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
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-Event</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Post-Event</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Human</strong></td>
<td><strong>Vehicle</strong></td>
<td><strong>Environment</strong></td>
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<td><img src="image8" alt="Vehicle Event" /></td>
<td><img src="image9" alt="Environment Post-Event" /></td>
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**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

Public Education
Prevention Awareness
Patient Rehabilitation
Specialty Care
Emergency Department/Facilities

EMS
Emergency Medical Services

Public Access
Communication Systems
Clinical Care
Human Resources
Medical Direction
Evaluation
Integration of Health Services
Information Systems
EMS Research
Legislation and Regulation
System Finance

Incident Recognition
Access 911
Dispatch
First Responder
Basic Life Support
Advanced Life Support
Transport
Ground/Air

Other Specialty Patients
Pediatrics
Poison
Cardiac/Stroke
Trauma
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 Education Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach

- National EMS Core Content
- National EMS Scope of Practice Model
- National EMS Education Standards
- National EMS Certification
- National EMS Program Accreditation
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 competitive 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)
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.
“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 e-mail address: nhtsa.nemsac@dot.gov