

A photograph of a vast field of golden wheat stretching to the horizon under a clear, light blue sky. The text is overlaid on the center of the image.

Emergency Medical Systems Update

Systems of Care Newsletter



Upcoming Events

- April 13-15, 2023: **47th Annual ND EMS Association Conference**
- May 4, 2023, 10:00-11:00 am: **Cardiac Ready Community Advisory Committee**

- May 8-12, 2023: **Comprehensive Advanced Life Support (CALS) FULL**
- May 20, 2023, 11:00 am-3:00 pm: **Touch a Truck Mandan**
- June 1, 2023, from 10 am-2 pm: **Stroke Task Force Meeting**
- June 14, 2023, 12:00-1:00 pm: **State Trauma Committee Meeting**
- July 12, 2023, from 10 am-2 pm: **Cardiac Task Force Meeting**

NDEMSA
47th EMS CONFERENCE
AND TRADESHOW
BISMARCK, ND

Stop by our booth to visit with the Emergency Medical Systems staff!

[Register Here](#)



Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Update



Prepare your agency for ambulance inspections!

- Visit the new EMS website [here](#)

- The **Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (EMSAC)** is looking for new members including an ALS provider, an individual representing Quick Response Units, and an individual representing an Air Medical Service that performs scene runs. Please submit a letter of interest identifying your qualifications to Kerry Krikava at klkrikava@nd.gov.
- **IC/CEC Refresher** at NDEMSEA preconference on **April 13, 2023** (four hours). Additional four hours must be obtained from educator education.
- **Submit 2023-2025 EMS registration form** and updated certification to EMS Unit before **June 30, 2023**.
- **QRU Renewals** are due **June 30, 2023**. A notice will be sent to all QRU services with instructions. Application and instructions available online beginning May 1, 2023.
- **CPR/Drivers** EMS registration renewal and copy of CPR card must be submitted every two years.
- “Enhanced courses and other optional skills have been incorporated into the various **Scopes of Practice**. Skills that were once offered in the enhanced courses are optional; however, EMS agencies incorporating these skills and other optional skills must maintain documentation demonstrating all individuals authorized by the EMS agency’s Medical Director to perform these skill(s)/procedure(s) have attended an EMS agency

specific training module. **EMS Agency documentation of competency validation is required every 24 months.** The Emergency Medical Systems staff will periodically audit this documentation. The North Dakota EMS Personnel Scopes of Practice can be found here” ([link](#))

- **Big Picture** link [here](#)



Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Update



NORTH DAKOTA

EMSC State Partnership Program

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) State Partnership grant program, Grant No. H33MC06698-18-00 for \$190,650. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

- Please welcome our **new EMSC Coordinator**, Chettie Greer.
- **Contact Chettie** at cgreer@nd.gov
- Visit the new EMSC website [here](#)
- 2023-2027 **EMSC State Partnership Grant** was approved for another four years of funding for the EMSC program.
- Has your ambulance service received your **Pedi Mate**? If not, please contact Chettie.



In 2021, the EMSC Program purchased Pedi Mates for all North Dakota ambulance services.

The **Pedi Mate** provides a quick and efficient way to safely secure young patients to almost any cot without having to purchase additional equipment or specialized seats.

- Sign up for an upcoming training on **Safe Transportation of Children in Ambulances** to learn more about how to use the Pedi Mate:

SAFE TRANSPORTATION OF CHILDREN IN AMBULANCES TRAINING

FREE - REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED



This training is intended for first responders and ambulance staff in order to discuss safe transport for infants and children in emergency vehicles.

Zoom Sessions

(Link provided after registration. All the same sessions. Sign up for one.)

APRIL 19, 2023 - 12:00 - 1:00 PM

APRIL 24, 2023 - 6:30 - 7:30 PM

APRIL 28, 2023 - 9:00 - 10:00 AM



FOR MORE INFORMATION

📞 701.780.1489

✉️ safekids@altru.org

This session is eligible for CEU's
from ND EMS Association
NCCR - 30 Minutes
LCCR or ICCR - 30 Minutes



Please scan QR code for registration

Become a Car Seat Technician:



2023 North Dakota National Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification Training

Course Information

This training provides basic technical skills, experience and knowledge about the proper use and installation of child car seats when working with parents and caregivers with child passenger safety needs.



