What is a Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator and why are they important?

**Definition**

An individual or individuals who are responsible for coordinating pediatric-specific activities.

A designated individual who coordinates pediatric emergency care need not be dedicated solely to this role; it can be an individual already in place who assumes this role as part of their existing duties. The individual may be a member of your agency, or work at a county or region level and serve more than one agency.

**What the research shows**

The Institute of Medicine 2007 publication “Emergency Care for Children: Growing Pains,” recommended that EMS agencies “appoint a pediatric emergency coordinator...to provide pediatric leadership for the organization.” This recommendation was based on findings that PECCs “are necessary to advocate for improved competencies and the availability of resources for pediatric patients.”

In 2016, NAEMSP released a position statement which acknowledged that a PECC may augment the EMS system and advise the EMS medical director.

**Resource Document: Coordination of Pediatric Emergency Care in EMS Systems**


The conclusion of this 2017 systematic review is that an “EMS PECC facilitates the integration of pediatric needs into all aspects of EMS,” and that EMS agencies may benefit from having a PECC based upon results received from pediatric verification programs for emergency departments.
Based on responses to the 2017-2018 EMS for Children Program survey

National data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Number of Agencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Has a PECC</td>
<td>22.9% 8166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plans to Add a PECC</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interested in a PECC</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No PECC</td>
<td>49.1%</td>
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</tbody>
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Whether your agency is urban, rural, volunteer, or paid, various staffing models can fit your needs

**Agency**
- One full-time individual (dedicated role)
- One individual with additional duties
- More than one individual sharing duties (e.g., EMS Chief & Medical Director)

**Regional**
- Shared individual
- Medical Directors Group
- Pediatric Committee

**Roles & Responsibilities pick-list**
- Protocol development/review
- Case review & feedback
- Pediatric education/training
- Equipment, supplies, medication availability
- Direct medical oversight
- Injury prevention
- Promote family-centered care
- Hospital outreach/coordinate with ED
- Community paramedicine
- Pediatric QI/PI
- Identify local trends
- Research
- Identify best practices/evidence-based medicine

Various resources exist to help you implement and support a PECC in your agency

Additional information

Brought to you by:

Scan the QR code to access additional Prehospital Pediatric Emergency Care Coordination Learning Collaborative resources from the EIIC website.