

National EMS Advisory Council

July 25, 2022

Mary Ahlers
Chairperson

Jonathan Washko Vice Chairperson Jonathan Greene, FICEMS Chairperson c/o NHTSA Office of Emergency Medical Services U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave SE | W44-321 Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Greene,

On behalf of the National Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (NEMSAC), I am writing to encourage FICEMS support for the adoption and implementation of the National Model EMS Clinical Guidelines (3rd Edition) and the 2021 National Trauma Field Triage Guidelines at the state, territorial, and tribal levels.

The National Model EMS Clinical Guidelines were recently updated by the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) through funding support from the NHTSA Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Maternal and Child Health Bureau's EMS for Children program. NASEMSO worked closely with subject matter experts from state and national stakeholder organizations with expertise in EMS and EMS medical direction to create this third edition of clinical patient care guidelines. This document promotes uniformity in EMS medicine which, in turn, will foster a more consistent skilled practice as EMS clinicians move across healthcare systems nationwide. Additionally, it will also provide a standard upon which EMS medical directors may base scope of practice at the agency (or local) level.

The National Trauma Field Triage Guidelines were also recently updated by the American College of Surgeons-Committee on Trauma (ACS-COT) with funding from the NHTSA OEMS. The ACS-COT worked closely with subject matter experts in EMS, EMS medical direction, and trauma care to develop these guidelines.

This document provides an evidence-based practical tool that is meant to assist EMS practitioners with making proper decisions regarding the triage of injured patients and transportation to the definitive care facilities where these patients will receive the optimal level of trauma care. Moreover, these new guidelines incorporate EMS stakeholder feedback and include quality metrics that are designed to inform future revisions of this important EMS resource.

With the recent release of the National Roadway Safety Strategy, we feel strongly that support from FICEMS for both of these newly updated national guidelines will have a direct impact on the stated goal to improve post-crash care.

Sincerely,

Mary Ahlers

Chair, National Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council