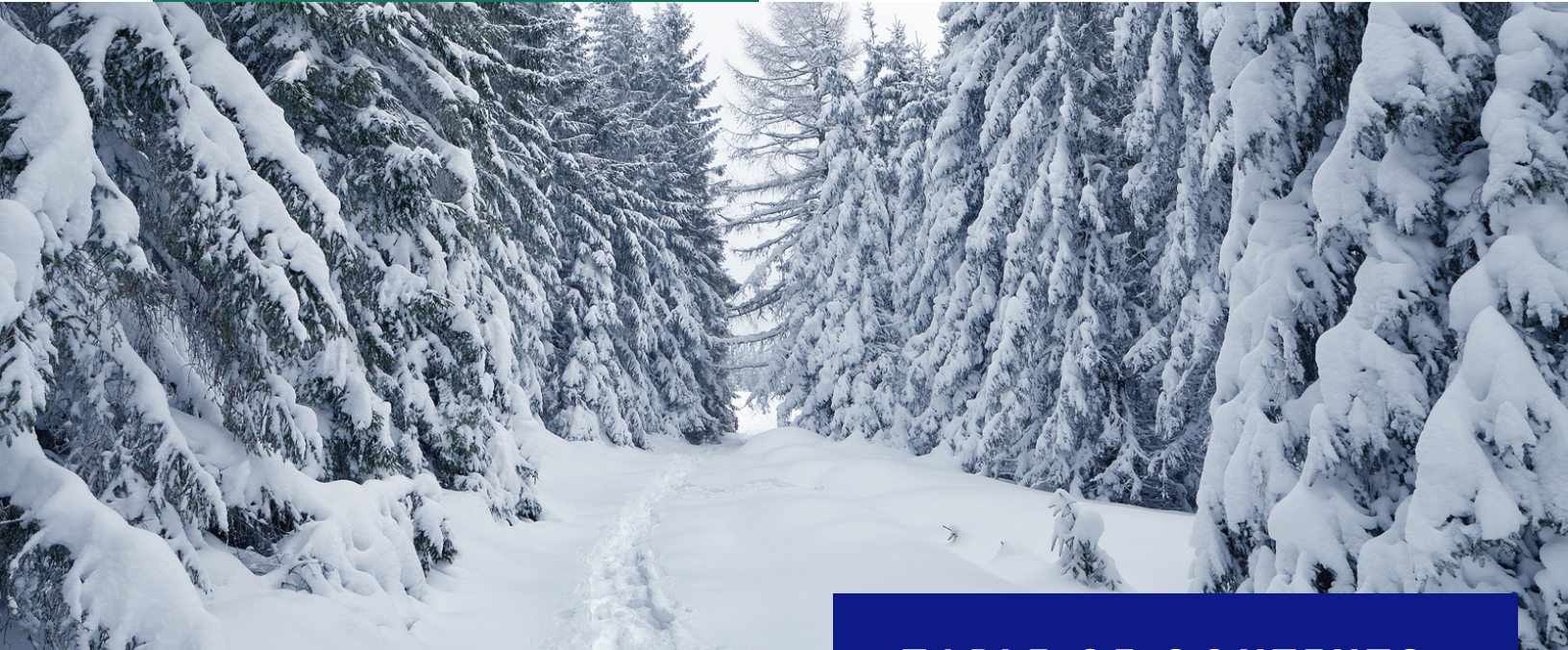


JANUARY 2024

STAFF UPDATE

MAINE EMS



OVERVIEW

This publication is intended to provide members of the Board and interested parties insight into the work of the Maine Bureau of Emergency Medical Services office in the previous month. This publication is not anticipated to be exhaustive, but instead a high-level overview of the work that has taken place.

It should serve as a jumping point for conversations and questions from the Board regarding the ongoing work that is being performed throughout the state.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- LD244 Committee, Explorer Programming, Community Paramedicine, SUD Programming • P. 2
- VR Training, Education, MEFIRS • P. 3
- Connectivity Project, Systems of Care, EMS for Children • P. 4



LD244 EMS STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE

Pursuant to LD244, the Maine EMS office was directed to convene a stakeholder group to explore career pathways and educational opportunities for EMS providers in the state. The stakeholder group was assembled and has had 5 meetings during the months of November and December. A report out of recommendations is due for submission to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety in January.



EXPLORER PROGRAMMING

The online training for Maine EMS Explorers is now live, and students have begun enrolling in it. Adrian Stone, JMG's Workforce Liaison who has been working with Maine EMS on this program since November 2022, is serving as instructor for Explorers during initial rollout. This will streamline enrollment and progression, while also enabling the Explorer Team to collect data and feedback for later improvement of the online module.

Initial sites continue to expand their reach and conduct more Explorer activities. They continue to meet with the Explorer Team monthly to share updates, lessons learned, and best practices.

COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE

The Community Paramedicine Committee met on December 14, 2023. At the meeting, the committee discussed the committee makeup as well as pediatrics within Community Paramedicine. They will next meet on January 11, 2023. At that meeting, they will do a year in review of Community Paramedicine as well as reviewing the Community Health module. The office accepted submissions for RFP# 202309204 through November 27, 2023. The office received 5 applications and anticipates completion of a contract in early January for standards and template curriculum development. The office continues to work with the Cutler Institute on finalizing a cost avoidance report and anticipate that will be finalized next month as well. The office received 2 applications this month for CP designations and one agency has been awarded bringing the total number of agencies with CP designations up to 20. The office also processed renewals and provided agencies with updated letters identifying that they have maintained their CP designations.