Course Content

This training will provide participants with the technical skills to:

- Identify and correct misuse of car safety seats
 - Serve as a community resource at a variety of community events such as car seat checkups
 - Educate others about child passenger safety issues
 - Reduce potential liability through standardization
 - Receive knowledge and skills to meet national certification
- Certification is achieved through a combination of lectures, hands-on practice, role-playing and written and hands-on skills testing. The training concludes with a community car seat checkup. Participants must be in attendance for the entire course and successfully pass to receive certification.

Who Should Attend?

- Law Enforcement Personnel (POST available)
- Health Care Professionals
- Social Workers
- Emergency Medical Personnel
- Child Care Providers
- Nurses
- Physical/Occupational Therapists
- Safety Advocates
- Firefighters
- Agencies Who Transport Children
- Car Dealership Personnel

2023 DATES

Dickinson – March 21-24

Bismarck – April 11-14

Fargo – April 24-27

East Grand Forks – May 22-25

Devils Lake – August 1-4

Registration & Fees

- Go to: <http://cert.safekids.org>, select "Become a Tech" and follow registration instructions. Fees include a two-year national certification (upon successful completion), technician manual and car seat instructions flash drive.
- National certification fee is \$95.
- Local fee is \$30.

For more information, contact us at 701-328-4533 or drmayer@nd.gov



Health & Human Services



Register [here](#)

Educational Opportunity:

Free Virtual Pediatric Symposium
What About the Kids? Pediatric Disaster Preparedness

Organized by
Heartland EMS for Children Coalition (HECC)

Disasters WILL happen, and children WILL be involved.
Are you READY?
Get expert advice on planning for kids and families.



APRIL 25th, 2023
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. CST



Register at the link below or use the
QR code.

<https://cmn.education.childrensmn.org/trauma/LO42523HECC>



Register [here](#)

- The **Baby Safe Haven Law** allows for a parent or parent's agent (another person acting with the parent's consent), who feel they are unable to take care of their baby, to surrender the baby without facing prosecution for abandonment. To be protected by the **Baby Safe Haven Law**, the baby must be unharmed, under one year of age, and surrendered to an on-duty staff person working for a Baby Safe Haven-approved location. The following are approved North Dakota **Baby Safe Haven locations**: the hospital where the baby was born,

hospital/emergency rooms, local public health units,
human service zones, law enforcement centers,
regional human service centers, long term care
nursing facilities, children's advocacy centers and,
911 EMS responders.



Trauma System of Care Update

Coordinator Spotlight



Meet the new Oakes Trauma Coordinator

Name: Kaitlyn Ptacek

Hometown: Oakes, ND

Years as a Nurse: 5 years

Nursing experience: Med/Surg and ER in a critical access hospital

Hobbies: Riding horse, jigsaw puzzles, spending time at the lake

Fun facts: My days off are spent with my daughter, who just turned one

- Visit the new Trauma System website [here](#)
- Next **State Trauma Committee Meeting:** June 14, 2023, 12:00-1:00 pm
- *Save the Date* October 4-5, 2023: **24th Annual Trauma Conference**
- October 3, 2023: **Coordinator Pre-Conference**
- **Comprehensive Advanced Life Support (CALS) course** is back! Watch for future course dates.



Cardiac System of Care Update



CHI Mercy Health Valley City receives first Acute Cardiac Ready Hospital Designation in North Dakota

- Visit the new Cardiac System website [here](#)

- *Save the Date* October 25-26, 2023: **North Dakota Cardiac & Stroke Conference**
- Looking for presenters! Interested in presenting at the Cardiac & Stroke Conference or know someone that would be a great speaker? **Request for Proposal** link [here](#).
- **AHA Rural Health Care Outcomes Accelerator Program** works to ensure rural areas have the best possible chance of survival and the highest quality of life attainable by promoting consistent, timely, and appropriate evidence-based care. Includes GWTG: CAD at no cost for rural hospitals until June 2025. Interested? More information [here](#).

