

**Illinois Emergency Medical Services for Children
ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2025**

Present: Susan Agrawal (The Arc of Illinois - family rep), Susan Fuchs, (NAEMSP), Tina Glim (DSCC), Sheree Hammond (DCFS), Amy Hill (SafeKids), Kelly Jones (EMSC/IDPH), Rytis Juzolenas (AFFI), Nancy Lewis (Trauma Nurse Coordinator), Evelyn Lyons (EMSC/IDPH), Molly Moran (ANA-Illinois), Deon Myles (DCFS), George Paul (ICEP), Teresa Riech, **Chair** (ICAAP), Miranda Scott (School Health Program, IDPH), Michael Wahl (Illinois Poison Center), James Weaver (IFCA), Kelly Weaver (Illinois ENA)

Non-board member attendees: Linda Angarola, Andrei Brzazgon, Patrick Dolan (Chair, EMSC Facility Recognition Committee), Myto Duong (Co-Chair, EMSC Pediatric Prehospital Committee), Tonya Hedges, Cassandra 'CJ' Morris (Vice Chair, Pediatric Preparedness Workgroup), Kyra Myrick, Paul Pachwicewicz (EMS Agency Recognition Project Manager), Jennifer Seo, Julia Strehlow, Irene Wadhams, Dana Weiner

Excused: Christine Bishof (ISMS), John Collins, **Vice Chair** (Illinois EMT Assn), Amy Crane (Co-Chair, Pediatric Prehospital Committee), Kathy Swafford (ICAAP)

Absent: Lavanya Boddu (IAFP), Kimberly Pate Godden (ISAA), Joseph Hageman (ICAAP), Jason Kegg (IDPH/EMSC PI), Dan Luthi (American Red Cross, IL Chapter), Michael McCarter (EMS System Coordinator), Theresa Martinez (Pediatric Rehab representative),

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call to Order	Teresa Riech called the meeting to order at 10:01am. This meeting was held via WebEx/teleconference. All were welcomed.	None
Introductions	Roll call was conducted and names of all in attendance were identified.	None
Review of 12/6/2024 Minutes	The December 6, 2024 meeting minutes were reviewed. Susan Fuchs motioned for approval of the meeting minutes; Rytis Juzolenas seconded the motion. All board members in attendance agreed to approve the minutes.	Minutes approved.
Announcements/ Updates	Dr Riech reviewed the following announcements/updates: ▪ Reviewed these measles updates/resources and encouraged all to be aware and share within your organizations: ○ <i>Recognizing Measles in Your Patients</i> information poster from the PPN ○ <i>Measles FAQ from the PPN</i> ○ <i>Expanding Measles Outbreak in the United States and Guidance for the Upcoming Travel Season</i> ▪ <i>Tips for Healthcare Facilities: Assisting Families and Loved Ones after a Mass Casualty Incident.</i> ASPR TRACIE. Jan 2025 ▪ <i>Updated Pediatric Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) Guidelines.</i> Andrew Garrett, MD, MPH, NRP, FAEMS, FAAP. December 2024. ▪ <i>CDC HAN Advisory: Accelerated Subtyping of Influenza A in Hospitalized Patients</i> ▪ <i>Interfacility Transfer and Admission to PICUs in the United States: Survey of Referral Communications in 2023.</i> Christina L. Cifra, Olivia Lin, et al. Pediatric Clinical Care Medicine. ▪ Open board positions that are pending: ○ Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network (ICAHN) ○ Illinois Health & Hospital Assn (IHA) – Dr Aluyi resigned from the board due to a new work position ○ Child Advocate Group	Board members are asked to share this information within their respective organizations and communities, as applicable.