SUD PROGRAMMING

The Naloxone Leave Behind protocol went live on December 1, 2023 and the RFP evaluation is underway for the MOUD program. It was a quiet month for the SUD Team programmatically as they have been spending a lot of time helping agencies to navigate their new Naloxone protocol.



ADULT VR TRAINING PROGRAM

Reach out to Anna Masefski at MEMS.VR@maine.gov to schedule a training and learn how to use Virtual Reality to practice decision making for high-acuity, low frequency calls.

EDUCATION

2023 Protocol Updates

To date, there are approximately 3276 EMS clinicians enrolled in or have completed the 2023 Protocol Updates. The protocol updates go live on January 31, 2024. There has been much ongoing work with editing and finalizing the full 2023 Protocol document. We hope to have this finalized by the beginning of January. The document will be sent to the app developer as soon as final document corrections and edits are completed and the formulary has been approved. The protocol formulary has been updated and release is pending final approval by the state medical directors. The Office continues to work with the state Medical Directors and the MDPB on course completion data, data for the FAQ document, and webinar course evaluation data. A hotwash/debrief for the 2023 process is tentatively planned for February/March.

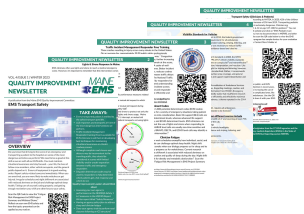
The Education Committee met in December. Topics discussed included:

- PIFT education
- Committee Chair re-appointment and election of a Co-Chair
- Current committee vacancies. The vacancy announcement for the “Non-Municipal EMS Training Officer” position was released on December 15, 2023. The application period closes January 15, 2024.
 - Standards for AEMT Student Minimum Competencies. Standards for a proposed “EMT Licensure Re-entry” course. A proposal for standards for training centers to develop and deliver this course is forthcoming at the January 3, 2024 EMS Board meeting.
- The committee will not meet in January 2024. The next meeting date is Wednesday, February 14, 2023

MEFIRS

We are happy to report that we have begun to receive some outcome data back into the MEFIRS system. This is still a work in progress and we are actively testing this along with our colleagues at Heath Info Net.

A change notice will be going out to update all EMS agencies to NEMSIS 3.5 on January 3, 2024. The notice of change will include an announcement of a training opportunity on MEMSEd. We hosted MEFIRS Open Forums from July 18, 2023, every Tuesday through November 28, 2023. We had 501 attendees attend these open forums. MEMSEd has a new course, “MEFIRS Documentation Training for NEMSIS 3.5” available for EMS clinicians to take to walk them through the new run from and data set.



Vol. 4/Issue 1 | Winter 2023
Quality Improvement Newsletter
EMS Transport Safety
To view, use the QR code/hyperlink



MAINE EMS CONNECTIVITY PROJECT

From Newcom Global, Since officially starting the Maine EMS project we have completed the 100th install on EMS vehicles! 24 agencies are now operating with high-speed internet through AT&T FirstNet providing Wi-Fi connectivity to lifesaving equipment and connected devices. Each ambulance is also actively alerting civilian traffic of their presence (when lights are on) to enhance safety for their personnel and the public. We will resend the announcement of the connectivity project bulletin.

SYSTEMS OF CARE

The statewide Pulse Point program is well underway. 7 contracted individuals have completed their onboarding and are currently vetting the AEDs already in Pulse Point and adding more! Another element of the Pulse Point program is PSAP integration, I am currently developing a training module for the PSAP center on how to use this valuable tool. To continue with AED and cardiac arrests, now that the year has come to an end, out-of-hospital cardiac arrest data is being finished with both input and outcomes. Both the Trauma Advisory Committee and the Maine Stroke Alliance have upcoming quarterly meetings in January.

EMS FOR CHILDREN

The Maine EMS for Children Advisory Committee held its quarterly meeting on December 14, 2023 at 0930 which was well attended from state and national representatives.

We continue work on the national aims for EMSC and how to incorporate into Maine EMS efforts. Marc continues as Chair as the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) Pediatric Emergency Care Council and chaired the National Pediatric emergency care council meeting, with 42 states and US territories present. Marc also attended the NASEMSO Board of Directors meeting in Washington DC this month and met with various federal representatives, including Gam Wejetunge, Director of the Office of EMS for NHTSA. EMS-C also participated in a perinatal case review session with Midcoast Hospital, and has been working with several midwives on various case reviews. We also met with the Maine Health pediatric leadership team and are working with Franklin Memorial Hospital for pediatric readiness recognition, as well as with Northern Light- Eastern Maine Medical Center. Marc also met with the Maine Hospital Association to collaborate on ways to promote pediatric readiness and disaster planning for all hospitals in Maine. Working with our Family Advisory Network member, Brian Richardson, we are happy to have helped support bring the TEEX MGT 439 course on "Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness" to Maine in late 2024 - there will be two offerings with one in Southern Maine and one in Northern Maine.

We are working on finalizing work with MCD Global on developing a multipart education series (for MEMSEd) on responding to, assessing, and transporting pediatric patients with behavioral health emergencies and underlying conditions. This program will offer education from clinicians, family members, and various subject matter experts and will include CEH hours upon completion.

We have identified Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators (PECCs) at 28 of the 35 Maine Emergency Departments and are grateful for the continuing help of the Maine AAP and Dr. Rosie Davis in these efforts. The EMSC program continues work with the Maine State Perinatal Committee, the Maine AAP regarding hospital pediatric readiness, and a variety of other pediatric topics.