**OC-MEDS – EMS PROVIDER DATA SUBMISSION PROCESS**

I. AUTHORITY:

*Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.204; California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Section § 100171(f). Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.227.*

II. APPLICATION:

This policy establishes a process for EMS Providers to submit data to OCEMS for every EMS patient encounter.

III. DEFINITIONS:

**National EMS Information System (NEMSIS):** The national data standard for emergency medical services as defined by the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center (TAC).

**California EMS Information System (CEMSIS):** The California data standard for emergency medical services as defined by the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA). The data standard includes the NEMSIS standards and state defined data elements.

**Orange County Medical Emergency Data System (OC-MEDS):** The Orange County data hub and local data standard for emergency medical services as managed and defined by Orange County Emergency Medical Services Authority (OCEMS). The data standard includes the NEMSIS, CEMSIS, and Orange County specific data elements.

**Patient Care Report System (PCRS):** An electronic software platform that allows for real time collection of patient care information at the time of service.

**NEMSIS Web Service:** A unified interface to support data exchange between NEMSIS compliant PCRS systems. The OC-MEDS Hub utilizes the NEMSIS Web Service structure to accept data from an EMS Provider's third party PCRS.

IV. CRITERIA:

A. EMS Providers may utilize the County funded OC-MEDS Hub as their organizational PCRS to meet data submission requirements. To obtain new access to the OC-MEDS Hub to use as the primary PCRS, the EMS Provider shall meet the following minimum criteria:

  i. The provider must be a recognized Orange County EMS provider.

    a. Public based EMS provider with jurisdictional authority for 9-1-1 response in an Orange County city and/or unincorporated County area(s).

    b. Private based EMS provider who is currently licensed by OCEMS as an Ambulance Provider or is actively under review to obtain that license. Private based EMS providers must also meet at least one of the following criteria:

      1. The provider's headquarters is located within the jurisdictional boundaries of Orange County; or

      2. The provider can demonstrate that a minimum of 80% of their company wide call volume originates within the jurisdictional borders of Orange County; or

3. The provider is the designated 9-1-1 response / transport service in any Exclusive Operating Area (EOA) as defined by the Orange County EMS Plan.

c. Public or private based first responders (i.e. Law Enforcement, Lifeguards, etc.) in which response and patient care activities occur within the jurisdictional boundaries of Orange County.

ii. Submit a written request for access to the OC-MEDS Hub for use as their organizational PCRS. The request shall include the following:

a. Provider Name and Agency ID

b. Name and Contact Information of the person(s) responsible for managing and maintaining the PCRS

c. If private ambulance provider, a statement to attest that at least one (1) of the criteria referenced above (IV,A,I,b) has been met.

iii. The request will be reviewed by OCEMS within 14 business days. If approved, access to the EMS Provider's PCRS site in the OC-MEDS Hub will be granted.

B. EMS Providers may choose to use their own third party PCRS to meet data submission requirements provided that the provider PCRS meets all standards as defined by OCEMS Policy 300.30 and complies with all data elements as defined by OCEMS Policy 300.31. To submit data from a third party PCRS, the EMS provider shall do the following:

i. The provider must be a recognized Orange County EMS provider.

a. Public based EMS provider with jurisdictional authority for 9-1-1 response in an Orange County city and/or unincorporated County areas.

b. Private based EMS provider who is currently licensed by OCEMS as an Ambulance Provider or is actively under review to obtain that license.

c. Public or private based first responders (i.e. Law Enforcement, Lifeguards, etc.) in which response and patient care activities occur within the jurisdictional boundaries of Orange County.

ii. The third party PCRS used by the EMS Provider shall be certified compliant with the current version of NEMSIS.

iii. Submit a written request for access to the OC-MEDS NEMSIS Web Service. The request must include the following:

a. Provider Name and Agency ID

b. Third Party PCRS Vendor Information (including 24 hour technical support contact)

c. A statement to attest that the PCRS vendor is certified compliant with the current version of NEMSIS.

iv.   The request will be reviewed by OCEMS within 14 business days. If approved, access to the OC-MEDS NEMSIS Web Service will be granted to the third party PCRS vendor.

v.   Once access to the OC-MEDS NEMSIS Service has been granted, OCEMS will work with the EMS Provider and third party PCRS vendor to conduct data submission testing.

   a.   EMS Provider / PCRS Vendor Responsibilities

      1.   Establish and continuously maintain a connection with the OC-MEDS NEMSIS Web Service.

         a.   The EMS Provider / PCRS vendor should be prepared to submit incident data for every completed Patient Care Report in real time immediately upon completion by the EMS Provider.

         b.   The EMS Provider / PCRS vendor should report any technical difficulties with establishing or maintaining a connection to the OC-MEDS System Administrator.

      2.   Upon initially establishing a connection, submit at least five (5) test incident records that constitute a complete Patient Care Report for the following types of patients:

         a.   Cardiac Arrest

         b.   Chest Pain / Acute Coronary Syndrome

         c.   Stroke

         d.   Trauma

         e.   Respiratory Distress

            i.   Adult

            ii.   Pediatric

      3.   Inform OCEMS when test incident records have been submitted.

      4.   Address and correct technical and/or data validation issues that are identified.

   b.   OCEMS Responsibilities

      1.   Provide web service access information, including: web service URL, username and password.

      2.   Review test incidents submitted by the EMS Provider / PCRS Vendor.

      3.   Provide guidance and support to address technical and/or data validation issues.

**Approved:**

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