



Preview of the Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project

What is prehospital pediatric readiness?

EMS and fire-rescue agencies that are pediatric ready are trained, equipped, and prepared to provide high-quality emergency care for children in accordance with national recommendations.

Why is pediatric readiness so important?

While the majority of EMS and fire-rescue agencies provide emergency care to children, pediatric calls are rare for most agencies. Many EMS clinicians describe taking care of children as “scary.” Being “peds ready” can reduce anxiety and increase confidence. Research suggests it may also improve outcomes.

How can you know how prepared your agency is?

The Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project (PPRP) has created an assessment tool designed to provide your agency with practical, usable information to understand how ready you are to care for children.

What will you get from taking the assessment?

The information you learn can help you become more competent, comfortable, and confident in taking care of children.

What should you expect in the assessment and how can you prepare?

There are two key steps in understanding how prepared your agency is to provide appropriate care for children, outlined below.

STEP 1

Prepare for the Assessment: Use PRRP Checklist & Toolkit

The **PPRP Checklist** prepares you for the national assessment by helping you identify the key areas the assessment will address. It is divided into 7 sections:

- Education & Competencies for Providers
- Equipment & Supplies
- Patient & Medication Safety
- Patient & Family-Centered Care in EMS
- Policies, Procedures, & Protocols (including Medical Oversight)
- Quality Improvement/Performance Improvement
- Interaction with Systems of Care



Once you complete the checklist, if you identify topics that need improvement, there are almost 200 best-practice resources in the **PPRP Toolkit** you can use to enhance your agency's readiness.

STEP 2

Participate in the PPRP Assessment

In spring of 2024, EMS and fire-rescue agencies will be asked to complete the PPRP Assessment. This online assessment includes in-depth questions that are relevant to your agency and should take 30–45 minutes to complete. A few things to know:

- The assessment opens in May of 2024
- Each EMS and fire-rescue agency should designate one person to complete the assessment
- Once your agency completes the assessment:
 - You will receive a report that will identify specific gaps in your EMS agency's pediatric readiness. Your agency then can use the report to identify resources in the **PPRP Toolkit** to help you make improvements.
 - As part of your report you'll receive your agency's overall readiness score. You'll also receive benchmarking information comparing your score with the national average score of all agencies, as well as the average score of agencies with similar pediatric volume.
- Your answers are confidential. The EMSC Program will have access to the data and follows strict data protection practices. Additionally, your data may be used by researchers to better understand and make improvements in prehospital pediatric readiness. Your assessment results will be combined with other agencies when reporting research results.
- There are three items that may require you to collect/retrieve data before completing the assessment. These include annual call volume, annual pediatric call volume, and the number of personnel in your agency at each level of certification.

GETTING TO WORK

1. Download the **PPRP Checklist** and start understanding the steps to ensure pediatric readiness
2. Access the **toolkit** to address gaps identified by the checklist
3. Reach out to your state's **EMSC Program Manager** with any questions
4. Keep an eye out for the assessment invitation in May 2024



LEARN MORE AT
<https://bit.ly/prehospitalpedready>

The National Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project (PPRP) is the leading joint initiative to improve prehospital care for acutely ill and injured children across the United States. The PPRP is funded and co-led by the federal Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Program with support from more than 30 national organizations and stakeholders.

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