



Oregon Chapter  
American College of  
Emergency Physicians

**PO Box 19233  
Portland, OR 97280**

December 11, 2024

Dear Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs (OCCYSHN) Leadership,

On behalf of the Oregon Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP), I am writing to express our full endorsement of the Oregon Health Emergency Protocol form. After careful review, we believe this document represents a critical advancement in emergency medical care for patients with complex physical and mental health conditions.

The standardized format of this protocol addresses a significant gap in emergency medical response by providing a clear, comprehensive template for documenting critical patient information. Key strengths of the form include:

- A structured approach to capturing essential medical details that can dramatically improve emergency treatment decisions
- Flexibility to address both physical and mental health complexities
- Clear sections for provider attestation and contact information
- Alignment with HIPAA guidelines for information disclosure

Of particular significance is the form's potential to support frontline providers managing patients with rare or complex medical conditions. In high-stress emergency situations, having a uniform, instantly accessible document that quickly communicates a patient's unique medical needs can be transformative. For patients with uncommon or highly specific medical challenges, this protocol offers emergency providers an immediate, reliable reference that can guide critical care decisions with clarity and speed.

Emergency medical providers often face challenging situations where rapid, accurate patient information can mean the difference between life and death. This form provides a standardized, easily recognizable document that can help streamline critical care interventions for patients with complex medical histories.

We are grateful to the Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs (OCCYSHN) for their commitment to creating a protocol that serves both patients and medical providers. The form's design demonstrates a deep understanding of the practical challenges faced in emergency medical settings.

**Chapter President** – Christian Smith, MD

**Chapter Executive** – Sierra Acker

**President-Elect** – Patsy Chenpanas, MD

**Government Relations Director** – Katy King

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The Oregon Chapter of ACEP fully supports the implementation of this Emergency Health Protocol form as a standard practice across Oregon. We believe it has the potential to significantly improve patient outcomes and provider response effectiveness.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Christian Smith  
President, Oregon Chapter  
American College of Emergency Physicians

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