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October 24, 2025

To: EMS Service Providers

From: Laurent Repass, NRP 
EMS Information and Analytics Chief

Subject: Transition to NEMSIS v3.5.1 - Update #2

On September 29, 2025, we sent out a notification that the California EMS Authority would be mandating all providers update their Patient Care Reporting Systems (PCRS) to NEMSIS v3.5.1 by January 1, 2026. On October 14, 2025, we received updated guidance from EMSA (attached), and the deadline has been postponed until **November 1, 2026**.

Pursuant to OCEMS Policy 300.30 and California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter(s) 3.1 and 3.3 (§100097.01), EMS providers must complete and submit Patient Care Reports (PCR) using a Patient Care Reporting System (PCRS) that is *certified* compliant with the current version of the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) and the California EMS Information System (CEMSIS).

EMS Providers who use the OC-MEDS PCRS are compliant and no further action is needed. EMS providers who use a *third-party* PCRS must ensure their system is updated and certified compliant by the NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center (TAC) to ensure continued compliance. Providers are encouraged to monitor their vendor's compliance on the NEMSIS website at: <https://nemsis.org/technical-resources/version-3/v3-compliant-software-and-compliance-testing-status/>.

Providers whose PCRS is certified v3.5.1 compliant are encouraged to begin submitting data to OC-MEDS as soon as possible. Failure to submit EMS data in the required format by **November 1, 2026** may result in suspension or revocation of your license to operate.

If you have questions, please contact the OC-MEDS System Administrator on-duty at oc-meds@ochca.com.

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DATE: October 14, 2025

TO: Local Emergency Medical Services Agency Administrators
Local Emergency Medical Services Medical Directors
Emergency Medical Services Providers
Emergency Medical Services System Partners

FROM: Elizabeth Basnett, Director 
Hernando Garzon, MD, Chief Medical Officer 

SUBJECT: **Update** - National EMS Information System Version 3.5.1 Transition

On January 15, 2025, NEMSIS Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) finalized and published the National Emergency Medical Services Information System (NEMSIS) version 3.5.1. This transition will include changes to the NEMSIS data dictionary. NEMSIS started accepting version (V)3.5.1 data on September 30, 2025.

Previously, the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA)'s intent was to have all entities submitting data into the California Emergency Medical Services Information System (CEMSIS) be NEMSIS V3.5.1 compliant by the end of 2025. However, we understand that due to the application of a critical patch that occurred earlier this year, many software vendors would be unable to meet this deadline.

EMSA will accept V3.5 and V3.5.1 data until October 31, 2026. Beginning November 1, 2026, EMSA will only accept NEMSIS V3.5.1.

ImageTrend, the vendor that maintains the CEMSIS data repository, is ready to accept V3.5.1 Demographic (DEM) files and V3.5.1 EMS data. EMSA asks all vendors to send V3.5.1 DEM files and to inform EMSA by sending an email to CEMSIS@emsa.ca.gov. If not, uploading V3.5.1 EMS files will fail.

A V3.5.1 schematron titled "Schematron Validation Rules for Patient Care Report Data" has also been created. It is located on the [NEMSIS California webpage](#) and will be effective October 22, 2025. Please ensure that providers are using this schematron if sending V3.5.1 EMS data.

Many of the changes to V3.5.1 should not affect the data elements that are required by the California State Dataset as shown in this [changelog](#) by NEMSIS. While this may

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seem like a minor change, it is important for us to ensure that California is on the most recent version of NEMSIS.

Thank you for your help to ensure the quality of data, data submission, and analysis. If there are any questions or comments, please contact the Quality and Planning Division by emailing EMSData@emsa.ca.gov.