

Project Lessons

- 1. A community-systems approach proved successful in implementing a project that involved numerous and varied interests: hospitals, EMS providers, physicians from various specialties, nurses, and consumer groups.** Project staff proceeded from the assumption that the communities within the grant area were the best judges of their own needs and that the role of the project was to facilitate interaction among community components. According to the grantee, subcontracting with local agencies made it possible to avoid the conflicts that sometimes arise in implementing regionalized systems of care.
- 2. Health care providers may be unwilling to pay fees to implement a system, even when they agree that the system will improve care.** A small number of hospitals in the first area did not participate in the EDAP certification system, largely because NorCal EMS insisted on a fee for certification. Had REI recognized that during the design stage of the project, it might have been able to work with the Northern Sierra Hospital Council to change this component.

COMMUNICATIONS

Project staff wrote a journal article for the *Maternal and Child Nursing Journal* about EMSC in rural and remote areas and have made presentations about the project. North Coast EMS developed a 20-minute videotape, *Safety for Kids*, in collaboration with a local television program on parenting. (See Bibliography for further details.)

NEXT STEPS

The self-learning modules in emergency pediatric care were revised and incorporated into the *Pediatric Emergency Nursing Manual*, which was published in 1991 by the Springer Publishing Company. The book received the Nursing Book of the Year award of the *American Journal of Nursing*. As of February 2000, the CD-ROM *Assessment of the Critically Ill or Injured Child* was still incomplete, but the grantee hopes eventually to distribute 1,000 CD-ROMS to nursing schools across the country and to emergency department nurses in selected parts of California and to pursue other dissemination strategies for this product.

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