

April 15, 2007

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1. NASEMSO Signs Letter Supporting STOP Stroke Act

On April 10, 2007, The STOP Stroke Coalition, including NASEMSO, sent a letter to Senators urging them to become a co-sponsor for S.999, the Stroke Treatment and Ongoing Prevention Act (STOP Stroke Act). The STOP Stroke Act would help educate the public about the need to treat stroke as a medical emergency and establish coordinated statewide systems of care so that all stroke patients have access to the latest and most effective treatments and therapies. The letter was organized by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. For more information on the bill, visit <http://thomas.loc.gov> and search by bill number.

2. NASEMSO Supports Pandemic Flu Funding

On April 11, 2007, the Working Group on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness, including NASEMSO, sent a letter to Appropriations conferees in support of the House-passed funding level for pandemic flu contained in the FY 2007 Emergency Supplemental. The letter urged Congress to act immediately and include the House-passed total of \$1.02 billion for pandemic preparedness activities within the Department of Health and Human Services, as well as \$13.2 million for the Department of Interior and \$161 million for the Department of State's pandemic activities, in the final version of the emergency supplemental. For more information, contact Jeff Levi at jlevi@tfah.org.

3. Federal Communications Commission Announces Agenda for First Responders Summit, April 20, 2007

On April 10, 2007, the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (PSHSB) announced the agenda for the "First Responders Summit: Focus on Public Safety Communications" on Friday, April 20, 2007. The meeting will be held at FCC Headquarters in Washington, D.C. in Room TW-C305. The summit will include expert panels composed of representatives from the public safety community, government and the communications industry. The summit will close with a

roundtable discussion on key issues related to emergency preparedness and response. The three-expert panel discussion includes: Federal Government Programs and Initiatives for Public Safety; Disaster Communications Planning for First Responders; and New Technologies and Applications in Emergency Communications. The summit is open to the public; however, admittance will be limited to available seating. A live audiocast will be available at <http://www.fcc.gov> on a first come, first served basis with a maximum of 200 listeners at one time.

4. NASEMSO Announces Location of 2007 Mid-Year Meeting

The National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) will meet June 18-19 at the Holiday Inn Arlington in Arlington, Va. The meeting begins Monday at 1:00 p.m. with council forums for data managers, medical directors, training coordinators, and trauma managers and with a Domestic Preparedness Committee meeting. Tuesday morning includes: general sessions with updates on EMS education standards, public access defibrillation, pandemic flu planning, EMS and disaster planning; briefings from Federal EMS officials (DHS Office of Health Affairs, NHTSA, CDC Injury and Disability Outcomes and EMSC); and more. Registration forms and complete program details are available at <http://www.nasemso.org>.

5. Online Registration for 2007 EMSC Grantee Meeting Now Available

Online registration for the 2007 Annual EMSC Grantee Meeting is now available at <http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/emsc/>. Under "EMSC News," select the "Register Today for the EMSC Grantee Meeting" option. This will take you to a page that has the link to the meeting Web site. Meeting hotel information and other logistics are also provided. For more information about the Annual Grantee Meeting, June 19-21, 2007, contact Ken Allen at kallen@emscnrc.com.

6. NGA Center Launches Pandemic Outbreak Workshops to Enhance State Readiness

On April 10, 2007, the National Governors Association (NGA) Center for Best Practices, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), convened officials from the upper-Midwest in the first of a series of regional workshops designed to assess and enhance overall state and regional pandemic preparedness. State, local and private sector officials from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin engaged in a variety of exercises, including a "tabletop" simulation, to improve communications among state, federal and local agencies; examine existing response protocols; and identify effective strategies for ensuring that states can continue providing essential services to their citizens when confronted with a pandemic. The next workshop will be held in Scottsdale, Ariz., May 21-23, and will include state officials from American Samoa, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada, and the Northern Mariana Islands. For additional information on the pandemic workshop series, visit <http://www.nga.org>.

7. Fire Grants Application Period Ends May 4

After several weeks' delay, the application period for the Assistance to Firefighter Grant program opened March 30, 2007. Fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical services can compete for a share of the \$492.3 million available. The application period ends May 4, 2007. The Homeland Security Department issued final guidance, and potential applicants are encouraged to review the materials at <http://www.firegrantsupport.com/docs/2007AFGguidance.pdf>. The operations and safety

program allows first responders to purchase equipment and personal protective equipment. The funds also can be used to implement training, establish wellness and fitness programs, and modify stations. The other AFG program helps departments and EMS organizations purchase vehicles, including ambulances and fireboats.

8. ACEP Releases EMS Week Planning Kit

Emergency Medical Service Week, May 20-26, 2007, brings together local communities and medical personnel to publicize safety and honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of medicine's "front line." This year's theme is *EMS: Extraordinary People, Extraordinary Service*. The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) is offering the 2007 EMS Week Planning Kit online. The free kit includes items that will help states and jurisdictions promote EMS Week. Visit <http://www.acep.org/webportal/Advocacy/EMS/Week/default.htm> or order a copy of the planning kit.

