

Prehospital Guidelines Consortium

Background

In September 2015, NAEMSP® completed the National Prehospital Evidence-Based Guidelines (EBGs) Strategy through a cooperative agreement with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The Strategy aimed to engage national EMS organizations in a sustainable process to promote the development, implementation, and evaluation of prehospital EBGs and was published in *Prehospital Emergency Care* (2016;20:175-83).

In fulfillment of the National Prehospital EBG Strategy and to support and promote prehospital EBGs in a sustainable manner, the Prehospital Guidelines Consortium (PGC) was formed in 2016. NAEMSP has continued to be a strong supporter of the PGC as one of the member organizations on its Executive Committee and the NAEMSP representative, Christian Martin-Gill, has been the Chair of the Consortium since 2016. The PGC continues to facilitate the efforts of individual organizations that develop prehospital EBGs. Its own projects aim to improve research into EBGs, facilitate dissemination and implementation of EBGs, and promote education and funding for ongoing projects.

The Prehospital Guidelines Consortium is currently comprised of representatives from 35 member organizations and has liaisons with 7 additional Federal and research entities. Its Executive Committee is comprised of representatives from the following 11 national organizations:

- Air Medical Physicians Association (AMPA)
- American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM)
- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)
- American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma (ACS-COT)
- American Heart Association (AHA)
- American Red Cross (ARC)
- National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP)
- National Association of EMTs (NAEMT)
- National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO)
- National Registry of EMTs (NREMT)

2019 Updates

The Consortium has 5 standing committees, which along with the Executive Committee report the following activities and accomplishments in 2019:

- The PGC held its 4th annual meeting in Austin, Texas in January 2019. This meeting served as an opportunity for representatives from member organizations to receive updates on activities of the Consortium, along with new and ongoing projects of individual organizations related to EMS evidence-based guidelines.
- The Executive Committee welcomed the American Red Cross as a new member of its leadership group.
- Members of the Executive Committee published an article in *NAEMT News* (Mar 29, 2019) spreading awareness and supporting the use of evidence-based medicine in EMS and describing the efforts of the Prehospital Guidelines Consortium.
- Members of the Development Committee completed an updated systematic review of all existing prehospital EBGs with ratings of the quality of evidence of each guideline through 2018. A manuscript of this systematic review is near completion.
- The Development Committee provided formal review and the Consortium endorsed the Naloxone EBG created through work of NAEMSP, NASEMSO, and ACEP (Williams et al. *Prehosp Emerg Care* 2019;23:749-763).
- Members of the Education Committee published an educational piece for EMS personnel in *EMS World* (Oct 1, 2019) to describe and promote the use of evidence-based guidelines in EMS.

The Education Committee is in the process of completing an educational module that can be used as part of an implementation toolkit for new evidence-based guidelines.

The Research Committee is in the process of carrying out a Delphi process to evaluate existing gaps in EMS EBGs and define the areas of EMS medicine and operations where new or revised guidelines are needed through involvement of a stakeholder panel with wide representation.

Updated resources on evidence-based medicine and EMS guidelines were added to www.prehospitalguidelines.org.

The Prehospital Guidelines Consortium is in the process of filing as a non-profit association in 2020.

The next meeting of the Prehospital Guidelines Consortium will be held on January 10, 2020 in concert with the 2020 NAEMSP® annual meeting (San Diego, CA).

More information on the Consortium is available at www.prehospitalguidelines.org.

