



NORTH DAKOTA

EMSC State Partnership Program

North Dakota EMS for Children (EMSC) Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC) Program for Hospital Emergency Departments

What is a PECC:

A Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC) is an RN and a Physician (in smaller facilities an Advanced Practice Provider may fill the role) team within the emergency department who ensure that its providers are prepared to deliver the best care for ill and injured children.

Background:

Studies show that 80% of children are treated in general emergency departments, *not pediatric specific EDs*, increasing the need for **every** ED to be pediatric ready. Striving to make sure every ED is pediatric-ready results in decreased mortality in children. Having a physician and RN PECC in the ED increases scores on the National Pediatric Readiness Project assessment (NPRP) by 19 points. This [NPRP](#) assessment is now part of ACS requirements for trauma designation.*

Incorporation and utilization of a PECC team is the single most important step for enhancing pediatric care in the ED and is recommended by the following organizations:

- American Academy of Pediatrics,
- American College of Emergency Physicians,
- American College of Surgeons,
- Emergency Nurses Association,
- Emergency Medical Services for Children Program,
- National Academy of Sciences,
- National Association of State EMS Officials,
- National EMS Advisory Council.

Intent:

North Dakota EMSC's intent is to ensure the best care possible for pediatric patients in our state by assisting North Dakota general emergency departments in establishing a PECC team, with the following responsibilities:

Physician or Advanced Practice Provider

- Maintain competencies in pediatric-specific care by being current in PALS or APLS
- Provide pediatric skills and knowledge of provider team
- Obtain appropriate pediatric specific equipment, supplies, and training
- Assist in the development and review of ED specific policies and protocols to ensure inclusion of or specific to children
- Participate in pediatric quality improvement

RN

- Maintain and role model competencies in pediatric-specific care by being current in PALS or NRP or ENPC
- Assist with pediatric specific protocols and policies in the emergency department
- Provide pediatric continuing education opportunities
 - EXAMPLE-Conduct one pediatric simulation exercise annually
 - EXAMPLE-Encourage 75% of nursing staff to be current in PALS
- Oversee pediatric process improvement initiatives
 - EXAMPLE-Do at least five chart reviews monthly to track the percentage of patient with weights recorded in kilograms (this should be 100%)
- Ensure the availability of pediatric medications, equipment, and supplies
 - EXAMPLE-Do a scavenger hunt at least twice annually to ensure staff can readily access pediatric supplies and equipment
- Coordinate with other departments like Radiology and Lab to encourage pediatric care
- Promote family-centered care
- Conduct case reviews with appropriate feedback on pediatric calls/encounters
- Identify and incorporate pediatric best practices/evidence-based practices into standard pediatric care provision

*“Children initially treated at trauma centers with the highest level of preparedness to care for children, called pediatric-readiness, are significantly less likely to die than those initially treated at trauma facilities with lower pediatric-readiness levels.” ***

Next Steps

To assure your Emergency Department is pediatric-ready, please complete and return the registration form. We at EMSC look forward to working with you to help provide the tools to optimize your emergency department’s delivery of pediatric care.

* As noted in the 2022 Standards 5.10 Pediatric Readiness-Type II, which states, “In all trauma centers, each emergency department must perform a pediatric readiness assessment during the verification cycle and have a plan to address identified gaps.”

** Melhado C, et al. The Association Between Pediatric Readiness Scores and Mortality for Injured Children Treated at US Trauma Centers, Scientific Forum, **American College of Surgeons (ACS) Clinical Congress 2023**



**NORTH DAKOTA EMS FOR CHILDREN
 PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY CARE COORDINATOR (PECC)
 REGISTRATION – HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT**
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SYSTEMS UNIT
 SFN (04/2023)



RN PECC Information		
RN PECC Name		
Telephone Number	Email Address	License Number
Signature		Date
Physician PECC Information		
Physician PECC Name		
Telephone Number	Email Address	License Number
Signature		Date
<p>Recognizing and supporting the efforts of those providing direct patient care is important to foster pediatric readiness. Either the emergency department nursing manager or Medical Director signature is required below as a show of support for the efforts being made.</p>		
Emergency Department Administrator Name		License Number
Title	Email Address	
Signature		Date
<p><i>"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. 2 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."</i></p>		

Please return this registration form to:
 Department of Health and Human Services
 Emergency Medical Systems Unit
 1720 Burlington Dr. – Suite A
 Bismarck, ND 58504
 Email cgreer@nd.gov

**Thank you for commitment to improving emergency care for
 North Dakota's children!**