



County of San Diego

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To EMS System Participants

DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM

Dear System Participants:

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) of the San Diego County Health and Human Service Agency is sending you this communication to provide important information related to an upcoming change in our EMS data collection system. A new data collection system is needed to comply with the California Health and Safety Code Division 2.5 Section 1797.227 and the California EMS Authority (EMSA) requirement for prehospital data to be submitted in the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) compliant format. EMS is in the final procurement stage of the County contracting process and an announcement with the selected vendor will be made over the ensuing weeks.

In the early phases of identifying a data collection system EMS and community user groups participated in a prehospital information and communication assessment where key system design characteristics and modules were identified, including system flexibility, inter-operability, configurability, and usability (user-friendliness). Additionally, the system would be cloud based, as well as NEMSIS version 3.4 and Health Level - 7 compliant. While there were very detailed capabilities for each component, the overall characteristics mentioned above were consistently identified throughout the assessment and subsequently prioritized in the procurement of the data collection system.

A phased implementation plan is being developed in order to meet the EMSA requirement for January 1, 2017 implementation. It is expected that at the regular stakeholder and Advisory Committee meetings in September, EMS will have information to share regarding these state requirements, the contractor for the data collection system, and the implementation plan. It is important for prehospital agencies utilizing third party vendors for their electronic patient care record to be prepared to submit data to EMS in the NEMSIS 3.4 format.

If you have any questions, please contact Susan Smith, EMS Coordinator, at 619-285-6409 or by email: susan.smith@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

MARCY METZ
Chief, Agency Operations
Emergency Medical Services

BRUCE E. HAYNES, M.D.
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