Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council

Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Annual Corporate Report
To the PEHSC Board of Directors

The core mission of the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council is to serve as an independent advisory body to the Pennsylvania Department of Health and all other appropriate agencies on matters pertaining to emergency medical services. As an advocate for its diverse member organizations, PEHSC’s ultimate purpose is to foster improvements in the quality and delivery of emergency health services throughout the Commonwealth.

“Your Voice In EMS”
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Mission

The Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council (PEHSC) is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. The core mission of the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council is to serve as an independent advisory body to The Department of Health and all other appropriate agencies on matters pertaining to Emergency Medical Services. As an advocate for its diverse member organizations, PEHSC's ultimate purpose is to foster improvements in the quality and delivery of emergency health services throughout the Commonwealth.

Vision

Pennsylvania will be a national leader in developing a unified system of high quality emergency medical services and other health services. In partnership with other organizations statewide that are involved with emergency services, PEHSC's role includes a heightened emphasis on advocacy and legislative liaison, outcomes research, system finances and development, public education, and resources to enhance organizational management.

Core Values

Service • Diversity • Objectivity • Responsiveness • Synergy

History

PEHSC was formed and incorporated in 1974. In 1985, the Council’s Board of Directors was recognized as the official EMS advisory body to the Pennsylvania Department of Health through the Emergency Medical Services Act of 1985 and reauthorized in Act 37 of 2009.

Funding

The Council is partially funded through a contract with the Pennsylvania Department of Health. PEHSC does not charge any fees or dues to its member organizations.

Advisory Function

The Council’s cornerstone is the grassroots provider network, which meet to discuss statewide issues. These grassroots providers generate recommendations for consideration by the PEHSC’s Board. These recommendations ultimately lead to the delivery of formal recommendations to the Pennsylvania Department of Health. The volunteer, grassroots participation of pre-hospital providers throughout the Commonwealth gives EMS a voice in decision making at the state level. The volunteer involvement of providers in the PEHSC process has saved the Commonwealth thousands of dollars in personnel costs, as the PEHSC members often prepare statewide documents and/or educational programs to support recommendations. Interested providers may apply for membership to PEHSC Task Forces by completing an application. Task Forces are established either on a long term or short term basis and are either focused on a specific issue or general topic area.
Composition
The Council is an organization-based, non-profit corporation consisting of 96 organizations representing every facet of EMS in Pennsylvania. Each organization appoints a representative and one alternate to serve on the Council. Our member organizations include representatives of ambulance services, hospitals, health care providers, and firefighters among others.

Albert Einstein Medical Center – EMS Division
Allegheny County EMS Council
Allegheny General Hospital
Ambulance Association of Pennsylvania
American Heart Association – Great Rivers Affiliate
American Medical Response Mid-Atlantic, Inc.
American Red Cross
American Trauma Society, PA Division
Best Practices of PA
Bethlehem Township Volunteer Fire Co.
Bradford/Susquehanna EMS Council
Bucks County EHS Council, Inc.
Bucks County Squad Chief’s Association
Burholme EMS
Center for Emergency Medicine of Western PA, Inc.
Cetronia Ambulance Corps
Chalfont EMS
Chester County Department of Emergency Services
Chester County EMS Council
City of Allentown EMS
City of Pittsburgh – Bureau of EMS
Columbia Quick Response Service
County of Schuylkill - Office of Public Safety
Danville Ambulance Service
Delaware County EHS Council
Eastern Lebanon County School District
Eastern PA EMS Council
Emergency Health Services Federation, Inc.
Emergency Medical Service Institute
Emergency Medical Services of Northeastern PA
Emergency Nurses Association
EMMCO East
EMMCO West
First Aid and Safety Patrol of Lebanon
Fraternal Association of Professional Paramedics
Good Fellowship Ambulance & EMS Training Inst.
Harrisburg Area Community College
Hershey Medical Center
Highmark, Inc.
The Hospital & Healthsystem Association of PA
JeffSTAT
J R Henry Consulting, Inc.
Lancaster County EMS Council
Lancaster General Hospital
Levittown-Fairless Hills Rescue Squad
Lewistown Hospital
LTS EMS Council
Lycoming Co Health Improvement Coalition
Montgomery County Regional EMS Office
Murrysville Medic One
National Collegiate EMS Foundation
National Ski Patrol
Non-Profit Emergency Services of Beaver County
Northeast PA Volunteer Ambulance Association
Northwest EMS Inc.
PA Association of Rehabilitation Facilities
PA Athletic Trainers' Society, Inc.
PA Chapter, American College of Emerg. Physicians
PA Committee on Trauma – ACS
PA Firemen’s Legislative Federation
PA Medical Society
PA Neurosurgical Society
PA Orthopaedic Society
PA Osteopathic Medical Association
PA Psychological Association
PA Society of Internal Medicine
PA Society of Physician Assistants
PA State Nurses Association
The Pennsylvania State University
PA Trauma Systems Foundation
Philadelphia Fire Fighters’ Union IAFF Local #22
Philadelphia Paramedic Association
Philadelphia Regional EMS
Philadelphia University
Providence Township Ambulance
Second Alarmers EMS & Rescue Squad
Seneca Area Emergency Services
Seven Mountains EMS Council
Southern Alleghenies EHS Council
Southern Chester County EMS
Southwest Ambulance Alliance
Special Events EMS, Inc.
St. Luke’s University Network
STAR Career Academy
State Firemen’s Assoc. of PA
Suburban EMS
Susquehanna EHS Council, Inc.
Susquehanna Health System
Tioga County EMS Council
UPMC Presbyterian
Valley Ambulance Authority
VFIS/Education and Training Services
VMSC of Lower Merion and Narberth
Washington County EMS Council
Westmoreland County EMS Council
York Hospital / WellSpan Health
Affiliate Council

