

	COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY	Document #	2522.03
	PROGRAM DOCUMENT: Electronic Health Record and Data Policy	Initial Date:	10/03/16
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EMS Medical Director

EMS Administrator

Purpose:

- A. To define electronic health record and data requirements indicated by Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA).

Authority:

- A. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 12
- B. California Bills AB503, AB1129, AB1223, and SB19

Definitions:

- A. Emergency medical care provider – is an entity that is authorized as part of the EMS system by the local EMS agency.
- B. Electronic health record (EHR) – as defined by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology is a digital version of a patient’s paper chart. The electronic health record must have the capability of mobile entry at the patient’s bedside and incorporate workflow of real-time entry of information. The electronic health record should be interoperable with other systems, including functionality to exchange (send and receive) electronic patient health information with other entities. NOTE: An electronic patient care report (ePCR) system is a pre-hospital equivalent to an EHR.
- C. National Emergency Medical Services Information System (NEMSIS) – is a national effort to standardize the data collected by EMS agencies.
- D. California Emergency Medical Services Information System (CEMSIS) – is a state standardized EMS data collection system defined by EMSA and compliant with NEMSIS. May contain additional data elements or criteria which NEMSIS does not contain.

Policy:

- A. Each emergency medical care provider shall use an electronic health record.
- B. The EHR must be **compliant** with the **current** version of NEMSIS approved for use by Sacramento County EMS Agency. ~~As of January 1, 2017, the current version is NEMSIS 3.3.4 or version 3.4.~~ Compliant means a system that has been tested and certified “compliant” by NEMSIS.
- C. The EHR shall be **compliant** with the current version of CEMSIS, as approved by EMSA.
- D. Each emergency medical care provider shall report NEMSIS compliant data in real time or at least once per twenty-four (24) hour period.

Electronic System Failure:

- A. Back-up systems to provide for paper PCR documentation must be in place for use should an electronic documentation system fail. Electronic documentation system failure is NOT an exception for providing the required PCR documentation.
- B. SCEMSA shall be notified of downtime or transmission difficulties lasting more than twenty-four (24) hours for all EHR system outages.

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