



MONTANA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN (EMSC) & CHILD READY MT

MT EMSC CONNECTION NEWSLETTER September 2018

This issue has information on - National Preparedness Month; Pediatric JUMPSTART Tool; Prescription Take Back Boxes; Pediatric It's Your Choice Drills (pictures!); & MORE! TRIVIA- SWAT-T

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Each year during **September**, the AAP supports the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) sponsored National Preparedness Month to enable citizens to prepare for and respond to all types of emergencies, including natural disasters and terrorist attacks. This year's theme is "**Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How.**" The **AAP Children and Disasters Web site** has a dedicated resource page for National Preparedness Month. During National Preparedness Month, take specific actions to promote pediatric emergency readiness:

- Begin conversations with families about potential disasters in their area & identify what each child would need to safely cope with the disaster.
- Encourage families to download a **family communication plan** for parents and kids; ask families to create an Emergency Contact Card for each family member. Review the Tips for Communicating during an Emergency, developed by FEMA and the Federal Communication Commission.
- Leverage collaborative strategies identified during Pediatric Tabletop Exercise or use the Resource Kit to plan your own pediatric tabletop exercise.
- Encourage others to get involved in preparedness activities!
- Use Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, or a blog to send messages to your community about National Preparedness Month or how to prepare for disasters. See the AAP Voices blog or the CDC Public Health Matters blog.

JUMPSTART®: PEDIATRIC MASS CASUALTY INCIDENT (MCI) TRIAGE TOOL

When triaging children, a standardized disaster triage system provides guidance for personnel making life and death decisions that otherwise may be influenced by emotional issues. **JumpSTART® Pediatric Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Triage Tool** is an objective triage system that addresses the needs of children and is a resource tool when planning a triage process for pediatric patients. **The JumpSTART® system takes into consideration the developmental and physiological differences of children by using breathing as the cornerstone for triage decisions.**

Since the physiologic indicators specified for START are not generally applicable to the pediatric victim, different criteria are needed to assess young patients. Neurological status under START depends on the patient's ability to obey commands. This index is clearly not applicable to young children who lack the developmental ability to respond appropriately to commands.

The **JumpSTART®** Pediatric MCI triage system is designed for triaging infants and young children. **If a victim appears to be a child, use JumpSTART;** if a victim appears to be a young adult, use **START**. **JumpSTART®** uses the same triage categories as **START: IMMEDIATE, DELAYED, MINOR, and EXPECTANT/ DECEASED.** **WANT TO LEARN MORE? CONTACT JASON MAHONEY, MT EMSC/CHILD READY MT PEDIATRIC LIAISON, 373 CONSULTING (JASON@373CONSULTING.COM)**



PREPTALKS: YOUTH - THE KEY TO BUILDING A CULTURE OF PREPAREDNESS

This 23-minute presentation highlights how children are great mobilizers, actors, and connectors within their communities for building a culture of preparedness. The speaker discusses how children can share what they learn and bring home preparedness messages. She uses her experience and sociological data to show how emergency managers can use the natural curiosity of children to build preparedness in their communities.

Sara Thompson, director of U.S. Emergencies for Save the Children, leads emergency preparedness, recovery, and psychosocial programming. She is the author of the Prep Rally curriculum, an innovative program that has taught more than 100,000 children preparedness skills through play and has won the 2017 FEMA Community Preparedness Award. Sarah's PrepTalk, "**Youth: The Key to Building a Culture of Preparedness**," highlights how children are great mobilizers, actors, and connectors within their communities for building a culture of preparedness. "Kids love to learn; they love to share what they learned," Thompson says, "That means they can be really good at bringing home preparedness messages." Thompson uses her experience and sociological data to show how emergency managers can use the natural curiosity of children to build preparedness in their communities.

<https://disasterinfo.nlm.nih.gov/search/id:17470>

RESOURCES

PrepTalk Discussion Guide: Sarah Thompson and Lori Peek

Organization: Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA)

Audience: Emergency managers, youth-serving organizations, and parents

Topic: Reducing the vulnerability of children in disasters and children as great agents for building a culture of preparedness.

Website: https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1531140767159-657c96ace4d28ec76fdc3a85fedaa93c/PrepTalks_Discussion_Guide_Peek_and_Thompson_Youth_Preparedness.pdf

Description: PrepTalks Discussion Guides are companion documents to PrepTalk video presentations and question-and-answer (Q&A) sessions. These guides help translate the research and expertise showcased in each PrepTalk into actionable steps to improve disaster preparedness.