This group is comprised of 141 organizations or individuals who are considered to be members of the Council without voting privileges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization Name</th>
<th>Organization Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7th Ward Civic Association Ambulance Service</td>
<td>Fellows Club Volunteer Ambulance Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute Care Medical Transports Inc</td>
<td>Forest Hills Area Ambulance Association, Inc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Health Medical Transport</td>
<td>Franklin and Northmoreland Township Amb Assn</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Life Ambulance</td>
<td>Gilbertsville Area Community Ambulance Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Patient Transport Systems, Inc (APTS)</td>
<td>Girardville Ambulance Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area Services, Inc</td>
<td>Goshen Fire Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auburn Fire Company Ambulance Service</td>
<td>Greater Pittston Ambulance &amp; Rescue Assoc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blakely Borough Community Ambulance Assoc</td>
<td>Greater Valley EMS, Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brownsville Ambulance Service Inc</td>
<td>Guardian Angel Ambulance Service Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buffalo Township Emergency Medical Services</td>
<td>Halifax Area Ambulance and Rescue Association, Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canonsburg General Hospital EMS</td>
<td>Hamburg Emergency Medical Services, Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Medical Ambulance Service</td>
<td>Hamlin Fire &amp; Rescue Co</td>
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<tr>
<td>Centre County Ambulance Association</td>
<td>Harmony EMS</td>
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<td>Christiana Community Ambulance Assoc Inc</td>
<td>Hart to Heart Ambulance Service Inc</td>
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<td>Citizens Volunteer Fire Company EMS Division</td>
<td>Haverford Township Paramedic Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clairton Volunteer Fire Department</td>
<td>Health Ride Plus</td>
</tr>
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<td>Clarion Hospital EMS</td>
<td>Health Trans Ambulance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Ambulance Association Ambler</td>
<td>Honesdale Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community College of Beaver County</td>
<td>d/b/a Honesdale EMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Life Team</td>
<td>Honey Brook Ambulance Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conemaugh Township EMS Inc</td>
<td>Hose Co #6 Kittanning Ambulance Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corry Ambulance Service, Inc</td>
<td>Irvona Volunteer Ambulance Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cresson Area Ambulance Service Inc</td>
<td>Jacobus Lions Ambulance Club</td>
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<td>Delaware County Community College</td>
<td>Jefferson Hills Area Ambulance Association</td>
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<td>Delaware County Memorial Hospital EMS</td>
<td>Jessup Hose Co No 2 Ambulance Association</td>
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<td>Dover Area Ambulance Club</td>
<td>Karthaus Ambulance Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duncannon EMS, Inc</td>
<td>Kecksburg VFD Rescue Squad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duquesne EMS</td>
<td>Kutztown Area Transport Service, Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duryea Ambulance and Rescue Association</td>
<td>Lack Tuscarora EMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Brandywine Fire Company QRS</td>
<td>Lackawanna Ambulance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Area Prehospital Service</td>
<td>Lawn Fire Co. Ambulance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Township Area EMS</td>
<td>Lehigh Carbon Community College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ebensburg Area Ambulance Association</td>
<td>Lehighton Ambulance Association, Inc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elysburg Fire Department EMS</td>
<td>Liverpool Emergency Medical Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EmergCare, Inc</td>
<td>Lower Kiski Ambulance Service Inc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Em-Star Ambulance Service</td>
<td>Loyalsock VFC #1 EMS Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Medical Staffing Solutions</td>
<td>Manheim Twp. Ambulance Assn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factoryville Fire Co. Ambulance</td>
<td>Manheim Veterans Memorial Ambulance Assn.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fame Emergency Medical Services, Inc</td>
<td>McConnellsburg Fire Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc</td>
<td>Meadville Area Ambulance Service LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Med-Van Transport</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Board of Directors**

Each year, the Council elects a Board of Directors, comprised of at least 30 of the organizations represented by the Council. The Board of Directors serves as the official advisory body to the Pennsylvania Department of Health on EMS issues. The Board is responsible to elect the Council officers, which include President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The officers, two At-Large Board Members, and the Immediate Past President also comprise the Council’s Executive Committee.

Allegheny County EMS Council | Douglas Garretson
American Ambulance Association of Pennsylvania | Donald DeReamus
American Heart Association, Great Rivers Affiliate | Jennifer Ebersole
American Red Cross | Patricia Mullins
Bradford/Susquehanna EMS Council | Thomas Brandt
Center for Emergency Medicine of Western PA | Dr. Walt Stoy
City of Allentown EMS
City of Pittsburgh, Bureau of EMS
Columbia Quick Response Service, Inc
Eastern PA EMS Council
Emergency Nurses Association
EMMCO East
EMMCO West
Harrisburg Area Community College
Hershey Medical Center
Hospital & Healthsystem Association of PA, The
JEFFSTAT
Murrysville Medic One
Non-Profit Emergency Services of Beaver County
Pennsylvania Chapter of ACEP
Pennsylvania Committee on Trauma – ACS
Pennsylvania Society of Physician Assistants
Philadelphia University
Southern Alleghenies EMS Council
Tioga County EMS Council
UPMC Presbyterian
Valley Ambulance Authority
Volunteer Medical Service Corps of Lower Merion & Narberth
Westmoreland County EMS Council Inc.
York Hospital / WellSpan Health

