

# Implementing HIE in EMS

The use of Electronic Health Records with NEMSIS 3 compliant software is now required for all EMS providers to allow for real-time entry at the patient's bedside with the ability to share electronic patient information across other health care organizations to improve transitions of care. Legislation recently signed into law (AB 1129, Burke) requires all EMS systems to have a NEMSIS 3 compliant system operational by December 31, 2016.

Giving EMS providers the ability to: **search** a patient's health record for problems, medications, allergies, and end-of life-decisions to enhance clinical decision making in the field; **alert** the receiving hospital about the patient's status directly onto a dashboard in the emergency department to provide decision support; **file** the emergency medical services patient care report data directly into the patient's electronic health record for a better longitudinal patient record; **reconcile** the electronic health record information including diagnoses and disposition back into the EMS patient care report for use in improving the EMS system, will help to make EMS a full participant in the exchange of electronic health information.

Every entity within the healthcare continuum, from ambulance providers to hospitals, and local emergency medical services agencies, can

benefit from immediate electronic access to a patient's essential health information. Connecting EMS to the broader health care system through HIE is essential, and it is inevitable.

Access to information leads to better care, more efficient transitions of care, and improved outcomes and experiences. As EMS provider entities transition to NEMSIS 3 compliant ePCR systems, it is important they ensure that those systems support the essential functionality for health information exchange.



Every EMS provider should require their ePCR system to have full functionality for health information exchange

## +EMS Benefits:

- > Improve clinical decision making
- > Improve clinical decision support
- > Better transitions of care
- > Improve patient care
- > Build better longitudinal patient record
- > Improve population health

## Essential HIE Functions for +EMS

<b>S</b>	<b>SEARCH</b>	Paramedics and EMTs may look up and display patient problem list, medications, allergies, POLST and DNR in the field on ePCR screen
<b>A</b>	<b>ALERT</b>	Display patient information on hospital dashboard at ED to alert and share incoming EMS patient information to assist in time-sensitive therapies
<b>F</b>	<b>FILE</b>	Incorporate ePCR data into hospital EHR in HL7 format (using NEMSIS 3.4 CDA standards)
<b>R</b>	<b>RECONCILE</b>	Receive patient disposition information from hospital EHR to add to EMS provider patient record

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