Prehospital Emergency Care (PEC)

Editor’s Report

2014 saw the completion of volume 18 of Prehospital Emergency Care (PEC). The volume had 559 pages, along with a 51 page supplement to the January/March issue (610 pages total). The January/March issue included a record high 168 abstracts, which were presented at the 2014 NAEMSP® Annual Scientific Assembly. The supplement, Evidence-Based Guidelines in EMS was jointly sponsored by the Office of Emergency Medical Services of the National Highway Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Program of the Health Resources Services Administration (HSRA).

In July, PEC received its 2013 Impact Factor, which remained steady at 1.806, with the five-year Impact Factor of 1.780 (up from 2012 of 1.704 and again showing the long-term stability of the journal). PEC is now ranked 8th of the 25 Emergency Medicine journals that are currently rated by the ISI Web of Knowledge. We are ranked 71/160 in the Public, Environmental, & Occupational Health category. PEC is placed ahead of such well-established journals as Journal of Emergency Medicine, Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Emergency Medicine Clinics of North America, Canadian Journal of Emergency Medicine, Journal of Emergency Nursing, and European Journal of Emergency Medicine.

The ISI Impact Factor system is not the only measure of a journal’s influence. There are other services that rank journals’ impact as well. SCOPUS has an alternative method. Its Scimago system produces an “H Index”. By this method, PEC ranks 5th out of the 50 emergency medicine journals that are ranked by SCOPUS. Our strategic plan is to continue to advance in ranking. In order to accomplish this, we will need the continued support of NAEMSP® members via submission of their best work to PEC.

PEC continues to utilize Early Online electronic publication ahead of print. This allows more rapid publication as a service to PEC authors and readership. As of this writing, PEC was again on pace to receive a record number of submissions (expected to be more than 300). The number of manuscripts submitted to PEC has increased every year since its inception. In terms of peer-review, PEC has an average time to first decision of 16 days. The acceptance rate of papers submitted to PEC is 27 percent, which is a record low. This is indicative of the health of the journal quality-wise, as it has become increasingly difficult to get published in PEC (i.e. the bar for quality continues to be raised).

Additional peer reviewers are always needed. This is especially true in the areas of pediatrics, trauma, education, qualitative research, EMS operations, and air medical services. Those interested should send an email of interest (citing area of expertise with a CV attached) to Dr. Menegazzi at menegazz@pitt.edu.

Some of the highlights of Volume 18 included:

Focus Sections

- Focus on Cardiac Arrest
- Focus on Trauma
- Focus on Pediatric EMS
- Focus on Innovation in EMS
- Focus on Airway Management
- Focus on Assessment by Prehospital Providers
- Focus on Mass Casualty Incidents
- Military Medicine
- International EMS (twice)

Position Statement

Transfer of Care between EMS Providers and Receiving Facilities

Joint Policy Statement

Equipment for Ground Ambulances

(Jointly from NAEMSP®, NASEMSO, ACEP, American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Emergency Nurses Association)

Case Conferences

There were five case conferences published in this volume of PEC, which was the same as in 2013. This is a very nice forum for enabling prehospital providers and junior faculty to get published. We continue to encourage submissions to this section of the journal.

Abstracts

- Abstracts for the 2013 NAEMSP® Scientific Assembly
- NAEMSP® Fellow Education Abstracts- Innovations in EMS Fellow Education

NAEMSP® News

Under the direction of its editor, Joseph A. DeLucia, DO, FACEP, EMT-T, NAEMSP®’s quarterly newsletter continues to provide members with timely information and updates. Each issue is sent electronically to members via our monthly E-News. It is available for download through our website along with archives.