David Van Allen
Mark Bocian
Frank Splain, Jr.
Dr. Everitt Binns
Kay Ella Bleecher
Don Fortney
Christopher Heile
Robert Bernini
Dr. Steven Meador
Lynn Leighton
Duane Spencer
Darrick Gerano
Robert Lordo
Dr. Arthur Hayes
Dr. Nikhilesh Agarwal
Lane Bower
Dr. Jean Bail
Sandra Jablonski
John Getty
Myron Rickens
J R Henry
Suzanne Smith
Randy Margarcelli
Dr. Daniel Bledsoe

PEHSC Executive Committee

J.R. Henry
Jean Bail, Ed.D., MSN, CEN, EMT-P
John Getty
Ronald Roth, MD, FACEP
Duane Spencer
David Van Allen
Arthur Hayes, MD, FACEP

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Member-at-Large
Member-at-Large
Immediate Past President
PEHSC Staff

PEHSC employs a staff of six, which includes a full time Executive Director. The professional staff members have extensive experience as prehospital providers, administrators and educators. The staff is responsible for coordinating and administering the activities of the Council and its committees/task forces, as well as providing technical expertise to Pennsylvania’s EMS community.

Janette Swade        Executive Director
Donald Potter        EMS Systems Specialist
Stephen Mrozowski       EMSC Program Director
Travis Woodyard       EMS Systems Specialist
Patricia Morrison        Office Manager
Jean Gochenauer       Administrative Assistant

Executive Offices

The Council’s executive office is located at 600 Wilson Lane, Suite 101, Mechanicsburg, PA  17055. The Council maintains a toll-free telephone number in Pennsylvania (1-800-243-2EMS) to respond to hundreds of inquiries each year for information.

Electronic Media

The Council maintains several websites as well as other types of electronic communications:
Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Financial Information

Note: Complete PEHSC financial audits are available by request as prepared by James J McCarthy & Associates, Certified Public Accounts, Harrisburg, PA.

Income and Expense Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 11-12</th>
<th>FY 10-11</th>
<th>Net Change</th>
<th>% of Change</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>State Contract:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>$491,949.00</td>
<td>$477,621.00</td>
<td>$14,328.00</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expense</td>
<td>$491,949.00</td>
<td>$477,621.00</td>
<td>$14,328.00</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EMSC Contract:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>$90,000.00</td>
<td>$90,000.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expense</td>
<td>$90,000.00</td>
<td>$90,000.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>0%</td>
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<td><strong>EMS Conference:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Income</td>
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<td>$166,945.00</td>
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<td>Expense</td>
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Investment Account

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<th>FY 11-12</th>
<th>FY 10-11</th>
<th>Net Change</th>
<th>% of Change</th>
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<td>Balance as of Fiscal Year End</td>
<td>$186,686.00</td>
<td>$182,545.00</td>
<td>$4,141.00</td>
<td>2.27%</td>
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Committee and Task Force Meetings

Board of Directors/Council:
Chair - JR Henry
October 26, 2011; December 14, 2011; March 21, 2012; June 13, 2012

Air Medical Task Force:
Chair - Duane Spencer
July 20, 2011; March 23, 2012

Communications Task Force:
Chair – Melvin Musulin
October 26, 2011

Critical Care Transport Task Force:
Chair – Mary Ann Rock
September 29, 2011; January 5, 2012; February 15, 2012

EMS for Children Advisory Committee:
Chair – Kirsten Johnson-Moore, RN
September 15, 2011; December 1, 2011; March 1, 2012; June 21, 2012

EMS Information Task Force:
Chair - Christopher Heile

Executive Committee:
Chair - JR Henry
August 29, 2011; October 31, 2011; December 13, 2011; January 30, 2012; February 20, 2012; March 26, 2012; April 30, 2012

Medical Advisory Committee:
Chair - Dr. Michael Reihart
July 13, 2011; January 18, 2012; March 6, 2012; June 6, 2012 (Special Meeting),

Membership Committee:
Chair – Suzanne Smith
September 23, 2011; November 8, 2011; February 16, 2012; April 19, 2012; April 25, 2012; May 9, 2012

Nominating Committee (2012-2013 PEHSC Board of Directors/Executive Committee)
Chair – Douglas Garretson
January 24, 2012; February 8, 2012; April 25, 2012; May 3, 2012

Rescue Task Force:
Co-Chairs – Jack Glass and Chris Peischl
September 21, 2011; November 16, 2011; April 18, 2012

State EMS Development Plan Task Force:
Chair - Everitt Binns, PhD
November 16, 2011; January 10, 2012; February 7, 2012; February 23, 2012
Recommendations Approved by the Board of Directors

As forwarded to the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the official response

VTR# 1011-01 Changes to Required Equipment List – 12 Lead EKG

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD AMEND THE LIST OF REQUIRED GROUND AND AIR AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES TO INCLUDE 12-LEAD EKG DEVICES AND METHOD OF DATA TRANSMISSION FOR ALL GROUND AND AIR ALS VEHICLES BY JULY 1, 2013.

The PEHSC Board of Directors voted to table VTR# 1011-01 and returned it to the Medical Advisory Committee for further review.

VTR# 1011-02 Reception of 12 Lead EKG Data by Medical Command Facilities

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD REQUIRE ALL ACCREDITED MEDICAL COMMAND FACILITIES TO HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO RECEIVE WIRELESS 12-LEAD EKG DATA, USING VARIOUS METHODS, BY JULY 1, 2013.

Dr. Reihart, Medical Advisory Committee Chair, withdrew VTR# 1011-02 in view of the PEHSC Board of Directors’ decision to table VTR# 1011-01; it was returned to the Medical Advisory Committee for further review.

