



EMSAC Members' Update

An update for the profession from the
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO
 EMSAC group (agency) members, please forward to your staff.
 April 2021

If you have news for the EMSAC monthly update, send it to "communications at emsac dot org."

EMSAC NEWS

**EMS
ACTION ALERT!**

Help EMSAC to amend or defeat HB21-1251, "Appropriate Use of Chemical Restraints." Contact the Colorado House Judiciary Committee and ask the members to vote NO on HB21-1251, "Appropriate Use of Chemical Restraints."

HB12-1251:

- Establishes an undue and impractical burden on EMS paramedics to weigh patients in an emergency setting before administering any weight-based medication dose. Numerous studies have shown that estimating patient weight—the only practical method—in an emergency setting is safe and effective
- Requires an unreasonable and unsafe burden on EMS paramedics to obtain direct approval from a registered nurse who does not have prescriptive authority, licensed physicians, or ambiguous "other authorized staff person" before administration of ketamine to patients in need of emergency sedation.
- Undermines the appropriate representation of medical experts on the EMPAC—EMS physician Medical Directors—by replacing those positions with non-EMS representatives.
- Does not create rulemaking authority for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to establish clear rules and definitions because it contains many ambiguous or undefined terms such as "justifiable emergency" and "nonhospital setting."
- It undermines, subverts, confuses and erodes the authority of CDPHE to establish rules pertaining to the scope of practice of EMS Paramedics.

EMSAC's Position statement is [here](#).

Send an [email](#) to the Colorado House of Representatives Judiciary Committee.



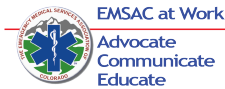
EMSAC Alert!
Critical Information for Colorado EMS

Survey of "Treat and Release" Calls for Medicaid Payments

EMSAC is working to secure payments for services rendered when dealing with a patient that ultimately is not transported. Agency directors, please take this short and simple [survey](#).

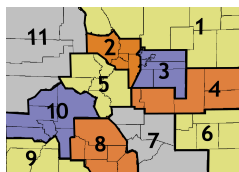


EMS Funding Update



Colorado Senators Zenzinger and Liston (EMSAC's 2019 EMS Legislative Champions) were successful in amending the Colorado state budget to increase Medicaid reimbursement rates for emergency medical transportation by 2% on a vote of 20-15. It's relatively rare for

budget amendments to actually pass on the floor! Senator Zenzinger read the [Op/Ed penned by EMSAC President Scott Sholes](#) at the microphone. Thank you Senators Rachel Zenzinger and Larry Liston! Again!



Call for Nominations

We need you! One-half of EMSAC's board of directors is up for reelection this year—the odd-numbered region representatives (enlarged [map](#)) and the secretary and treasurer. Terms are two years and you will have an enormous impact on EMS; by setting the direction of the association and the programs, education and legislative activity. Nominate someone, or yourself, by sending an email (Subject line: EMSAC nomination) to emsac@emsac.org



Inaugural Colorado EMS Educators Symposium
The Colorado EMS Educators Association, a Special Interest

Group of EMSAC, announces registration is now open for the 2021 Colorado EMS Educators Symposium! Grab the full symposium brochure [here](#).



The 2020 Tax filing date is now May 17!

ReFUND CO highlights an easy way to support our mission

If you get a state income tax refund in 2020, you will have a new opportunity to donate some or all of it to support our ongoing work in Colorado EMS. The new program described by the ReFUND CO initiative puts you in charge of where your donation goes. It's as simple as 1,2,3:

1. Decide how much of your refund to donate.
2. Enter **Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado** and our registration number **20073009873** in the Donate to a Colorado Nonprofit Fund line on your state income tax return or tax software – or just give this info to your tax preparer when you share your tax documents.
3. Smile knowing you've helped a cause that matters to you

With this new program, you can re-energize EMSAC's important work for another year. Learn more about this program at RefundWhatMatters.org. As always, we're grateful for your support and hope you'll consider donating again through this new program to maintain our mission.



Joining a Committee is Easy!

You can have an impact on EMS in Colorado. You can now easily volunteer with an EMSAC Committee, [online](#). EMSAC committees are the workhorse of all we do. Get involved and make your mark on EMS in Colorado!

EMSAC Advocacy Committee

Meets weekly on Zoom at 1330 on Friday and all members are welcome. **Join Zoom**

Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85333772629?pwd=SXVvVmVNSmEwc1pwVDhLMVE3WmRldz09>

Meeting ID: 853 3377 2629 **Passcode:** 414268

One tap mobile +16699006833,,85333772629# US (San Jose)
+12532158782,,85333772629# US (Tacoma)



Order Colorado EMS insignia and rockers online

We have Colorado EMS uniform insignia, rockers and window decals available, you can order online here. These are the de facto "state EMS" insignia for Colorado. Insigne rockers: Critical Care Paramedic, Paramedic, EMT, EMT-Advanced, EMT-Basic, EMT-Intermediate, Dispatcher, Instructor, Nurse, Physician,

Student.Window decals: EMT-B, EMT-Intermediate, EMT-P, 3" EMSAC decal for POVs, 5" EMSAC decal for agency vehicles.

OTHER NEWS



Nominations Sought for AAP & NAEMT Pediatric EMS Award

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT) are accepting nominations for the 2021 AAP/NAEMT Pediatric EMS Award. This award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated excellence in providing pediatric EMS care and/or education. Please submit nominations and supporting materials [here](#). The deadline June 28, 2021.



AHA Publishes New Recommendations for Transporting Stroke Patients

The American Heart Association (AHA) has published new recommendations for prehospital triage and transport of stroke patients. A consensus statement, developed through the Prehospital Stroke System of Care Consensus Conference and published in the AHA journal Stroke, outlines guiding principles for determining transport destinations in rural, suburban and urban communities.