This discussion guide accompanies the PrepTalks given by Dr. Lori Peek and Sarah Thompson, who illustrate the importance and value of preparing our nation's youth for disasters.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS AND PREPAREDNESS WEBINARS ARCHIVED

The AAP and the CDC work together to improve children's preparedness planning. The Children's Hospitals and Preparedness Webinar Series aims to promote a dialogue among clinicians and disaster planners at hospitals and to improve each hospital's response plan and **ability to care for children in an emergency**. **All webinars in this series are archived on the AAP Disaster Preparedness and Response Webinar Archives Web page.**

Federal Emergency Management Agency Children and Disasters Newsletter This newsletter showcases work being done across the country on youth preparedness by FEMA and others. The newsletter also provides details on relevant research (such as research about the impact of traumatic events on youth or the unique needs of children with access and functional needs during disasters), as well as resources for those implementing youth preparedness programs. The newsletter also features specific programs that seek to prepare youth for and help them respond to disasters. Sign up for the FEMA newsletter and choose your subscriber preferences.

For more information on AAP disaster preparedness and response initiatives, e-mail
DisasterReady@aap.org.

New Behavioral Health Resources Available for First Responders

In a recent national survey of firefighters and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel, 19% reported having had thoughts of suicide; 27% reported having struggled with substance use issues; and 81% feared being seen as weak or unfit for duty if they asked for help. Law enforcement, fire and rescue, and emergency response are professions where **communication is mission critical**—so why aren't first responders talking more about their behavioral health?

SAMHSA has developed new resources and materials with significant input from first responders. We hope you'll continue reading to learn more about the following new materials available and share them with colleagues and friends.

New Online Training Course

Service to Self: Behavioral Health for Fire and EMS Personnel

This new, online training course includes videos featuring emergency medical technicians and fire personnel, scenarios, and interactive quizzes. The course addresses occupational stressors; mental health and substance use issues including depression, posttraumatic stress disorder, suicidality, and alcohol use; resilience; and healthy coping mechanisms including demonstrations of stress management techniques. It is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE) for continuing education credit.

Learn more about all of SAMHSA's training courses for first responders.

Each of these courses is free and can be accessed online individually or reviewed and **discussed in a group** setting to foster dialogue. Beyond videos, the courses contain interactive features and assessment tools.

New Issue of *The Dialogue*

Effects of Trauma on First Responders: Volume 14, Issue 1 — 2018 (PDF | 1.04 MB)

This issue highlights the challenges first responders experience through **all phases of disaster response**—the visible and obvious, and the veiled. The authors provide insight into the unique culture of the first responder community. This awareness is key to providing effective behavioral health services in a manner that is valuable to and accepted by first responders.

New Supplemental Research Bulletin

First Responders: Behavioral Health Concerns, Emergency Response, and Trauma (PDF | 264 KB)

This issue focuses on behavioral health issues experienced by first responders. It also explores risk and protective factors, as well as interventions to reduce behavioral health risks and foster resilience.

Contact the SAMHSA Disaster Technical Assistance Center (DTAC) team at dtac@samhsa.hhs.gov or 1-800-308-3515 for more information. Learn more about [SAMHSA DTAC](#).

IT'S YOUR CHOICE

It's Your Choice illustrates the consequences of poor choices by reenacting a motor vehicle crash. Some victims survive the crash with severe injuries. One is declared dead at the scene. Spectators watch as victims are loaded into ambulances or a helicopter. Once the lights and sirens fade into the distance, spectators are left in silence to watch the coroner and funeral home staff gather up the most precious and tragic wreckage from the crash – one of their fellow students.

The Course is based on an obvious need to curtail drinking and driving, especially in younger drivers. The program brings together local Law Enforcement, EMS, Fire Department, Hospital, Funeral Home staff, schools and volunteers to graphically illustrate tragedies brought about by drinking and driving. The focus of ***It's Your Choice*** has been expanded to include emphasis on seat belt use and the dangers of distracted driving. Pictures include events in Dillon, Park City, and Columbus.

DILLON DISASTER SCENARIO



PARK CITY SCENARIO



Columbus Scenario



Every Pediatric Disaster Scenario Drill NEEDS A CAPED SUPER HERO!

THANK YOU TO ALL of those helping with these disaster scenario Drills from the ADOLESCENT PATIENTS, THE LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIRE DEPARTMENTS, SCHOOL PERSONNEL, EMS and all of those involved in the planning of these important drills. Thanks to Jason Mahoney for the pictures of each event.

