



## Oregon Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

2025 Quarter 1 | February 2025

Slides and recording available upon request.

Appointed Committee Members		
Name	Position	Attendance
Tamara Bakewell	Family representative	Present
Sabrina Ballew	Patient equity organization representative	Present
Rachel Ford	Oregon EMSC Program Manager	Present
Davi Hughes	EMS provider	Present
David Lehrfeld	OHA-EMS representative	Present (late arrival)
Justin Sales	Physician specializing in pediatric emergency	Present
Christa Schulz	Physician with pediatric training	Present
Dana Selover	Oregon EMSC statewide project director	Present
Misty Wadzeck	Nurse with pediatric emergency experience (EMS Advisory Board liaison)	Present
Omar Washington	Physician specializing in pediatric emergency	Present

### 1. Call to Order & Introductions (Rachel Ford) (Timestamp: 0901)

- Rachel provided a brief history of the Oregon EMS for Children Program.
- Committee members introduced themselves with their names, positions on the committee, professional titles, and affiliations.

### 2. Officer Elections (Rachel Ford) (Timestamp: 0909)

- The Committee needed to elect two positions, a chairperson and chairperson elect.
- Justin Sales self-nominated for the chairperson role after serving in the role previously.
  - Motion to elect: Christa Schulz
  - Second: Sabrina Ballew
  - State committee members (OHA staff) abstained from voting; all other appointed members voted yea.
- Christa Schulz self-nominated for the chairperson-elect role after serving as vice chairperson previously.
  - Motion to elect: Justin Sales
  - Second: Davi Hughes
  - State committee members abstained from voting; all other appointed members voted yea.

### 3. Approve October 2024 Minutes (Timestamp: 0914)

- Motion to approve: Justin Sales
- Second: Christa Schulz
- None opposed, motion carried.

**4. EMSC Program Update (Rachel Ford) (Timestamp: 0915)**

- a. Rachel provided background on several EMSC initiatives including the Pediatric Readiness Program, Hospital Preparedness Program, EMS equipment requests, and planning future courses and workshops. Rachel thanked Tami Bakewell for making an introduction to Tobi at the Autism Society of Oregon, with whom the EMSC Program is working to create sensory kits for EMS agencies.
- b. Scheduling for the Committee's August meeting: due to a conflict with a national EMSC meeting, Rachel proposed moving the Committee's meeting to August 7 instead of August 14. Members agreed.

**5. Committee Member Roundtable (Timestamp: 0926)**

- a. Chairperson Justin Sales introduced the roundtable concept. Members shared updates from their professional work relevant to the Committee.
  - Justin Sales: Randall Children's Hospital is seeing very high patient volumes for acute care, exceeding crisis standards.
  - Tami Bakewell: Oregon Family to Family Health Information Center will be working with utility companies (PGE, Idaho Power, Pacific Corp) on equipment and rebates for families that have medically involved children and those that are low-income, with an emphasis on resilience.
  - Christa Schulz: Also seeing high volumes for acute pediatric care in Bend. Working to keep kids in facility to reduce transfer load to Portland. Still have limited MRI access.
  - Sabrina Ballew: Worked on sensory bags for Mercy Flights, and excited to see expansion to other agencies.
  - Davi Hughes: Currently growing the training program for Mercy Flights, especially for pediatrics. Introducing pre-planning approaches and protocols to make scenes smoother and reduce errors.
  - Misty Wadzeck: Oregon Coast also seeing increase in volume across the board. Population is inclined toward geriatrics but saw increase in pediatrics as well, especially non-accidental trauma, due in part to demographic change in the area. Working to bring in outside training for Emergency Nursing Pediatric Course (ENPC) rather than just Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS).
  - Omar Washington: Unique challenges at Providence due to strike (includes nurses at all 8 Providence hospitals and pediatric hospitalists at Providence St Vincent). Providence St Vincent is also remodeling the emergency department, with an opportunity to make changes for the pediatric ED to better serve patients with special health needs and behavioral health concerns.
  - Dana Selover: Involved in legislative session. Behavioral health is a big topic. Legislation is trying to deal with stress in the healthcare delivery system.
  - David Lehrfeld: The legislative session is a great opportunity to direct attention and resources towards behavioral health, pediatrics, and pediatric behavioral health care. Want to encourage investment in existing system rather than creating things from scratch.
- b. In response to a comment in the chat about resources in rural areas, there was a brief discussion of regional changes to the Area Trauma Advisory Boards under EMS Modernization.