VTR# 1011-03 Changes to Required Equipment List – IV Infusion Pump

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD AMEND THE LIST OF REQUIRED GROUND AND AIR AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES TO INCLUDE AN IV INFUSION PUMP ON ALL GROUND AND AIR ALS VEHICLES BY JULY 1, 2013.

The PEHSC Board of Directors voted to table VTR# 1011-03 and returned it to the Medical Advisory Committee for further review.

VTR# 1211-01 Changes to Required Equipment List – Pulse-oximetry Devices

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOULD MODIFY THE LIST OF REQUIRED GROUND AND AIR AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES TO INCLUDE PULSE-OXIMETRY UNITS WITH THE CAPABILITY TO ASSESS BOTH ADULT AND PEDIATRIC PATIENTS. THIS MODIFICATION SHOULD BE EFFECTIVE BY JULY 1, 2013 AND APPLY TO ALL AMBULANCE TYPES, INCLUDING QUICK RESPONSE SERVICES (QRS).

Department of Health Response

The Bureau of EMS accepts the first portion of this recommendation but with additional medical consideration the Department will not require pulse-ox devices for QRS units.
VTR# 1211-02  Child Abuse Clearance Checks for EMS Providers

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOULD EXPAND ITS CURRENT CRIMINAL HISTORY MONITORING EFFORTS TO INCLUDE SCREENING FOR CONVICTIONS OF CRIMINAL ACTS AGAINST CHILDREN, VIA THE PA CHILD LINE, TO BE PERFORMED BY THE EMS AGENCY AS PART OF THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR LICENSURE AND SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE THE SCREENING OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN AN EMS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

Department of Health Response

The Bureau of EMS will provide information on accessing the Pa Child Line to EMS agencies and accredited EMS educational facilities. The Department will continue to observe the progress of House Bill 2038 which will require background checks for all new EMS Providers in the Commonwealth.

VTR# 1211-03  Voluntary Rescue Service Recognition Marketing Program

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOULD DEVELOP A SHORT AND LONG TERM MARKETING PLAN TO IMPROVE AWARENESS IN AN EFFORT TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN THE VOLUNTARY RESCUE SERVICE RECOGNITION (VRSR) PROGRAM.

Department of Health Response

The Bureau of EMS currently has been working with the Fire Commissioner’s Office to develop courses and programs focusing on the development of rescue training programs and implementation of the VRSR program. Fiscal constraints have limited the resources that are available to conduct this type of program at this time but would consider this recommendation in the future.

VTR# 0312-01  Changes to Required Equipment List – 12 Lead EKG

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD AMEND THE LIST OF REQUIRED GROUND AND AIR AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES TO INCLUDE 12-LEAD EKG DEVICES AND A PROCESS FOR DATA TRANSMISSION BY GROUND AND AIR ALS VEHICLES IN FY 13-14.

Department of Health Response

The Bureau of EMS accepts this recommendation.
VTR# 0312-02  Reception of 12 Lead EKG Data by Medical Command Facilities

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD REQUIRE ALL ACCREDITED MEDICAL COMMAND FACILITIES TO HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO RECEIVE WIRELESS 12-LEAD EKG DATA, USING VARIOUS METHODS, IN FY 13-14.

Department of Health Response

The Bureau of EMS accepts this recommendation.

VTR# 0312-03  Changes to List of Approved Drugs for ALS Ambulance Services: Control of IV Infused Medications

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD AMEND THE LIST OF APPROVED DRUGS FOR ALS AMBULANCE SERVICES TO INCLUDE A REQUIREMENT THAT AN ELECTRONIC IV INFUSION PUMP OR MECHANICAL FLOW CONTROL DEVICE BE USED TO CONTROL THE RATE OF ADMINISTRATION OF ALL CONTINUOUSLY INFUSING IV MEDICATIONS ESTABLISHED IN THE PREHOSPITAL SETTING.

THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD ALSO AMEND THE LIST OF REQUIRED GROUND AND AIR AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES TO REQUIRE EACH ALS UNIT TO CARRY AT LEAST ONE (1) ELECTRONIC IV INFUSION PUMP OR MECHANICAL FLOW CONTROL DEVICE.

Department of Health Response

The Bureau of EMS will amend the list of approved drugs for Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance services to require, in the prehospital setting, that continuous infusions of crystalloid solutions containing medication (except intravenous electrolyte solutions with potassium concentrations of no more than 20 mEq/L) will be rate controlled by a manual flow control device capable of setting specific numeric flow rates or an electronic intravenous (IV) pump.

The Bureau of EMS will change the list of required equipment for ALS ambulance services by requiring that, effective July 1, 2012, all ALS and Air Ambulance service must have at least one electronic IV pump or a manual flow control device capable of setting specific numeric flow rates.

The Bureau of EMS will modify the requirements for all ALS and Air EMS services to require at least one electronic IV pump by July 1, 2014.

VTR# 0312-04  Changes to the List of Approved Drugs for ALS Ambulance Services: Removal of Heparin Flush

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOULD REMOVE HEPARIN FLUSH FROM THE LIST OF APPROVED DRUGS FOR ALS AMBULANCE SERVICES.
Department of Health Response

The Bureau of EMS accepts this recommendation and will remove IV heparin IV flush from the ALS drug list.

VTR# 0312-05  Changes to Statewide ALS Protocol 7007-Seizures

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOULD AMEND STATEWIDE ALS PROTOCOL 7007-SEIZURES TO INCLUDE AN OPTION FOR INTRAMUSCULAR ADMINISTRATION OF MIDAZOLAM IN ADULTS TO RESOLVE SEIZURE ACTIVITY.

