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EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

DATE: July 5, 2023

TO: BASE HOSPITAL COORDINATORS
ERC MEDICAL DIRECTORS
911 PROVIDER EMS COORDINATORS/MANAGERS
IFT-ALS NURSE COORDINATORS
PARAMEDIC TRAINING CENTERS
BLS AMBULANCE PROVIDERS

FROM: CARL H. SCHULTZ, MD *C.H.S.*
ORANGE COUNTY EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: **NEW POLICIES and CLARIFICATIONS/UPDATES OF EXISTING EMS DOCUMENTS and NEMSIS v3.5 TRANSITION UPDATE.**

Pursuant to state and federal requirements mandating transition to NEMSIS v3.5, Orange County EMS (OCEMS) has finalized an update to the Orange County Medical Emergency Data System (OC-MEDS) Data Dictionary (OCEMS Policy 300.31). The OC-MEDS Data Dictionary is now available for implementation and is effective on Oct 1, 2023. All resources (OCEMS Policy 300.31 and Attachments 1-18) are now available to view and download on the OCEMS website (<https://www.ochca.com/providers-partners/emergency-medical-services>).

OCEMS will be implementing NEMSIS v3.5 at the system level on Oct 1, 2023, and has set Dec 18, 2023, as the final deadline for all EMS Providers. Licensed EMS Providers who have not fully transitioned to the new standard by Dec 18, 2023, will be denied 2024 ambulance license renewal. EMS Providers seeking new Orange County Ambulance Licensure must show compliance with the updated OCEMS Policy 300.31 as described in this memo.

Additional information regarding the NEMSIS v3.5 transition may be found in OCEMS Letters #4522, #4580, and #4638. Timelines and checklists in these letters are intended to assist EMS providers with meeting important markers to ensure successful transition to the new NEMSIS version.

In the coming weeks, OCEMS will be displaying a dashboard showing NEMSIS v3.5 transition progress for each EMS provider. This dashboard is designed to ensure that EMS providers are fully aware of their transition status and to assist with meeting key objectives well before the final deadline.

Questions regarding the updated OC-MEDS Data Dictionary and the NEMSIS v3.5 transition, may be directed to the on-duty OC-MEDS System Administrator at oc-meds@ochca.com.

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