USAMRIID Pocket Guide Available to First Responders

The US Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) has created a (FREE) app based on a pocket-sized handbook that is given out at the MCBC course that USAMRIID Hosts (Medical Management of Chemical and Biological Casualties course). The course, pocket reference guide to bio-agent / toxins and the APP are for military and civilian clinicians and anyone out in hospitals or emergency first responders. The USAMRIID Biodefense Tool can be downloaded now for free.

For iOS, go [here](#). For Android go [here](#). or iOS, go [here](#). For Android go [here](#).



New App Provides Emergency Response Vehicles with the Fastest, Safest Path to Incident Scenes

For first responders, there can be drawbacks to using “off-the-shelf” consumer apps and following the same routes as everyone else. The apps may not take into account specific factors that can delay response time, like weather events, traffic accidents, or the size and weight of their vehicles. They also do not take into account

local roadway or speed limit rules for emergency vehicles. That's why the Department of Homeland Security [Science and Technology Directorate](#) (S&T) and partner Azimuth1, LLC are developing a solution, an app called [QuickRoute](#).



FEMA Updates EMS Credentialing in Resource Typing Library Tool

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently published minimal updates to its Resource Typing Library Tool (RTLTL), used to requested EMS mutual aid resources under NIMS. FEMA updated the EMS references to the National EMS Scope of Practice Model (to the 2019 version) and noted that Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians may not be available in all jurisdictions. The RTLTL is an online catalogue of national resource typing definitions, position qualifications, and Position Task Books provided by the National Integration Center at <https://rtlt.preptoolkit.fema.gov/public>.



Honoring Healthcare Heros!

Healthcare workers across the country are selflessly and tirelessly caring for their communities every day in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a token of appreciation **Hyatt Place Keystone** is extending their Friends & Family Rate to you and your family. Book January 1-September 12, 2021. Click [here](#) for details.

COVID-19 News



What the Vaccine Means for EMS Operations

Millions of EMS clinicians and members of the public across the nation have now received a COVID-19 vaccine. But exactly what does that mean for EMS systems and organizations? In this [webinar](#), learn what we know and what we don't know yet about how the vaccines are changing our approach to the coronavirus pandemic. You'll hear from experts helping to create and implement guidance for EMS services during these unprecedented times. They'll address topics such as:

- Testing and quarantine implications
- EMS clinicians who have not been vaccinated
- Vaccines and coronavirus variants
- Lessons learned for the next pandemic.



COVID Vaccines Could Lose Their Punch within a Year, Experts Say

The majority of Two-thirds of epidemiologists from leading academic institutions say the world will need new or modified

vaccines for COVID-19 within a year, new research show. Read [more](#).

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

Path4EMS: Colorado's EMS Peer Assistance program

Any currently certified Colorado EMS provider now has a new avenue of access and support for issues related to stress management, mental health and wellness. These services are confidential, free of charge, and available statewide. Information about the program can be found [here](#). **For immediate assistance, please call 1-800-873-7138.**

[Make the Call to Make Things Better.](#)

Firefighters and EMS personnel face many unique challenges that can have a significant impact on their behavioral health. To ensure these individuals and their families have access to the help they need, the NVFC teamed up with American Addiction Centers (AAC) to create a free, confidential helpline available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Fire/EMS Helpline: 1-888-731-FIRE (3473)The Code Green Campaign

[Code Green](#) is a first responder-oriented mental health advocacy and education organization. It is not a crisis helpline; its mission is to bring awareness to the high rates of mental health problems in first responders and reduce them, eliminate the stigma that prevents people from admitting problems are present and asking for help and educate first responders on self and peer care and to advocate systemic change in how mental health problems are addressed by first responder agencies.

Building Warriors

[Building Warriors](#) is a specialty group of private practice professional counselors and peer consultants supporting emergency responders and their families. Even the strongest among us can feel lost, unsure, ambivalent, or unhappy at times. We specialize in working with Emergency Responders and their families. We can help manage whatever life may bring, we will attack issues and focus on finding a healthy balance within your mind, body and heart. For more information or to schedule a class for your agency, call (720) 504-6207.

Foundation 1023

[Foundation 1023](#) is committed to supporting the emotional and mental wellness of first responders and their support network who are experiencing illness, loss or stressful life events by providing confidential funding for emotional and mental wellness services, as well as access to peer supported outdoor activities and events designed for personal wellness and connection. Foundation 1023 offers referral services and financial support to pre-approved Professional Counselors that are experienced in the first response industry.

Safe Call Now - (206) 459-3020

[Safe Call Now](#) is an emergency services-based emergency CONFIDENTIAL, comprehensive, 24-hour crisis referral service for all emergency services personnel and their family members nationwide. Speak confidentially with officers, public safety professionals and/or mental health care providers who are familiar with your line of work. MAKE A SAFE CALL NOW: (206) 459-3020. Download a brochure for your colleagues and staff.

Colorado Crisis and Support Line 1-844-493-TALK (8255)

Get connected 24/7/365 with experienced professionals, counselors and peer specialists. **[Colorado Crisis Services](#)** has **12 walk-in crisis service centers**: Fort Collins, Greeley, Grand Junction, Pueblo, and Colorado Springs; and in metro Denver: Westminster,

Lakewood, Littleton, Aurora (2), Boulder and Denver. [Download](#) an information card. For your agency offices and quarters download a rack card.

**USEFUL
RESOURCES**



Banner and button advertising available here to reach key EMS purchasers and agency directors. Contact [communications at emsac dot org](#).



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