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	▪ Other organizational reports/updates: ○ <i>DCFS</i> – Sheree noted that a new law went into effect on January 1, 2025; mandated reporters are no longer required to complete the CANTS 4 and 5 forms. Kelly noted DCFS is now promoting their new online system at childabuse.illinois.gov/. Reporting should be done thru the online system or in an emergency, call 1-800-25-ABUSE (1-800-252-2873). The online system will automate an email with an intake number that is sent back to the reporter. The intake number is specific to that specific incident/report. NOTE: Do not use the online system if a death has occurred or if the child is seriously ill/injured – in these cases, call the 1-800 number and an intake number will be assigned. ○ <i>SafeKids</i> – Amy Hill provided a report. She identified that SafeKids coalitions throughout the state have received renewed funding from State Farm to implement car seat safety programs in their communities. Also, some members of the Water Safety Task Force Metro Chicago are interested in expanding water safety work and developing a Water Safety Plan for Illinois. The plan will be based on recommendations from the US National Water Safety Plan. First steps for the plan include: ○ Identifying statewide groups and/or interested partners as well as existing policies and programs across Illinois; ○ If you know anyone who might be interested in participating in this initiative, please contact Amy Hill at alhill@luriechildrens.org. See brochure that was distributed.	Board members are asked to share this information within their organizations and communities, as applicable. Contact Amy if you or someone you know is interested in the Water Safety Plan development.
Advisory Board SPOTLIGHT	Highlighted at today’s meeting was the Children’s Behavioral Health Transformation Initiative (CBHTI). Dana Weiner, PhD, Chief Officer, CBHTI (Clinical Psychologist/Public Policy expert, University of Chicago) and Julia Strehlow (Senior Advisor to the Director, IDPH) attended today’s meeting. Dr Weiner provided an overview of the CBHTI, and how it is helping to fulfill a directive from the governor to better address the behavioral health needs of children in our state. She was asked by the governor’s office to spearhead this effort which began in 2022. Their work aims to close gaps in behavioral services for children in Illinois and bring together child-serving agencies to improve access and coordination of care. Key goals include: Simplify the process for parents/families; Improve speed and leverage technology; Listen to families; Collaborate with key state partners. This is a joint effort with DCFS, PHS, DJJ, IDPH, ISBE, DHFS (State Medicaid). These agencies previously had no connection as related to their specific involvement in aspects of pediatric behavioral health. Multiple CBHTI workgroups are working on specific targeted issues. The BEACON (Behavioral Health Care and Ongoing Navigation) website went live in August 2024 for interagency team case management (https://beacon.illinois.gov). It was then rolled out this month to the public and is a centralized resource for Illinois youth and families seeking services for behavioral health needs. Multiple services are listed via the BEACON site and include community mental health centers and other programs. In addition to BEACON, other CBHTI improvements are underway and include developing: Statewide resource referral tools; Additional capacity for services to reduce wait times; Community networks; and Behavioral health workforce expansion. The BEACON flyer was shared; it is available in multiple languages to distribute in your hospital/organization. Committee members were asked to share this info, particularly with hospital social services. Dr Duong asked how information is distributed and how it can be incorporated into the ED setting. The info has been disseminated broadly however Dr Weiner is happy to conduct sessions with groups to increase awareness. Also she noted the flow charts that are available to help guide parents and healthcare providers. The slides will be shared after the meeting with board members. Dana and Julia can be reached at dana.a.weiner@illinois.gov and Julia.strehlow@illinois.gov.	Please share this information within your organizations. Kelly will share the slides from this presentation with the board members.

