



# MEDIA RELEASE

## Department of Public Safety

Ohio Department of Public Safety • John Born, Director  
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### Division of EMS to Conduct Statewide Pediatric Assessment

**COLUMBUS OH--**The Ohio Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Program will conduct a statewide assessment December 1 through February of 449 EMS agencies regarding capacity to treat ill or injured children (ages 0-18 years). This assessment is based on the pediatric portion of the 2009 American Academy of Pediatrics' nationally recommended list of equipment for ambulances, as well as the availability of on-line and off-line medical direction when treating a child.

"Feedback is of critical importance in identifying an agency's capacity to provide pediatric emergency care," said EMSC Coordinator Joe Stack. "Responses from the survey will be kept confidential and will be combined with assessment results from other EMS agencies for reporting purposes."

The results from these surveys help guide the Ohio EMS for Children Program in decision making for the future of the program, including making all the equipment from the Equipment for Ambulances list a part of the Ohio EMS Grants Training and Equipment List. In addition, some pieces of equipment which were shown to be lacking on the 2010-11 survey will be mailed to agencies which participated in that survey.



EMS agencies in Ohio were surveyed in 2008 and in 2010-11 about these measures, with the following results:

Access to on-line pediatric medical direction *at the scene of an emergency*:

- 100 percent of BLS services (53 percent in 2008)
- 95 percent of ALS services (80 percent in 2008)

Access to off-line pediatric medical direction *at the scene of an emergency*:

- 58 percent of BLS ambulances (67 percent in 2008)
- 95 percent of ALS ambulances (94 percent in 2008)

Access to all the recommended pediatric equipment *at the scene of an emergency*:

- 32 percent of BLS ambulances (18 percent in 2008)
- 24 percent of ALS ambulances (25 percent in 2008)

More information about Ohio EMS for Children, and the EMSC Performance Measures, is available at [http://ems.ohio.gov/emsc/emsc\\_index.stm](http://ems.ohio.gov/emsc/emsc_index.stm), or contact Joe Stack, Ohio EMS for Children Coordinator, at 614-387-1949 or [EMSC@dps.state.oh.us](mailto:EMSC@dps.state.oh.us).