Acute Cardiac Ready Hospital (ACRH) Designation

Become an Acute Cardiac Ready Hospital (ACRH)!



Valley City received the first ACRH designation

Benefits:

- Involvement in statewide education and outreach
- Support from the larger cardiac system of care
- Contribute to statewide data collection
- Participate in performance improvement
- Get recognized for your exceptional cardiac care
- Advertise your STEMI Referring Center designation



Visit the DHHS EMS website to learn more:

<https://www.hhs.nd.gov/health/EMS/north-dakota-cardiac-system-care>

Learn more about ACRH designation [here](#)

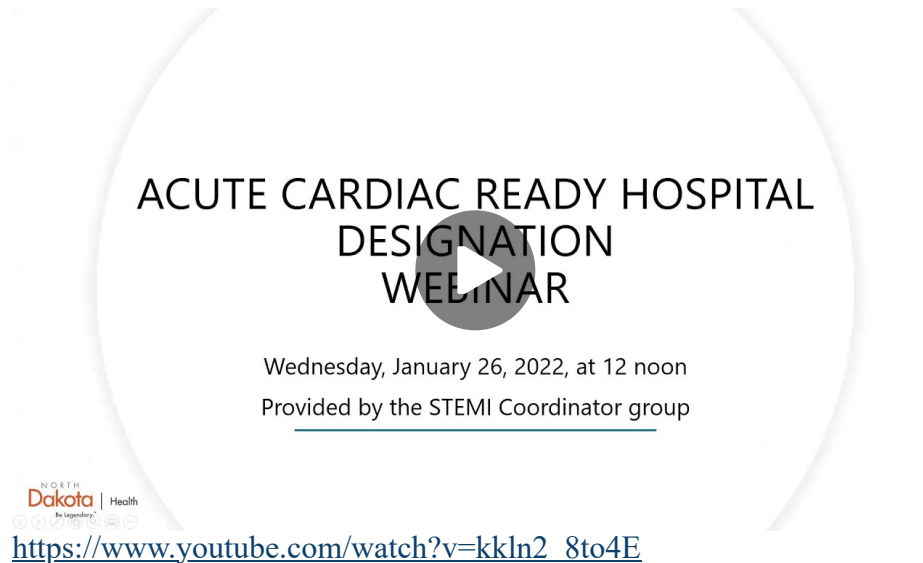
- Ready to become a designated **Acute Cardiac Ready Hospital**? Find the designation criteria [here](#).

Steps to becoming an ACRH:

1. Sign up and contribute data to the statewide cardiac registry, GWTG: CAD
2. Meet the Acute Cardiac Ready Hospital Designation Criteria

3. Apply for designation

Acute Cardiac Ready Hospital Designation Webinar:



- **ND Cardiac Guidelines** have been updated to include high sensitivity troponins and cardiac testing. Find the revised guidelines [here](#).

Cardiac Task Force:

- Next **Cardiac Task Force Meeting:** July 12, 2023, 10:00 am-2:00 pm
- Are you a critical access hospital cardiac coordinator looking to get more involved in the Cardiac System of Care and represent your region on the Task Force? **Join the Cardiac Task Force.** We would love to have you. Contact Christine Greff at cgreff@nd.gov

- The Cardiac Task Force is looking for a new representative from the North Dakota Emergency Medical Services Association (NDEMOSA) and a representative from the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (EMSAC) to **join the Cardiac Task Force**. If you are interested in participating in this important role, please contact Christine Greff at cgreff@nd.gov



Stroke System of Care Update



Stroke Educational Videos Production Crew

- Visit the new Stroke System website [here](#)