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	▪ <i>Regions 1 & 10</i> ○ Their renewal application were submitted by January 17, 2025 and undergoing review. ○ Site visits are anticipated May/June 2025 ▪ <i>Region 9</i> ○ Their educational session was conducted and their site visits are due June 4, 2025 ○ Site visits are anticipated in the Fall 2025 ▪ <i>Current participation in pediatric facility recognition (101 hospitals)</i> ○ PCCC/EDAP level = 11; EDAP level = 78; SEDP level = 12 ○ Non-participating hospitals are encouraged to submit a new EDAP/SEDP application. ○ A new EMS Resource hospital submitted their EDAP application, and their site visit is scheduled on April 2, 2025. ▪ <i>Regional QI Committee reports/updates – key highlights</i> ○ All regions are continuing work on their projects, and several have identified new topics/conditions to monitor in 2025. Some are focusing on vital sign assessment, sepsis and behavioral health issues. ○ A few regions are interested in participating in the National Pediatric Readiness Quality Initiative (NPRQI), and the hospitals within those regions have begun the steps to register with NPRQI, submit required documentation, complete a signed user agreement, and then begin the submission of data through the NPRQI portal. Kelly reviewed some NPRQI handouts that provide information related to NPRQI that can be shared with hospital leadership if they have questions regarding the initiative.	FYI
Federal EMSC Updates	Kelly Jones discussed the following: ▪ The FY2026 HRSA State Partnership Grant non-competing continuation progress report was submitted on December 17, 2024. The Notice of Award is still pending and is anticipated this month. The grant cycle is 4/1/2025 – 3/31/2026. ▪ 2024 Pediatric Readiness online survey that was conducted of all U.S. EMS agencies that respond to 911 calls – Illinois participation was 46%. The individual state reports are still pending. States were provided with an outline of how results would be compiled into reports by the EMSC Data Center (EDC). It was anticipated that the reports would be available in early 2025, however the reports are still pending.	FYI
Committee Updates	Committee chairs provided the following updates: <i>Pediatric Prehospital Committee (Amy Crane/Myto Duong)</i> ▪ Paul Pachwicewicz reviewed that the committee met this week and he reviewed timelines in developing an EMS agency pediatric recognition process. Work is underway to define the requirements/criteria that participating EMS agencies will need to meet as well as an application process; and hope to have drafts by May. Will recruit pilot sites with a plan to roll out pilots in October. The national prehospital consensus minimum criteria is currently under review by Federal EMSC/HRSA and is still pending release. Dr Duong noted that this is a tight timeline, but there is commitment to the project. <i>Facility Recognition Committee (Patrick Dolan)</i> ▪ <i>National Pediatric Readiness Quality Initiative (NPRQI)</i> – As noted earlier, a few regions are interested in participating in the NPRQI. He emphasized how the NPRQI provides meaningful data back to the hospitals. Currently, 9 hospitals have registered in the NPRQI; 8 hospitals have fully executed agreements (with 4 of those hospitals submitting data). Hospitals with agreements are encouraged to begin submitting data since data benchmarking can't begin until at least 5 hospitals/region participate.	FYI

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	Critical Care Centers to identify other potential candidates. If anyone is interested in serving in these roles or knows someone that may be interested, please contact Kelly.	
Other/ Publications/ Presentations	- The Region 9 co-chairs will conduct a poster presentation at the April 2025 Illinois ENA Spring Symposium and were selected as a Top 3 submission. The presentation on their pediatric pain quality monitor involved 14 hospitals and can serve as a model for others. - Teresa Riech reviewed the OSF Pediatric Readiness website, which has been updated and expanded to include more information and resources. The website can be accessed at: https://www.osfhealthcare.org/hospitals/childrens/health-care-professionals/pediatric-readiness She also reviewed the EMSC resources and educational modules available on the UIC PublicHealthLearning website. These are the materials that Dr Riech and CJ at OSF thru the Pediatric HPP grant are responsible for updating and revising. The EIIC website is another great resource and it has undergone recent updates, so check it out if you haven't visited it lately.	FYI
Educational Resources	Website access to online Illinois EMSC funded modules - UIC Public Health Learning: https://www.publichealthlearning.com - TRAIN Illinois: https://www.train.org/illinois <u>Other Educational Opportunities</u> <i>Missouri EMSC's Just in Time Training for Prehospital Providers.</i> Virtual training (45 minutes in length) held every other Wed at 1:00pm CT. Illinois providers are welcome. https://umsystemprotected.zoom.us/j/92422813596?pwd=djh3MFo3TTE2NnFnbGVHNDdpdDZDdz09 (Meeting ID: 924 2281 3596 and Passcode: 378302) - Subscribe to the <u>EMSCPULSE</u> newsletter - Visit the <i>EMSC Improvement & Innovation Center (EIIC)</i> for toolkits, guidelines, educational videos, action plans, multiple resources.	Share these resources within your organizations.
Next Meeting	The next meeting will be held at 10:00am - 12:00pm on Friday, June 6, 2025 via WebEx.	A meeting reminder will be sent to all board members.
Adjournment	With no further business, a call for adjournment was made. Susan Fuchs motioned for adjournment and George Paul seconded the motion. All were in agreement and the meeting was adjourned at 11:40am.	Meeting adjourned.

Meeting minutes submitted by Evelyn Lyons