Department of Health Response

The Bureau of EMS accepts this recommendation and will consider this treatment when the protocols are updated.

VTR# 0312-06  Change to BLS Level Provider Scope of Practice: Addition of Mechanical CPR Devices

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOULD AMEND THE PREHOSPITAL PRACTITIONER SCOPE OF PRACTICE TO PERMIT THE USE OF MECHANICAL CPR DEVICES BY ALL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CERTIFIED PROVIDERS.

Department of Health Response

The Department will review the issues that must be addressed before adding this type [of] device to the list of treatments that can be performed by BLS providers under the current scope of practice. Following this review the Department will notify the Council of the Department’s decision.

VTR# 0312-07  EMS Transfer of Care Form

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOULD ADOPT THE ATTACHED FORM TITLED “PENNSYLVANIA EMS TRANSFER OF CARE FORM” AS THE OFFICIAL PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH EMS TRANSFER OF CARE FORM TO RECEIVING FACILITIES.

Department of Health Response

The Department thanks the Council for the proposed EMS hand-off form. An updated draft of the hand-off form will be circulated more broadly than the previous pilot to permit all EMS agencies in the Commonwealth a chance to use and comment on the form in anticipation of regulations that require standardized hand-off information.
VTR# 0612-01  Critical Care Paramedic Project

Recommendation

THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOULD ADOPT THE STANDARDS AND EXPANDED SCOPE OF PRACTICE DETAILED IN THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT ENTITLED, “ESTABLISHING THE CRITICAL CARE PARAMEDIC IN PENNSYLVANIA.”

Department of Health Response

The Bureau of EMS accepts this recommendation as a starting point that will follow adoption of the regulations needed to implement Act 37.

VTR# 0612-02  Vehicle Extrication Awareness Education

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOULD ACCEPT THE VEHICLE EXTRICATION AWARENESS EDUCATION INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDANCE FOR INCLUSION IN PENNSYLVANIA EMS CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS.

Department of Health Response

The Bureau of EMS will accept this document as a reference that may be used by individuals and organizations searching for guidance when planning vehicle extrication programs as part of an EMS certification program.

VTR# 0612-03  Essential Transfer of Care Elements

Recommendation

THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD PUBLISH A NOTICE IN THE PENNSYLVANIA BULLETIN SPECIFYING THE ATTACHED LIST OF REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED ELEMENTS AS THE TYPES OF PATIENT INFORMATION THAT ARE ESSENTIAL FOR IMMEDIATE TRANSMISSION FOR PATIENT CARE.
The following elements, if applicable to the patient, are considered essential information for immediate transmission to the receiving facility at the time of patient delivery either in verbal and/or written format.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Required Verbal</th>
<th>Required Written</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Date</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Time</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. EMS Agency Name</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Patient Name</td>
<td>X²</td>
<td>X²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Date of Birth</td>
<td>X²</td>
<td>X²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Age</td>
<td>X²</td>
<td>X²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Gender</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Chief Complaint</td>
<td>X²</td>
<td>X²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Provider Impression</td>
<td>X²</td>
<td>X²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Pertinent Past Medical History</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. History of Present Illness</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Onset of Symptoms Date/Time</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Allergies</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Medications</td>
<td>X²</td>
<td>X²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Mental Status</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. ECG: Rhythm, 12 lead interpretation, ECG Delivered with report?</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. EMS Treatment: Medication/Dose</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. IV Sites: Size/Location, Fluid Administration</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Oxygen Administration: LPM</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Provider Transferring Care Name</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ When available  
² Supplemental patient history documentation should be provided if available  
³ May be provided via a separate list or by providing the medication containers

The following elements, while not essential for patient care, are recommended for a written transfer of care:

1. Provider Transferring Care Certification #  
2. EMS Provider Signature  
3. Care Transferred to: Facility/Agency Name, Time of Transfer, Receiving Facility Signature  
4. Patient Phone Number

Department of Health Response

The Bureau of EMS will publish a list of required elements considered essential for immediate transmission for patient care, following promulgation of regulations needed to implement the EMS Act. The Bureau will continue to pilot the current form, to obtain as much feedback as possible before publication of the final list.

Additional Projects by PEHSC Committees, Task Forces, and Staff

Critical Care Paramedic Project - During FY 2011-2012, the PEHSC Air Medical Task Force's critical care paramedic workgroup has worked to produce educational and other standards related to establishing the critical care paramedic in Pennsylvania. The vision is that a paramedic who completes the prescribed educational requirements and successfully passes a national-level cognitive examination will
...be granted expanded scope of practice when functioning on a Pennsylvania Department of Health licensed critical care ground-based or air ambulance.

These standards were reviewed and approved by the PEHSC Board of Directors in June 2012 and subsequently accepted by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. In the second phase of this project, the workgroup will develop recommendations related to the critical care paramedic’s scope of practice, resource typing of critical care transport teams, a statewide critical care drug list, and statewide critical care transport protocols.

The Air Medical Task Force’s goal is to complete the remaining program elements in a timeframe that will enable the critical care paramedic to become operational upon the approval of the rules and regulations for Pennsylvania’s EMS Act (Act 37 of 2009).

2012 Pennsylvania Volunteer Ambulance Service Grant Program (VASG) – Materials were disseminated by email to Council, Affiliate Council, and ambulance service distribution lists. Materials were placed on the PEHSC website.