WE THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR MONTANA CHILDREN AND FAMILIES!

PREPTALKS: CHILDREN AND DISASTERS - REDUCING VULNERABILITY AND BUILDING CAPACITY

This 22-minute presentation discusses the progress, ongoing challenges, and possibilities in reducing the vulnerability of children to disasters.

Through her experience working directly with children, including a young survivor of Hurricane Katrina, the speaker gives emergency managers **five specific ideas to reduce the vulnerability of children to disasters**:

- ✓ Ensure that every child attends a safe school;
- ✓ **educate children about risk and risk reduction**;
- ✓ listen to and involve children so they can help themselves, other children, and adults;
- ✓ encourage children's ingenuity and creativity; and
- ✓ cultivate anchors, advocates, and strong institutions for children.

<https://disasterinfo.nlm.nih.gov/search/id:17467>

Cultural and Linguistic Competency in Disaster Preparedness and Response Fact Sheet

This fact sheet details the importance of developing cultural and linguistic competency for public health officials and emergency managers to better meet the needs of diverse populations, improve the quality of services and health outcomes during and after a disaster. The fact sheet provides a framework of the five elements of cultural competency within disaster preparedness.

American Indian and Alaskan Native Disaster Preparedness Resource

This tool provides basic resources and best practices to help disaster behavioral health and emergency responders better understand the general status of tribal behavioral health issues, and provides information on emergency disaster services and/or organizations that support tribal communities. The goal is to provide a reference and resources that promote responders' cultural awareness, as well as help introduce some of the rich culture, values, and traditions that are important for respectfully assisting tribal communities.

Continuing Education Programs

Think Cultural Health (TCH) is a flagship initiative of the OMH Center for Linguistic and Cultural Competence in Health Care. TCH is dedicated to advancing health equity. TCH offers four **free and accredited continuing education programs** to help individuals at all levels and in a variety of professions to promote health and health equity. The programs offered include: A Physician's Practical Guide to Culturally Competent Care; Culturally Competent Nursing Care: A Cornerstone of Caring; Culturally Competency Curriculum for Disaster Preparedness and Crisis Response; Cultural Competency Program for Oral Health Professionals

Better Communication, Better Care: Provider Tools to Care for Diverse Populations: This toolkit provides health care professionals with resources to address the challenges of delivering high quality, effective, and compassionate health care to a diverse patient population. The toolkit focuses on increasing awareness of cultural backgrounds and enhancing communication with diverse populations.

CultureCard: A Guide to Build Cultural Awareness: American Indian and Alaska Native: This guide is intended to serve as a general briefing to federal disaster responders and other service providers to enhance cultural competency while providing services to American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

National Health Care for the Homeless Council

Addressing Cultural and Linguistic Competence in the Health Care for Homeless Setting: A Brief Guide:

This guide provides a framework for understanding the basic requirements of providing culturally and linguistically competent health care.

SEASONAL INFLUENZA

The severity and duration of the 2017-2018 influenza season underscores the tremendous burden seasonal flu can cause and the importance of influenza countermeasures including influenza vaccination and antiviral treatment. Flu vaccination vary in how well it works. **Effectiveness in the range of 20 percent to 50 percent may still prevent tens of thousands of hospitalizations during seasons with high severity. Also, flu vaccination has been shown to be life saving for children.** Prompt treatment with influenza antiviral medications can shorten duration and severity of symptoms and prevent serious flu complications.



2017-2018 was a high-severity season: severity indicators (e.g., hospitalization, mortality rates) were higher than what has been observed during previous influenza A(H3N2) predominant seasons. Studies are underway to better understand the reasons for this high severity. **In addition, a high number of influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported this season.** Read the full MMWR report [here](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/mm6722a4.htm).

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/mm6722a4.htm>. **REMEMBER TO GET YOUR FLU SHOT and PROMOTE FLU VACCINATIONS!**

Governor Bullock Announces Partnership to Reduce Prescription Drug Abuse-pharmacy associations utilize federal grant to distribute prescription medication collection boxes

Governor Steve Bullock announced the \$730,000 federal grant to help reduce the misuse and abuse of prescription drugs by increasing the number of communities utilizing medication collection boxes. Governor Bullock and state health officials are working with the Board of Pharmacy and the MT Pharmacy Association to distribute several hundred metal collection boxes to local pharmacies. **“One of the best ways to address opioid abuse is through the safe, convenient, and proper disposal of unused medications,”** Governor Bullock said. **“This is a terrific opportunity and we’re pleased to be partnering with pharmacies across the state to distribute the collection boxes in the coming weeks.”**

