What is PECARN?
PECARN (Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network) is a **collaborative research network**:

- 18 Hospital Emergency Department Affiliates (HEDAs)
- Six Research Node Centers (RNC)
- A data coordinating center (DCC)
- Six EMS Affiliates
The Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (PECARN)

= PRIME Node
= GLEMSCRN Node
= PEM-NEWS Node
= WBCARN Node
= Data Coordinating Center
= HOMERUN Node
= SW Node
= CHaMP Node
PECARN provides the leadership and infrastructure to:

- Conduct multi-center research studies
- Support research collaboration among EMSC investigators
- Promote informational exchanges between EMSC investigators and providers
GOAL OF PECARN
Conduct meaningful and rigorous multi-institutional research into the prevention and management of acute illnesses and injuries in children and youth across the continuum of emergency medicine health care.
STRENGTHS OF PECARN
PECARN's strength is in its wide geographical and hospital representation serving over 1,100,000 ill & injured children annually and its EMS affiliates that handle 43,000 pediatric EMS runs annually.
The PECARN hospitals represent diverse demographic and geographic areas, such as:

- Academic hospitals
- Community hospitals
- Urban hospitals
- General hospitals
- Children's hospitals
PECARN is comprised of senior-level EMSC researchers and clinicians with expertise in epidemiology, statistics and health services research.
RESEARCH PRIORITIES
Research Priorities Include:

- Respiratory illnesses/asthma
- Prediction rules for high stakes/low likelihood diseases
- Medication error reduction
- Injury prevention
- Urgency and acuity scaling
Research Priorities Include:

• Race, ethnic, class disparities in health
• Mental health
• Treatment of infectious diseases
• Best practices in patient care
• Pain and anxiety management
Research Priorities Include:

- Education/training outcomes
- Development of treatment algorithms
- Improvement in health outcomes for cardiac arrest
- Practice protocols
- Seizure management
- C-spine immobilization
PECARN STRUCTURE
PECARN consists of:

- A steering committee with representation from each HEDA and the DCC
- Subcommittees to address specific aspects of research
HOW TO SUBMIT A RESEARCH IDEA
In PECARN, each node works **collaboratively** with the others and with HRSA/MCHB to initiate, implement, and administer network research.
Specific research projects require nodes to obtain extramural research funding for a project to be conducted through PECARN.
Idea submission

- Outside investigators should contact one of the PECARN investigators to express interest in submitting a study idea.
- The general steps for concept approval and protocol development are as follows:
Steps for Submission

• Contact the PI of a node to discuss an idea

• The node will review and help the PI prepare a concept for consideration to the PECARN steering committee
Steps for Submission

• After nodal review, submit a 2 page concept paper outlining the study idea to the PECARN Steering Committee (SC) meeting.
• Concept is voted “approved” or “not approved” at the SC meeting.
Concept Should Address:

1. Why the proposed topic is important to PECARN (refer to PECARN research priorities)
2. Why the study requires a network
3. Brief background
4. Specific aims
5. Brief proposed methodology
6. Subject population
7. Sample size calculation
8. See link for sample concept: http://www.pecarn.org/helpfulResources/pecarnTraining.html
If Approved

- Investigator works with DCC and working group to develop concept into protocol
- Protocol is presented at next SC meeting
- Subcommittees provide feedback
- Protocol is revised then voted on by SC for submission as a grant
Contact Information

For current PECARN contact information, see this link:
http://www.pecarn.org/contactInfo/index.html