**6. Pediatric Research (Matt Hansen, Oregon Health & Science University) (Timestamp: 1015)**

- a. Matt Hansen described several Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (PECARN) studies that are ongoing or were recently completed. PECARN shares base funding with the national EMS for Children program.
  - C-spine: Algorithm that was created for hospitals will be used for EMS as well; focus is on dissemination and implementation with agencies.
  - Seizures: Study uses age to dose midazolam for pediatric seizures. Washington and Clackamas counties are participating.
  - Airway resuscitation: Trial is enrolling at 10 sites around the country to compare airway techniques (bag-valve-mask, supraglottic, endotracheal intubation).
  - Asthma: Study is working on implementation science, trying to shorten the time interval to translate the results of research into practice.
  - Positive pressure ventilation: Study is to collect data to help paramedics to best deliver ventilations to children (how fast, thresholds for adverse effects).
- b. Many investigators are hesitant about the funding status of grants and indirect cost rates for National Institutes of Health research given recent federal changes.

**7. Youth Suicide Intervention and Prevention Plan (Jill Baker, Oregon Health Authority Youth Suicide Prevention Program) (Timestamp: 1027)**

- a. Youth suicide prevention plan is updated every five years; the next plan starts in 2026 and runs through 2030.
- b. The Oregon Health Authority framework crosswalks Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and Oregon-specific postvention requirements with central elements of policy, funding, data, and evaluation. The lenses centered include equity, trauma-informed practices, lived experience voice, collective impact, and collaboration.
- c. Currently, there are 185 projects in 2025, supporting training programs and services statewide.

**8. Bylaws (Timestamp: 1057)**

- a. Rachel Ford and Justin Sales reviewed the Committee's draft bylaws, including proposed additions to the Committee's statutory membership.
- b. Tami Bakewell suggested creating a plain language version of the bylaws.
- c. Committee voted to approve:
  - Motion to approve: Misty Wadzeck
  - Second: Sabrina Ballew
  - State committee members abstained from voting, all other appointed members voted yea.

**9. Health Emergency Ready Oregon (HERO) Kids Registry (Brittany Tagliaferro-Lucas, Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs) (Timestamp: 1120)**

- a. New registrations dropped in November and December of 2024, likely due to the holidays. 484 total forms by December 31, 2024, with registrants residing in 27 of 36 counties in Oregon.
- b. Marketing and social media campaign efforts are ongoing.

- c. The emergency protocol form, available for use with patients of all ages, has been finalized and will be available as a fillable PDF and paper form. Electronic platform may be possible with additional funding in the future.

**10. EMS Program Update (Adam Wagner, Oregon Health Authority Emergency Medical Services Program) (Timestamp: 1130)**

- a. The EMS Program recently recruited and hired several new team members.
- b. EMS provider license renewals will take place April through June, and renewal process will include a workforce survey.
- c. The EMS Program data team is working on NEMSIS 3.5 implementation.

**11. Public Comment (Timestamp: 1137)**

- a. No public comments were offered. Rachel Ford expressed appreciation for members of the public attending the meeting.

**12. Key Takeaways (Rachel Ford) (Timestamp: 1138)**

- a. The EMS Program will be recruiting for many board and committee vacancies, including new positions on this Committee. Members were encouraged to help spread the word.
- b. Next meeting will be held May 8, 2025, 0900-1200, in person at the Portland State Office Building. Rachel will distribute a Travel Guide to members.

Meeting adjourned at 1145.

**Next meeting:**

May 8, 2025, 0900-1200, in person  
Portland State Office Building, Room 177  
800 NE Oregon Street, Portland, OR, 97232