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DATE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

TO: EMS PROVIDER AGENCIES
DESIGNATED BASE HOSPITALS

FR: LAURENT REPASS 
EMS INFORMATION & ANALYTICS CHIEF

RE: NEMSIS V3.5 TRANSITION – FINAL IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE

Since January 2023, OCEMS has been preparing to transition our EMS data system to NEMSIS v3.5 by **October 1st, 2023**, in line with state guidance. All transition efforts at the System (County) level are now complete and the Orange County Medical Emergency Data System (OC-MEDS) is ready to receive and process NEMSIS v3.5 data.

EMS Providers are urged to coordinate immediately with OCEMS and other operational partners (mutual aid, ambulance transport, base hospital, etc.) regarding your implementation plans. Field data transfers are not feasible between 3.4 and 3.5 run forms and may require that partner agencies implement transition plans where crews will have access to both 3.4 and 3.5 run forms to enable field data transfers.

EMS Providers **must notify** OCEMS **at least one (1) week prior to collecting any real patient data** in the 3.5 standard. Notifications should be sent to the OC-MEDS Administrator On-Call at oc-meds@ochca.com.

The following resources and processes are now in place and available for EMS providers who are ready to make the transition to NEMSIS v3.5 on or after the “Go Live” date:

- V3.5 Compliant Data Dictionary (OCEMS Policy 300.31) – Effective Oct. 1, 2023
- New v3.5 System (County) Run Forms ready to activate and use in OC-MEDS Elite
- Training Videos and Technical Summaries
- Technical processes to receive v3.5 data from third party vendors.
- Technical processes to send EMS data to the California EMS Information System (CEMSIS)

All NEMSIS v3.5 transition resources are available on the [OCEMS website](#).

EMS Provider agencies should work to implement before or shortly after the October 1st, 2023 California state go live date and must have fully completed their transitions to v3.5 **no later than Monday, December 18, 2023**, after which NEMSIS 3.4 data collection forms, methods, and processes will be disabled. Licensed EMS Providers who have not fully transitioned to the new standard by December 18, 2023, will be denied 2024 ambulance license renewal.

Questions may be directed to the OC-MEDS Administrator On-Call at oc-meds@ochca.com.

cc: Tammi McConnell, RN, MSN - EMS Administrator
Carl Schultz, MD, FACEP - EMS Medical Director

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