- *Save the Date* October 25-26, 2023: **North Dakota Cardiac & Stroke Conference**
- Looking for presenters! Interested in presenting at the Cardiac & Stroke Conference or know someone that would be a great speaker? **Request for Proposal** link [here](#).
- **ND Acute Stroke Treatment Guidelines** have been revised to include the option to use Tenecteplase in the treatment of acute ischemic stroke. Find the updated guidelines [here](#).
- The Stroke Task Force has created the **Tenecteplase Transition Checklist**, a resource to aid in the safe transition to Tenecteplase for those facilities that choose to transition. Find the checklist [here](#).
- The Stroke Task Force recommends the use of BEFAST as a stroke screening tool and FAST-ED as a stroke severity tool.

BEFAST Stroke Educational Video

The logo for BEFAST, featuring the word "BEFAST" in white, bold, uppercase letters. A dark grey play button icon is centered over the letter "A". The background is a solid orange color with a subtle, darker orange pattern.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDh0JxtsGas>

FAST-ED Stroke Educational Video

The logo for FAST-ED, featuring the words "FAST-ED" in yellow, bold, uppercase letters. A dark grey play button icon is centered over the letter "A". The background is a solid orange color with a subtle, darker orange pattern.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r51MWP12F-g>

The **Stroke Screening Tools** algorithm can be helpful in the prehospital assessment of a suspected stroke patient. Find the BEFAST/FAST-ED Algorithm [here](#).

STROKE SCREENING TOOLS:

BE-FAST (Stroke screening tool)

START HERE	↓ Is the patient having a stroke?	✓ Check if yes
Balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform bilateral index finger-to-nose test and bilateral heel-to-shin test Does the patient have sudden loss of balance or coordination, trouble walking or dizziness? 	B
Eyes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess 4 quadrants of visual field by having patient locate your index finger. Does the patient have trouble seeing out of one or both eyes or sudden double vision? 	E
Face	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask the patient to smile or show their teeth. Does the patient's face look uneven, have sudden drooping or numbness on one side? 	F
Arms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask the patient to raise and extend both arms with their palms up. Does one arm drift downward? Does the patient have sudden numbness or weakness of the arm on one side of the body? 	A
Speech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask the patient to say, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks". Does the patient have slurred speech, trouble speaking, understanding or seem confused? 	S
Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What time did the symptoms start? _____ What time was the patient last known well (last appear normal)? _____ 	T
Glucose level = _____ (Treat BG <60)		

If the patient received one or more check marks (✓), the patient qualifies for a stroke alert.
BEFORE you request a stroke alert, obtain a FAST-ED score to see if the patient is having symptoms indicative of a large-vessel occlusion.

Ask if the patient is on any anticoagulant medications, such as:

• Coumadin/Warfarin	• Xarelto/Rivaroxaban	Time anticoagulant last taken: _____
• Pradaxa/Dabigatran	• Savaysa/Edoxaban	
• Eliquis/Apixaban	• Heparin/Enoxaparin	

• Any other anticoagulants? (please list): _____

Remember:

- Minimize scene time.
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause may be a sign of a hemorrhagic stroke.

FAST-ED (Stroke severity tool)

ANY POSITIVE BE-FAST FINDINGS?		Score (Circle)
Are their symptoms indicative of a large vessel stroke?		
F	Facial Palsy (ask the patient to show their teeth or smile) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both sides of the face move equally or not at all One side of the face droops or is clearly asymmetric 	Score: 0 1
A	Arm Weakness (with eyes closed, ask patient to hold arms out with their palms up and hold them there for 10 seconds) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both arms remain up for 10 seconds or slowly move down equally Patient can raise arms but one arm drifts down in < 10 seconds One or both arms fall rapidly, can't be lifted, or no movement occurs at all 	Score: 0 1 2
S	Speech Changes Expressive Aphasia - ask the patient to name 3 common items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Names 2 to 3 items correctly Names 0 to 1 item correctly Receptive Aphasia - ask the patient to perform a simple command (Example: "show me two fingers") Do NOT demonstrate command. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal - patient can follow the simple command Unable to follow the simple command 	Score: 0 1 0 1
T	Time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Symptom onset time (time symptoms started) _____ Last known well time (time last known normal)? _____ 	
E	Eye Deviation - Hold patients chin steady. Have them use only their eyes to follow your finger from side to side. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No deviation; eyes move equally to both sides Patient has difficulty when looking to one side (left or right) Eyes are fixed to one side and do not move to the other side 	Score: 0 1 2
D	Denial/Neglect Denial - show the patient their affected arm and ask, "Do you feel weakness in this arm?" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient recognizes the weakness in their weak arm Patient does NOT recognize the weakness in their weak arm Neglect - show the patient their affected arm and ask, "Whose arm is this?" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient recognizes their weak arm Patient does NOT recognize their weak arm 	Score: 0 1 0 1
TOTAL FAST-ED SCORE _____		

