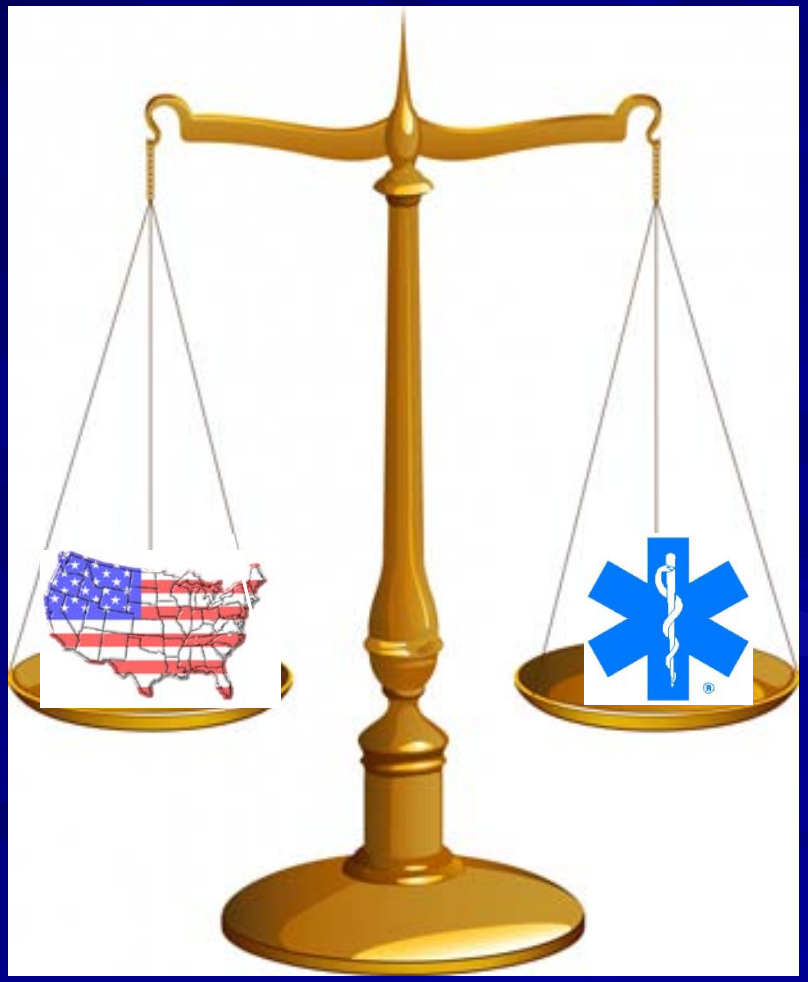
- National Consensus-building conference
- Develop the process, not the guidelines
- Sept. 4-5, 2008 - Washington, DC
- Sponsored by FICEMS
- Invitational Attendance – National Stakeholders



Solicit Input on Four Processes

- Evaluating Evidence
- Translation & Implementation
- Ensuring Provider Input & Buy-In
- Sustainability and Education

National EMS Assessment



National EMS Assessment

- FICEMS / TWG Assessment Committee
- Two-part Process
  - Phase I: summarize existing data & gap analysis
    - NHTSA-funded contract on behalf of FICEMS
  - Phase II: develop assessment instrument
    - Sustainable, ongoing process

Laurie Flaherty, RN

National 911 Program

Next Generation 911

www.ems.gov

www.911.gov

National 911 Program

- Grant program
  - To support deployment of advanced technology in 911 services
- National 911 Resource Center
  - 911 Clearinghouse
  - Technical Assistance
- Guidelines for assessment of Statewide 911 system
- Model State 911 Legislation
- Model State 911 Plan

911.gov

US DOT Next Generation 911 Initiative

Goal:

911 system that receives voice, data or video from a variety of communication devices And can transmit info to first responders

Milestones:

- Design for NG9-1-1 System (Proof of Concept)
- Transition plan for NG9-1-1 implementation
- “What’s Next?” project

www.ems.gov

NEMSAC page

NEMSAC e-mail address: nhtsa.nemsac@dot.gov