9. New Grant Competition Guidance Released for MCH Research Program

The HRSA-07-018/HRSA-08-001 new grant competition guidance has been released and is available on the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Web site at <http://www.hrsa.gov>, as well as at <http://www.grants.gov>. The new application due dates are May 13, 2007, (HRSA-07-018) and Sept. 14, 2007, (HRSA-08-001). The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Research Program staff are available to provide technical assistance on individual applications or answer any questions about the research grant program. For more information about the program, visit <http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/research>.

10. GAO Releases Report on First Responder Interoperability

GAO has released "First Responders: Much Work Remains to Improve Communications Interoperability." According to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), \$2.15 billion in grant funding was awarded to states and localities from 2003 through 2005 for communications interoperability enhancements. This funding, along with technical assistance, has helped to make improvements on a variety of specific interoperability projects. However, states that GAO reviewed had generally not used strategic plans to guide investments toward broadly improving interoperability. To view the report highlights, visit <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07301high.pdf>. The full report is available at <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-301>.

11. Virginia Seeks Statewide EMSC Coordinator

The Virginia Department of Health Office of Emergency Medical Services seeks a skilled person to serve as the statewide coordinator for the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Program. The search for the Virginia EMS for Children coordinator will close on April 24, 2007. For more information, including access to an electronic application for position EM024, visit the state's employment Web site at <https://jobs.agencies.virginia.gov/applicants/jsp/shared/frameset/Frameset.jsp?time=1175866682734>.

12. Rapid Response Was Crucial to Containing the 1918 Flu Pandemic: Historical Analyses Help Plan for Future Pandemics

The historical analyses of the 1918 flu pandemic are part of an ongoing effort called the *Models of Infectious Disease Agent Study* (MIDAS), which is supported by NIH's National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS). Through MIDAS, researchers

have developed computer models to examine how a future pandemic influenza virus might spread and what interventions could minimize the impact. A second study shows that the timing of when control measures were lifted played a major part in flu containment. Cities that relaxed their restrictions after the peak of the pandemic passed often saw the re-emergence of infection and had to reintroduce restrictions. The results of the systematic analyses of historical data to determine the effectiveness of public health measures in 1918 are described in two articles that have been published online in the journal, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. "Public Health Interventions and Epidemic Intensity during the 1918 Influenza Pandemic" is available at <http://www.pnas.org/cgi/reprint/0610941104v1.pdf>. "The Effect of Public Health Measures on the 1918 Influenza Pandemic in U.S. Cities" is available at <http://www.pnas.org/cgi/reprint/0611071104v1.pdf>. A press release on both articles is available at <http://www3.niaid.nih.gov/news/newsreleases/2007/fluresponse.htm>.

13. NFPA 472 and 473 Preprints Available

The preprints of NFPA 472 and 473 are now available on the NFPA Web site. There may be some final editorial changes before documents are printed. NFPA 472 is the *Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents*. NFPA 473 is the *Standard for Competencies for EMS Personnel Responding to Hazardous Materials Incidents*. To get the preprints, visit <http://www.nfpa.org>. Place the cursor over "Codes and Standards" and drop down to "Code Development Process." Click on "Proposals (ROP) and Comments (ROC)," and then click on the first bullet item to see "ROP/ROC," and select a specific document from this list." You can choose NFPA 472 or 473 from this point.

14. CNIC Prepares for Upcoming Hurricane Season

Hurricane Season, beginning June 1 and running through Nov. 30, is approaching and the need for accountability and safety of personnel is a Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) top priority. CNIC has joined with Fleet Forces Command (FFC) in Norfolk to participate in Hurricane Exercise 07 (HURREX 07), a full-spectrum event testing installation and family disaster preparedness from Texas to Maine – and all states and installations in between. The exercise will be divided into two parts. The first part, the tracking and warning phase, will be conducted from April 23 through May 4. The second phase, requiring personnel accountability and family assessment, will be conducted April 23 through May 9. The HURREX phases will consist of four artificially constructed tropical systems that will develop and intensify to hurricane strength, threatening the Caribbean, East Coast and Gulf Coast regions. For more information, visit http://www.news.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=28686.

15. Upcoming Events (*denotes event is newly added)

ACEP Advanced Pediatric Emergency Medicine Assembly, April 17-19, 2007, New York, NY. Information is available at <http://www.acep.org/pemassembly>.

**First Responders Summit: Focus on Public Safety Communications, April 20, 2007, Federal Communications Commission Meeting Room TW-C305, Washington, D.C. Information is available by email to leon.jackler@fcc.gov.

NAEMSP® National EMS Medical Direction Overview Course, April 23, 2007, 8:00 am-5:00 pm, in conjunction with the ACEP Spring Congress, San Diego, CA. Information is

available at

<http://meetings.acep.org/meetings/SpringCongress/SpecialEvents/NAEMSP.htm>.

Global Road Safety Week, April 23-29, 2007. Information is available at

<http://www.who.int/roadsafety/en>.

ACEP Emergency Medicine Spring Congress, April 24-26, 2007, San Diego, CA.

Information is available at <http://meetings.acep.org/meetings/SpringCongress>.