Training Institutes
• An issue, which could impact portability of EMS teaching certificates related to Pennsylvania public schools, was identified at the PEHSC Board of Directors meeting. The issue was addressed with the Bureau of EMS so that existing specialty certifications can be portable to enable programs to continue in Pennsylvania.
• PEHSC staff met with the Department of Health, Bureau of EMS staff to finalize the CPR skill sheets for BLS. PEHSC staff supported the Bureau of EMS operations in regard to the resubmission and final review of the EMR skill sheets.

EMS Patient Care Reports - The PEHSC EMS Information Task Force monitored Pennsylvania’s participation in the NEMSIS program. The Task Force reviewed the NEMSIS 3 data elements for possible incorporation into Pennsylvania data collection.

The PEHSC EMS Information Task Force created an EMS Transfer of Care Form that will satisfy requirements to be set forth in the rules and regulations for Act 37. A draft form was approved by the Task Force and submitted to the Department of Health, Bureau of EMS with VTR# 0312-07. The Bureau distributed the draft statewide and requested feedback from participating services.

In conjunction with the Transfer of Care Form, the Task Force worked to identify elements for patient care transfer that must be transmitted in written form and those that must be given in a verbal report. A list of elements was submitted with VTR# 0612-03.

Statewide EMS Development Plan – The PEHSC State Plan Task Force conducted the annual review of the state plan, and the final priority document for years 3-5 was approved at the March PEHSC Board of Directors meeting for delivery to the Department of Health, Bureau of EMS. In an effort to assist the regional councils with the state plan integration into the work statements, an informational session for the EMS Regional Directors was delivered at the June Regional Directors meeting and education for the regional staff was delivered in July.

Additional EMS System Funding – PEHSC worked with the Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute to develop strategies to increase available funding for PA’s fire, EMS and rescue organizations and to explore other potential funding streams for public safety. Reauthorization for the PA Volunteer Fire and Volunteer Ambulance Grant Program, Senate Bill 866, was approved by the Pennsylvania General Assembly; the bill became Act 78 of 2012 and included five million dollars in additional funding.
Good Samaritan Act – PEHSC staff worked with representatives from the American Heart Association to review Pennsylvania’s current Good Samaritan Act. PEHSC recommended language to strengthen the current provisions of the Act with regard to first response personnel. Senate Bill 351, which amends the Good Samaritan Act, was approved by the Pennsylvania General Assembly and became Act 125 of 2012.

Review of Rules and Regulations, Standards and Policies

- PEHSC distributed the published regulations, via email and posting of information on the PEHSC website, for comment as per the Pennsylvania Bulletin.
- All EMS Information Bulletins issued by the Bureau are posted on the PEHSC website.
- PEHSC staff and the Council reviewed and forwarded comments in regard to the following Department of Health, Bureau of EMS documents: SOP, EMSOF funding list, the ambulance equipment list, and the ALS drug list.
- PEHSC staff answered and forwarded comments and questions regarding the Transfer of Care Form and AEMT in relation to the pending draft regulations.
- Comments in regard to the proposed ambulance federal equipment list by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) were received from stakeholders by PEHSC and forwarded to the Pennsylvania Department of Health for dissemination to the NHTSA as requested.

EMS for Children Project

Through the contract with the Department of Health, the Council employs a full-time EMS for Children (EMSC) Program Director to manage the EMS for Children grant, which is awarded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Activities of the EMSC program are guided by federal performance measures, which evaluate a state’s ability to provide emergency medical care to children in the following areas:

- The availability of online and offline pediatric-specific medical direction
- The presence of essential pediatric equipment and supplies on all EMS units
- The existence of a standardized system to recognize hospitals capable of treating pediatrics
- The existence of interfacility transfer guidelines and agreements to ensure appropriate transfer of pediatric patients between facilities
- The requirement for pediatric education for certification renew of EMS providers
- The establishment of EMSC permanence within the state through the existence of an EMSC Advisory Committee, a full-time EMSC Program Director, and EMSC priorities in regulation

During this fiscal year, the EMSC advisory committee continued to meet to conduct projects with a goal of achieving federal performance measures and formed several new strategic partnerships. A new partnership with the General Federation of Women’s Clubs allowed for the purchase of pulse-oximetry units, which were distributed to various EMS agencies across the Commonwealth. In addition, Pennsylvania remained represented on several national EMSC groups, including the Pediatric Emergency Care Council of the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO). Several key projects included the revision of the Emergency Care Guidelines for Schools resource manual, the launch of a safe transport of children in ambulances initiative, and planning for the 2nd Annual Pediatric Emergency Care Symposium. In May 2012, the new EMSC website was launched – www.paemsc.org. The previous EMSC website was re-designed and launched on the new domain, offering EMS providers, other healthcare agencies, and the public easy access to EMSC information. Included on the website is
pediatric symposium information, current project highlights, recent meeting minutes, and a downloadable version of the Emergency Care Guidelines for Schools document.

In addition to working toward successful completion of the federal performance measures outlined above, the EMSC Program Director remains active in various committees and councils to ensure that EMSC priorities are considered in policy development by numerous organizations. The EMSC Program Director and committee members are actively partnered with the following organizations:

- PA Trauma Systems Foundation: Pediatric Trauma Committee
- American Academy of Pediatrics - PA Chapter
  - PA Child Death Review Team
  - Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) for EMS
  - Prevent Child Abuse PA
- Safe Kids Pennsylvania
- Atlantic Region EMSC Council
- The National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO)
  - NASEMSO Pediatric Emergency Care Council
- The EMSC National Resource Center and National EMSC Data Analysis Resource Center
  - The EMSC Director actively participates in annual conferences and workshops offered by both of these organizations.