A total of 212 38-gallon boxes and starter packs of liners are being **offered at no cost to retail pharmacies and hospitals and clinics with on-site pharmacies** to be used to collect and then dispose of prescription drugs. The funding is part of a grant awarded to the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS). MT DPHHS Director Sheila Hogan said that according to the Journal of the American Medical Association, **between 60 and 92% of patients nationwide don’t finish their painkillers, and fewer than 10% dispose of them safely.** Sixty percent of patients keep partially completed opioid prescriptions “for later,” while more than **80% don’t store their narcotic painkillers in a locked cabinet.**

The collection boxes will be put to good use by pharmacies as there are currently only 22 of them located in the approximately 360 pharmacies in Montana. The collection boxes are from MedSafe Medication Disposal Systems with related inner receptacle liners from Sharps Compliance, Inc. The retail purchase price of each box is \$3,445. To be eligible, a pharmacy must register as a Drug Enforcement Administration collector agent ensuring adherence to the collector guidelines. The registration process is very simple and there’s no cost.

Christine Steele of the DPHHS Addictive and Mental Disorders Division said this will fill an existing need in Montana by providing the collection boxes to the numerous counties that don’t have any, as well as increasing availability where they do exist. So far, Steele said a total of 21 boxes have been requested. **“We are just getting started, and it’s our goal to distribute all 212 of them.”** *‘Opioid use is the primary driver of drug overdose deaths in the state of Montana. Forty-four percent of all drug overdose deaths are attributable to opioids.’* Since 2000, more than 700 Montanans have died from opioid overdose.

The **Montana Prescription Drug Registry** is one tool help curb prescription drug abuse.

For more information **contact Christine Steele at 406-444-1202 or email at csteele@mt.gov**

SEPTEMBER has been declared **PAIN AWARENESS MONTH**. Pain Awareness Month is a time when various organizations work to raise public awareness of issues around pain and pain management. The key to raising awareness is to get involved.

Way to help promote **Pain Awareness Month**. See the resources located at: <http://www.theacpa.org/pain-management-tools>:

[Going to the ER](#)
[Communication Tools](#)
[Pain Management Programs](#)
[Videos](#)
[Resources](#)
[FAQs](#)
[Surveys](#)

- Call your local media and ask them if they are doing a story on Pain Awareness Month.
- Take care of yourself! Take time out for yourself this month. Tools to help take care of yourself are below:

[Relaxation Video](#)
[ACPA Communication tools](#)
[Medication Safety Video](#)

Planning for Children and Families During Disaster Response—have a communication plan --Sign up for emergency alerts and know how officials will communicate with you during a disaster.



Keep in mind people who may need special preparation



Kids, infants, people with disabilities and seniors may all need **special considerations in an emergency--https://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/09/10/disaster-prep-month_n_5790278.html**

Key Resources

- [CMS Disaster Response Toolkit](#)- strategies available to support Medicaid operations/enrollees in crisis.
- [Family Readiness Kit](#)- Key resource to assist families to prepare for disasters.
- [Exercise Resource Kit](#)- A guide that provides tools and templates to conduct a pediatric tabletop exercise.
- [EMSC Hospital Checklist](#)- A tool to incorporate pediatric considerations into hospital disaster policies.
- [Checklist for Practices](#) -View the new checklist.
- [Helping Children Cope](#)-Details on how adults can promote adjustment and help children cope in a disaster.
- [Infant Feeding in Disasters](#)- Steps to support breastfeeding during a disaster or an emergency
- [Pediatric Preparedness Resource Kit](#)-Strategies for collaborative discussions and decision making about pediatric preparedness planning.

TRIVIA

Answer the trivia and win a SWAT-T to the first 3 to email answers to Robin -rsuzor@mt.gov **NOT to the listserve.**

1. How can you learn more about JUMPSTART?
2. What is this year's theme for National Preparedness Month??
3. What is one way to reduce the vulnerability of children in a disaster?
4. What is one of the health Awareness issues for September?
5. What is a way to get a Collection/Drop Box in your community?



**MONTANA
EMS & TRAUMA
SYSTEMS PROGRAM**

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM, MT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & TRAUMA SYSTEMS, P.O. BOX 202951, HELENA, MT 59620 -
CONTACT INFORMATION: rsuzor@mt.gov or (406) 444-0901

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