"How to Survey Effectively in EMS & EMSC," April 25-27, 2007, Seattle, WA.

Information is available at

<http://www.nedarc.org/nedarc/workshopsTutorials/upcomingWorkshops.jsp>.

2007 EMS Outcome Measures National Consensus Meeting, April 26-27, 2007, Courtyard by Marriott Country Club, Kansas City, MO. Information is available at

<http://emsoutcomes.ncemsi.org/>.

American Trauma Society 2007 Conference, April 27-28, 2007, Arlington, VA.

Information is available at

http://www.amtrauma.org/conference/annual_conference.html.

Fire-Rescue Med 2007, April 30-May 2, 2007, Las Vegas, NV. Information is available at

<http://iafc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=6>.

Inaugural "Emerging Issues in Fire and EMS" Conference, May 2-4, 2007, Presented by the California Fire Chiefs Association, Temecula, CA. Information is available at

<http://www.fhfnet.com/cfc>.

The Disease Management Colloquium, May 7-9, 2007, Hyatt Regency Philadelphia at Penn's Landing, Philadelphia, PA. Information is available at

<http://www.DMConferences.com>.

15th World Congress on Disaster and Emergency Medicine "Preparedness: Knowledge, Training and Networks", May 13-16, 2007, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.. Information is available at

<http://www.wcdem2007.org>.

National Rural Health Association 2007 Annual Conference, May 16-18, 2007,

Anchorage, AK. Information is available at

<http://www.nrharural.org/conferences/index.html>.

EMS Week 2007: "EMS: Ordinary People, Extraordinary Service", May 20-26, 2007.

Information is available at <http://www.acep.org/emsweek>.

2007 Maryland Emergency Management Association Director's Conference, May 21-25, 2007, Princess Royale Hotel and Conference City, Ocean City, MD. Information is available from Amy LePore at

alepore@ccgov.org.

"California EMS: The Road Ahead," EMS Administrators Association of California Annual Conference, May 29-30, 2007, Newport Beach, CA. Information is available at

http://www.emsaac.com/emsaac_documents/EMSAAC%20Conference_2007.pdf.

Western States Trauma Conference, June 10-12, 2007, Park City, UT. Information is available from Jolene Whitney, jrwhitney@utah.gov.

NASEMSO Mid Year Meeting, June 18-19, 2007, Holiday Inn Arlington, Arlington, VA. Information is available at <http://www.nasemso.org>.

EMSC Annual Grantee Meeting, June 19-21, 2007, Silver Spring, MD. Information is available at <http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/emsc/>.

AMA/CDC Second National Congress on Health System Readiness, July 18-20, 2007, Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington, D.C. Information is available at <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/17239.html>.

IAFF 9th Biennial EMS Conference, June 24-27, 2007, Houston, TX. Information is available at <http://www.iaff.org/>.

17th World Conference on Disaster Management, "Emergency Management & Business Continuity Working Together," July 8-11, 2007, Toronto, Canada. Information is available at <http://www.wcdm.org>.

AMA-CDC Congress on Health System Readiness, July 18-20, 2007, Washington, DC. Information is available at <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/17239.htm>.

Dept. of Defense Fire & Emergency Services Training Conference, August 21-24, 2007, Atlanta, GA. Information is available at <http://www.iafc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=520>.

Second Annual FDA Regulatory & Compliance Symposium, August 22-24, 2007, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Information is available at <http://www.FDASymposium.com/>.

Scientific Grant Writing," August 29-31, 2007, Chicago, IL. Information is available at <http://www.nedarc.org/nedarc/workshopsTutorials/upcomingWorkshops.jsp>.

National Association of EMS Educators 12th Annual Educational Symposium & Trade Show, September 10-16, 2007, Hollywood, CA. Information is available at <http://www.naemse.org>.

AAMS'Air Medical Transport Conference, September 17-19, 2007, Tampa, FL. Information is available at <http://www.aams.org/Content/NavigationMenu/EducationMeetings/AMTC2007/default.htm>.

3rd International Roundtable on Community Paramedicine and Rural Healthcare Delivery, September 19-21, 2007, Australia. Information is available at <http://ircp.ncemsi.org/>.

2007 Governors Highway Safety Association Annual Meeting, September 23-26, 2007, Portland Hilton Hotel, Portland, OR. Information is available at <http://www.ghsa.org>.

EMS/EMSC Data Analysis Workshop, September 26-28, 2007, New Orleans, LA.
Information is available at
<http://www.nedarc.org/nedarc/workshopsTutorials/upcomingWorkshops.jsp>.

Emergency Nurses Association 2007 Conference, September 26-29, 2007, Salt Lake City, UT. Information is available at <http://www.ena.org/conferences/default.asp>.

NASEMSO Annual Meeting, October 28-November 2, 2007, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN. Information is available at
<http://www.nasemso.org/Meetings/Annual/>.

International Association of Emergency Managers 55th Annual Conference & EMEX 2007, September 17-19, 2007, The Silver Legacy, Reno, NV. Information is available at <http://www.iaem.com>.