The EMSC Committee provided input on several PEHSC projects including the conducting and data analysis of a racemic epinephrine pilot project for the treatment of croup, the State EMS Plan, and the following Board recommendations:

**VTR # 1211-01 – Pulse-oximetry Units for EMS Vehicles**

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOULD MODIFY THE LIST OF REQUIRED GROUND AND AIR AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES TO INCLUDE PULSE-OXIMETRY UNITS WITH THE CAPABILITY TO ASSESS BOTH ADULT AND PEDIATRIC PATIENTS. THIS MODIFICATION SHOULD BE EFFECTIVE BY JULY 1, 2013 AND APPLY TO ALL AMBULANCE TYPES, INCLUDING QUICK RESPONSE SERVICES (QRS).

**VTR #1211-02 – Child Abuse Clearance Checks for EMS Providers**

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOULD EXPAND ITS CURRENT CRIMINAL HISTORY MONITORING EFFORTS TO INCLUDE SCREENING FOR CONVICTIONS OF CRIMINAL ACTS AGAINST CHILDREN, VIA THE PA CHILD LINE, TO BE PERFORMED BY THE EMS AGENCY AS PART OF THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR LICENSURE AND SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE THE SCREENING OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN AN EMS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

The Emergency Care Guidelines for School Nurses resource book was edited during this fiscal year with input from several stakeholders and was published and distributed to all (501) public school districts across the Commonwealth. A digital version was made available for download on the EMSC website, and several requests were received for additional copies of the guide.

All Pennsylvania hospital emergency departments were provided a resource CD, developed through the PA EMSC program, to offer guidance on the creation and implementation of interfacility transfer guidelines and agreements specific to pediatric patients.
The EMSC program, through a cooperative effort with Laerdal Medical, provided thirteen regional EMS councils with Laerdal ALS Baby Simulators to promote no-cost pediatric education across the Commonwealth. Educator training was provided in these regions to train educator staff in the use of the simulators.

The EMSC Committee meets quarterly via webinar or live meetings, and is comprised of members covering many facets of pediatric emergency care including prehospital personnel, pediatric physicians, pediatric nurses, emergency department physicians, state agency representation, and a family representation. In addition to the required membership, the PA EMSC Committee also maintains strong representation from our partner organizations, regional EMS councils, and injury prevention programs. Additionally, the EMSC Program Director, committee co-chairs and project medical director meet monthly via conference call.

Finally, the EMSC Program provides support and education content to the annual statewide EMS conference and the Pediatric Emergency Care Symposium.

**PEHSC List Serv Distributions**

Notices sent included topics such as:
- United States Fire Administration Releases Updated Medical Director Handbook
- Urgent Bulletin re: Medicare Reimbursement
- Federal Line of Duty Death Benefit
- Draft Rules and Regulations to Pennsylvania's EMS Act 37
- Draft EMS Rules and Regulations Published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin

**Partnership Meetings Attended by PEHSC Leadership and Staff**

- Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation Board of Directors Meetings
- Good Fellowship EMS Conference
- 2011 Pennsylvania Fire & Emergency Services Institute Annual Dinner and Pennsylvania EMS Awards Presentation
- National Center for Patient and Family Centered Care Meeting
- Community Injury Prevention Meeting
- American Heart Association Advocacy Day
- American Heart Association Good Samaritan Bill Related Meetings
- Lehigh Valley Health Network Safe Transport of Children in Ambulances Seminar
- 2011 Emergency Medical Service Institute Regional EMS Conference
- 2011 Susquehanna Emergency Health Services Council Conference
- Rural Health Legislative Briefing
- Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Meeting
- Safe Schools Meeting
- Regional Directors Meetings
- National Community Paramedicine Monthly Webinars
- National Highway Traffic Safety Administration - State Level Interface Webinar
• National Association of EMTs Required Ambulance Design Webinars
• Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation Rural Trauma Sub-Committee
• Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation Geriatric Trauma Sub-Committee
• Regional Training Coordinators Meetings
• Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation Pediatric Standards Committee
• 2011 Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation Annual Conference Volunteer Loan Assistance Program Application Review Committee
• Quarterly Pennsylvania Fire & Emergency Services Institute Statewide Advisory Board Meetings
• 2011 EMS Provider Foundation 9/11 Dinner
• 2011 American Trauma Society Conference
• 2011-12 Ambulance Association of Pennsylvania Reimbursement and Leadership Conferences
• EMSC Annual Program Meeting
• Prevent Child Abuse Pennsylvania Board of Directors Meetings
• Atlantic Region EMSC Meeting and National EMSC Data Analysis Workshop

**Legislative Affairs**
During Fiscal Year 11-12, PEHSC tracked, and when appropriate, provided comment on state and federal legislation affecting emergency medical services.