When to call a STROKE ALERT:

- If any symptoms from BE-FAST - call a stroke alert and perform stroke severity tool (FAST-ED).
- If FAST-ED score of 1 - 3 - call a stroke alert and transport to the nearest certified stroke center.
- If FAST-ED score ≥ 4 and within 24 hours - call stroke alert and discuss with stroke-ready hospital. Patient should be taken to nearest thrombectomy capable stroke center if located within 30 minutes. If transport is greater than 30 minutes, transport to the nearest certified stroke center.
- If last known well > 24 hours - discuss with receiving facility and transport to the nearest certified stroke center.

Stroke Alert Activation Time: _____

Stroke Task Force:

- Next **Stroke Task Force Meeting:** June 1, 2023, 10:00 am-2:00 pm
- Are you a critical access hospital stroke coordinator looking to get more involved in the Stroke System of Care and represent your region on the Task Force?

Join the Stroke Task Force. We would love to have you. Contact Christine Greff at cgreff@nd.gov

- The Stroke Task Force is looking for a new representative from the North Dakota Emergency Medical Services Association (NDEMSA) and a representative from the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (EMSAC) to **join the Stroke Task Force**. If you are interested in participating in this important role, please contact Christine Greff at cgreff@nd.gov.

Stroke Educational Opportunities:

Advanced Stroke Life Support (ASLS) Class

Intended learners: nurses, paramedics, providers

Blended course: includes online learning and in-person testing

For more information: Contact Sue Johnson, Stroke Program Educator at Sanford Health-Fargo at Sue.Johnson@sanfordhealth.org

Stroke Events:



NATIONAL STROKE AWARENESS MONTH
CHARITY CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT
MAY 13TH 2023



POTLUCK STARTS AT NOON
BAGS FLY AT 1:30PM (No Partner Needed)
\$20 ENTRY FEE

Raffle Will Be Drawn After Round Robin Games
DOOR PRIZES WILL BE DRAWN THROUGHOUT THE DAY

- Custom Set Of Boards - 701 Cornhole Company
- Two Sets Of Bags - Gray Fin Cornhole
- Set of TP Cornhole Bags - TP Cornhole
- Set Of Draggin Bags - Ashley Wika
- Set Of BG Bags - Mitch Feist
- Set Of Predation Edition Bags - Paul Nagel

Location: Send-It! 24 7 Cornhole
1700 E. Main St. Mandan ND (Located By Culvers)

50% FROM TOURNAMENT AND RAFFLE PROCEEDS WILL GO TO BISMARCK STROKE CENTER



Thursday May 25th, 2023

3:00 PM-5:00 PM

Rustad Recreation Center

601 26th Ave E, West Fargo, ND 58078

Everyone knows someone that has been affected by stroke.

The 'Strides For Stroke Walk' is held to support our local stroke survivors as well as their support network, while bringing awareness to risk factors and symptoms of stroke. This event demonstrates that stroke is not an ending.

