



## Pediatric Readiness in the Emergency Department

This checklist is based on the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP), and Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) 2018 joint policy statement **“Pediatric Readiness in the Emergency Department.”** Use this tool to check if your hospital emergency department (ED) has the most critical components listed in the joint policy statement.

### Guidelines for Improving Patient Safety

Pediatric patient and medication safety needs are addressed in the following ways:

- Children are weighed in kilograms only
- Weights are recorded in kilograms only
- For children who require emergency stabilization, a standard method for estimating weight in kilograms is used (e.g., a length-based system)
- Infants and children have a full set of vital signs recorded
  - A full set of vital signs includes temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate, pulse oximetry, blood pressure, pain, and mental status when indicated in the medical record
- CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring for children of all ages
- Process for safe medication delivery that includes:
  - Prescribing
  - Administration
  - Disposal
- Pre-calculated drug dosing and formulation guides
- 24/7 access to interpreter services in the ED
- Timely tracking and reporting of patient safety events