- House Bill 2038   Provider Background Checks
- House Resolution 315   LB&FC/JSGC Review of EMS System
- Senate Bill 351   Good Samaritan Law Update/Act 125 of 2012
- House Bill 1344   Direct Pay by Private Insurers
- House Bill 1400   Stroke Center/Act 54 of 2012
- House Bill 1610   Cardiac Arrest in Student Athletes/Act 59 of 2012
- Senate Bill 866   Fire and Ambulance Service Grant Program/Act 78 of 2012
- House Bill 527   EMS Memorial Flag
- House Resolution 607   Federal Public Safety Officers’ Benefits Program
- Senate Resolution   2012 EMS Week; EMS for Children Day
- House Resolution   2012 EMS Week; EMS for Children Day
- Gubernatorial Proclamation   2012 EMS Week

**Corporate Activity**
- The Executive Director reviewed and secured benefit packages for the next twelve months.
- The Executive Director prepared the FY 12-13 operating budget and submitted the final FY 11-12 budget revisions.
- The PEHSC Continuity of Operations Plan for relocation of the Council’s operation in the event of emergency or unanticipated worksite disruption was updated during FY 11-12 and forwarded to the Department of Health.
- The financial audit for FY 10-11 was completed by James J McCarthy and Associates and approved by the PEHSC Board of Directors.
• The final FY 11-12 activity report was completed by the Executive Director and submitted to the Department of Health.
• PEHSC explored the feasibility of member organizations obtaining group healthcare benefits through its group purchase program.

Staff Activity
• Support provided to Emergency Health Services Federation/Southern Alleghenies EMS Council, Inc. re: Line of Duty Death
• 2012 Pennsylvania Farm Show Influenza Vaccinations
• National EMS Memorial Bike Ride Events

Group Purchasing
PEHSC has coordinated cost savings agreements with the following organizations in an effort to assist EMS organizations in purchasing needed services.

• BoundTree Medical
• Fire Med Grant Solutions, LLC
• National Associations of EMTs
• National EMS Academy
• Philips Healthcare Systems
• Progressive Medical International (PMI)
• Southeastern Emergency Equipment

Pennsylvania’s 34th Annual EMS Conference
August 18-19, 2011
Lancaster County Convention Center & Marriott at Penn Square, Lancaster, Pennsylvania

National Faculty:
• David Page (Colorado)
• T. Ryan Mayfield (New York)
• John Hill (Iowa)
• Raphael Barishansky (Maryland)
• Dawn Zulauf (Maryland)
• Heidi Erb (Ohio)
• The law firm of Thomas, Thomas, and Hafer, LLC. (Pennsylvania)

Session Summary:
• 34 Sessions Total
  o 5 General Sessions
  o 29 Breakout Sessions
  o 26 Sessions with a primarily clinical focus
  o 8 Sessions with a primarily management of a blended management/clinical focus
• 40 hours of continuing education credits were available
• 40 nurses submitted for contact hours

Conference Highlights:
• Pediatric Emergency Care Symposium – August 18th
• Exhibitor Reception – August 18th
• DOH Regional EMS Director & Regional Education Coordinator Meetings – August 18th
• ITLS Workgroup Meeting
• Regional Tactical EMS Workgroup Meeting
• DOH Resuscitation Update (two offerings)
• Human Anatomy Lab (four offerings)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Attendance</th>
<th>338</th>
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<tr>
<td>Multi-Day General Conference</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-Day General Conference</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Anatomy Lab Attendance</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibiting Organizations</td>
<td>55</td>
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</tbody>
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2011 EMS Conference Day
Attendance by Certification Level

Pennsylvania’s 1st Annual Pediatric Emergency Care Symposium
September 16, 2011 – Downtown Holiday Inn, Johnstown, Pennsylvania

Faculty:
• Josh Stuart
• Erin Phrampus, MD
• Rob McLafferty
• Dean Kelble
• Kimberly Roth, MD
• Richard Lippert

Session Summary:
• 6 Sessions
  o Risky Teen Behavior
  o Shock in the Pediatric Patient
  o Trauma Case Studies
  o Autism for EMS
  o Pediatric Poisonings
  o Pediatric Assessment

| Total Attendance – Johnstown | 63 |

2011 EMS Conference - Pediatric Day
Attendance by Certification Level
Preparations for Pennsylvania’s 35th Annual EMS Conference

- A survey was distributed to all attendees of the 34th Annual PA EMS Conference to obtain feedback on the program. The results of this survey will be considered when planning for the 35th Annual Conference.
- Based on an analysis of the survey data, the 35th Annual PA EMS Conference will return to the Lancaster Convention Center and Marriott in August of 2012.
- In cooperation with the EMS for Children Program, two Pediatric Emergency Care Symposia are planned for 2012, one of which will be offered in conjunction with the 35th Annual Conference. This program will offer a full-day of pediatric-specific continuing education for EMS providers and registered nurses.
- Enhancements were made to the PA EMS Conference website to facilitate ease of online registration for both exhibitors and attendees.

PEHSC staff:

- Prepared a preliminary conference budget
- Secured both local and national speakers for the conference
- Secured exhibitor organizations to attend the conference
- Presented proposed session topics to, and obtain approval from, the Bureau of EMS Director
- Coordinated with the Bureau of EMS to assign continuing education credit to sessions
- Coordinated with the PA Department of Education for Act 48 nursing continuing education
- Developed direct mail material that was distributed to EMS providers from across the Commonwealth and past-year attendees. A mailing was also prepared and distributed to all licensed/recognized ambulance and QRS services. Mailings included a full-size poster for display in EMS stations and hospital emergency departments.
2012 PEHSC Awards

Each year, as a thank you to those individuals who have provided exemplary service to the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council, a series of awards are delivered at a luncheon held in conjunction with the June Board of Directors meeting.

Acknowledgement

Without the continued support of our council members and individuals who participate on our committees and task forces, PEHSC would face a daunting task to identify and discuss issues in order to make recommendations to the PA Department of Health for EMS system improvement.

This positive attitude enables PEHSC to continue our role in Pennsylvania’s EMS system and meet our mission. The Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council would like to thank everyone who has volunteered their time.

Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council
600 Wilson Lane • Suite 101
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
(717) 795-0740 • 800-243-2EMS (in PA)
www.pehsc.org