For those who are interested in attending this event please email strokesupportgroup@essentiahealth.org

Stroke Support Groups:

Bismarck

STROKE AND BRAIN INJURY SUPPORT GROUP

2023 MEETING DATES:

JANUARY 9 th	FEBRUARY 13 th	MARCH 13 th
APRIL 10 th	MAY 8 th	JUNE 12 th
JULY 10 th	AUGUST 14 th	SEPTEMBER 11 th
OCTOBER 16 th	NOVEMBER 13 th	DECEMBER 11 th

TIME: 3-4P.M.

BISMARCK VETERANS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

MEETING ROOM B

515 N. 5th St.

BISMARCK, ND

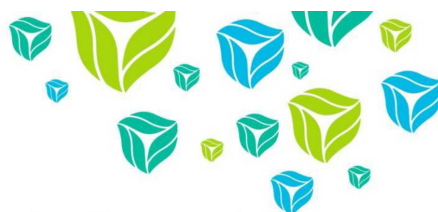


CAREGIVERS AND FAMILY MEMEBERS ARE WELCOME.

Meet others affected by stroke or brain injuries. The support group meets to share stories and ideas, provide and receive support, and learn about related issues. Topics discussed include health issues, exercise programs, employment opportunities, legal and financial issues, spirituality and medical questions.

For more information, please contact Brannigan Hamrick at Brannigan.hamrick@commonspirit.org or (701)530-6640 or Haley Gilstad at Haley.Gilstad@SanfordHealth.org or (701)323-5861

Fargo



Essentia Health Stroke Support Group

Meeting for stroke survivors. Family members and friends are welcome!

When:

Last Thursday of every month-3:00 PM-4:00 PM

In Person & Virtually

Thursday January 26th, 2023

Thursday February 23rd, 2023

Thursday March 30th, 2023

Thursday April 27th, 2023

Thursday May 25th, 2023

Thursday June 29th, 2023

Thursday July 27th, 2023

Thursday August 31st, 2023

Thursday September 28th, 2023

Thursday October 26th, 2023

***Holiday Luncheon date to be determined**

If you have questions or are interested in joining the meeting,
please call Molly at **701-364-4509** or email
strokesupportgroup@essentiahealth.org

*Included with this letter are instructions
for joining a zoom meeting*



Minot



Trinity Health Stroke Support Group Meetings

3rd Wednesday of each month

7 pm-8:30 pm

Trinity Riverside

1900 8th Avenue S.E., Minot, ND

Stroke survivors and Caregivers Welcome

March 15th, 2023

April 19th, 2023

May 17th, 2023

June 21st, 2023

July 19th, 2023

August 16th, 2023

September 20th, 2023

October 18th, 2023

November 15th, 2023

December 20th, 2023



Cardiac Ready Community Program (CRC) Update



- The **Cardiac Ready Community Guidelines** have been revised to be more attainable by a community of any size. Check out the guidelines [here](#).
- Next **Cardiac Ready Community Advisory Committee Meeting**: May 4, 2023, 10:00-11:00 am
- Interested in becoming a **Cardiac Ready Community Advisory Committee member**? We are looking for new members that represent Cardiac Ready Communities, an ND EMS Association representative, and an EMSAC representative. Contact Christine Greff at cgreff@nd.gov.

Helmsley ND Law Enforcement AED Project Update



- In 2022, four saves were approved to participate in the **Hearts on Duty** donation program.



News from our Unit



- Visit our new HHS Emergency Medical Systems Unit website [here](#)
- We are pleased to announce the addition of Chettie Greer, our new EMSC Coordinator



For more information, please contact:

Emergency Medical Systems

Phone: (701) 328-2388

Website: www.hhs.nd.gov/health/EMS

Email: dems@nd.gov



Credits:

Created with images by Gorodenkoff - "Female and Male EMS Paramedics Provide Medical Help to an Injured Patient on the Way to a Healthcare Hospital. Emergency Care Assistants Putting On Non-Invasive Ventilation Mask in an Ambulance." • LIGHTFIELD STUDIOS - "wooden blocks with news lettering on pile of print newspapers" • Andrey Popov - "Various Contact Us Methods. White Phone, Email"