

Newsletter - March / April 2013

Orange County Ambulance Companies Transition To Electronic Patient Care Documentation

Over the last year, several Orange County Ambulance Providers have transitioned to electronic patient care documentation. While some ambulance companies have launched their own systems, a growing number of them have elected to utilize the OC-MEDS ePCR. Orange County EMS has been working with each of the companies who have expressed interest in the OC-MEDS project to develop innovative solutions to incorporate them into the countywide data system. A brief description of some of the progress made with a handful of the larger ambulance companies includes:

- Doctors Ambulance went "live" with the OC-MEDS ePCR company-wide in September 2012.
- A software integration with Care Ambulance has been successfully established that enables the automatic transfer of ePCR data from an OC-MEDS ePCR to the Care Ambulance ePCR system when Care Ambulance is selected as the transporting agency.
- Emergency Ambulance is making final preparations for full implementation of the OC-MEDS ePCR with an anticipated "go live" later this spring to early summer 2013.
- Lynch Ambulance has successfully submitted large NEMSIS compliant data files to OC-MEDS from their ePCR system.



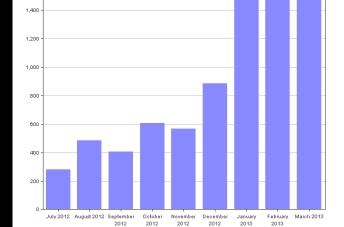
Monthly OC-MEDS ePCR Usage Goal By Fire Departments Has Been Met

Last Fall, OCEMS set a goal of 10% ePCR utilization by fire departments by Spring 2013. The objective was to measure the countywide monthly average EMS call volume (n = 14,000) and compare it to the number of ePCRs that were completed and posted by fire department personnel. We are proud to announce that we have met our goal and have consistently seen over 10% ePCR utilization by fire departments for each of the last three months. OCEMS is committed to the success of the ePCR project and will continue to work with fire departments to encourage agency implementation of the ePCR with a new target monthly average of at least 25% by Fall 2013 and 75% by Winter 2013.

Number of Records by Date

Who's "Going Live"?

ePCR Utilization



Incident Date	Count
July 2012	282
August 2012	486
September 2012	407
October 2012	606
November 2012	566
December 2012	886
January 2013	1,489
February 2013	1,560
March 2013	1,580



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ePCR Hardware

OCEMS coordinates multi-agency computer tablets purchase

Orange County EMS has been working with most public EMS Providers to facilitate the selection and procurement of computer tablets that will meet their needs. To date, nearly 150 tablets have been ordered for use by fire departments and several more are planned by the beginning of the fiscal year in July 2013. Tablets that have already been ordered are anticipated to be delivered by April and/or May 2013. Once received, OCEMS will contact each department to distribute the equipment.



eBHR and Base Hospital Communications Equipment



Aging Base Hospital Communications Consoles Are Being Replaced

Orange County Communications (OCC) in collaboration with OCEMS has begun to fully replace aging communications consoles used by Mobile Intensive Care Nurses (MICN) at each Base Hospital. The new consoles include modern radio communication components with computerized touch screen controls. In addition to new communications capabilities, the project will soon include new Electronic Base Hospital Report (eBHR) software that will allow each base hospital to be interoperable with the OC-MEDS ePCR software used by paramedics in the field. The console at Huntington Beach Hospital was successfully implemented this week (04/01/13) with the remaining Base Hospitals scheduled for implementation over the next 5 weeks.

Licensure Management

OCEMS launches online EMT Licensing System and New License Desk Office Hours

OCEMS is proud to announce the successful implementation of our new online Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certification system. The Certification system, a component of the Orange County Medical Emergency Data System (OC-MEDS) project, went live on December 17, 2012 and is already being used by nearly all EMT applicants served by OCEMS. Prospective EMT applicants may use the system to apply for California State EMT Certification and/or Orange County EMT Accreditation and pay associated fees entirely online without having to walk into the OCEMS office. The system is operational 24 hours per day / 7 days per week and may be accessed at: https://www.oc-

meds.org/licensure/public/orangecounty/.

To continue to best serve the needs of the public, OCEMS has modified our EMS Licensing Desk Office Hours. The office will be open to "Walk In" EMT applicants every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00am – 4:30pm.

Which applications
can I do ONLINE?

CAEMT Certification
& Recertification
OCEMS Accreditation
Initial and Renewal

OCEMS Accreditation
Initial and Renewal

OCEMS will now be OPEN to walk-in applicants on Tuesdays and Thursdays or MasterCard* logo.

What about walk-ins?

OCEMS will now be OPEN to walk-in applicants on Tuesdays and Thursdays or MasterCard* logo.

OCEMS will now be OPEN to walk-in applicants on Tuesdays and Thursdays or MasterCard* logo.

OCEMS will no longer be performing office services - copy, fax, scan, etc. You must provide copies of documents to be submitted.

Project Contact

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