

Progress Report – November 2012

Steering Committee

- The OC-MEDS Steering Committee is comprised of representatives from the OC Ambulance Association, OC Fire Chiefs Association, OC Communications, and the Hospital Association of Southern California. The group last met on Wednesday October 17, 2012 at 10:00am. The Steering Committee will continue to meet on a quarterly basis until the system is fully implemented.

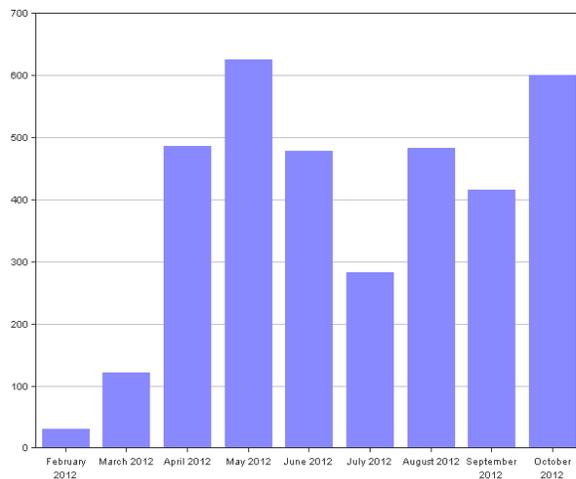
Paper PCR

- HCA / OCEMS has announced that the final order of paper-based PCR forms has been placed. The order will likely last until late summer / early fall 2013 at which time no additional forms will be ordered by HCA / OCEMS. Agencies that use the OCEMS subsidized PCR forms are encouraged to plan ahead.**

ePCR Software

- The ePCR software is continuously being improved to meet the dynamic needs of the Orange County EMS system. The next version of the software, **5.6, was released on 10/31.** The new software includes several enhancements including a NFIRS Reporting Module, Automated NFIRS/NEMESIS Data Exports, and a Base Hospital module.
- HCA / OCEMS has taken delivery of the **Field Bridge Xpress (FBX) ePCR software.** This new software package includes a stripped down version of the existing Field Bridge ePCR software which **can be used on consumer tablets such as Apple iPad (v2 or better), Google Android, or Kindle Fire.** OCEMS has begun configuring and testing the new software and will be requesting beta testing volunteers soon.
- Three Ambulance Companies and eleven Fire Departments** have been issued **LIVE OC-MEDS accounts** and have been configuring and testing their own systems to meet their individual operational needs.
- Since the first ePCR was completed and posted by an Orange County Fire Based EMS Provider back in February 2012, nearly **3,500** PCRs have been added to the system by fire department field personnel; **approximately 3% of the average countywide monthly 9-1-1 EMS call volume (n = 14,000 calls per month).** OCEMS will continue to work with fire departments to encourage agency implementation of the ePCR with a target monthly average of at least **10% by spring 2013.**

Number of Records by Date



Incident Date	Count
February 2012	30
March 2012	122
April 2012	486
May 2012	625
June 2012	479
July 2012	283
August 2012	483
September 2012	415
October 2012	600

- The following fire departments have users who are actively using the OC-MEDS ePCR in the field – Brea FD, Costa Mesa FD, Fountain Valley FD, Fullerton, Garden Grove FD, Huntington Beach FD, Newport Beach FD, Orange City FD, and Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA).
- On October 1, OCFA officially kicked off their ePCR program and approved seven (7) Super Users to “Go Live” on ePCR throughout the agency. Many more users have been trained and will begin to use the system in the field shortly. OCFA anticipates that the entire agency can be “Live” on the OC-MEDS ePCR by July 1, 2013.
- Anaheim, Brea, and Fullerton Fire Departments have initiated their ePCR pilot programs and have been training staff. Brea and Fullerton Super Users have recently begun using the system and have been posting LIVE ePCRs to the system.
- HCA / OCEMS has been working with Laguna Beach FD to plan for integrating with their locally developed ePCR system.
- Both Doctor’s and Medix Ambulance Services have been configuring the system to meet their needs. Doctor’s Ambulance Service has completed configuring their system, has trained their staff and went “live” with the OC-MEDS ePCR on Monday September 10th, 2012.
- HCA / OCEMS recently began working with Emergency Ambulance and have issued their staff accounts to access their site in OC-MEDS.**
- NEMESIS / NFIRS Automated Data Exports:** **HCA / OCEMS has taken delivery of the automated data exports module(s) which will send data to a secure web-service that meet both NEMESIS and NFIRS standards.** These automated data exports are intended to enable EMS providers and/or their agents to establish automated data imports into their own systems. For example, Fire Department A completes and posts an ePCR, the data from the ePCR is immediately sent to a secure web-service; Ambulance Company B (who works with Fire Department A) accesses the web-service and imports the data into their own ePCR system. This portion of the project will be complete by Mid to Late October 2012. Stay tuned for more info. **HCA / OCEMS has partnered with Care Ambulance which will utilize the process noted above in addition to custom development with their ePCR vendor to automatically import data to Care’s ePCR system so that ambulance crews may view in near real time date from the fire ePCR.**
- OC-MEDS specific Field Bridge and Service Bridge User Guides have been posted on the OCEMS website for download. Go to: <http://ochealthinfo.com/ems/ocmeds>**



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<p>ePCR Hardware</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCA / OCEMS has been awarded a third and final year of UASI funding, \$500,000. The primary objective and the majority of this funding is to provide public safety based EMS providers with additional Mobile Data Collection Devices to aid with completing their equipment needs and promote use of the system. • HCA / OCEMS sent a request to local fire departments to solicit letters of intent to participate in the funding opportunity. Fire Departments were asked to respond to the request no later than September 28th, 2012. Eleven (11) out of twelve (12) have responded. • Now that interest has been established, HCA / OCEMS will establish a taskforce comprised of representatives from each interested department to identify and select computer hardware that will meet their needs and the needs of the EMS system. • As with past funding opportunities, equipment will be purchased by HCA / OCEMS and distributed to fire departments based on a formula derived using an agency's call volume for FY 2011-12 compared to the system wide call volume for the same time period to create a percentage. For example, if Agency A has 7,000 calls annually, and the system wide total is 168,000, then Agency A is approximately 4% of the Orange County EMS System. Therefore, Agency A will receive 4% of the funding.
<p>eBHR and Base Hospital Communications Equipment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic Base Hospital Report (eBHR): HCA / OCEMS has taken delivery of the electronic base hospital report (eBHR) system. The system will be the first of its kind in California and will entirely replace paper based charting by Base Hospital personnel. The core components of the software are being configured by OCEMS and will be ready for beta testing by Base Hospital volunteers by the Spring 2013. • HCA / OCEMS and Orange County Communications (OCC) will be implementing digital audio recorders which will replace the audio cassette records used today to record voice communications between paramedics and MICNs during base hospital contacted calls and MCIs. • HCA / OCEMS has received completed MOUs from each Base Hospital. As of the date of this update (11/01/2012), the digital recorders have been installed at: Hoag Newport Beach, Western Medical Center – Santa Ana, and UCI Medical Center. The remaining three base hospitals will be updated with the new equipment in mid to late November 2012. • HCA / OCEMS has obtained a second year of funding from the Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) grant to complete the project to strengthen and enhance communications capabilities by replacing aging consoles / workstations at each of the six (6) radio enabled base hospitals to ensure for OC-MEDS compatibility and to bring them into compliance with the countywide 800Mhz communications network.
<p>Hospital Dashboard</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCA / OCEMS has rolled out the OC-MEDS Hospital Dashboard. The “dashboard” is a component of the OC-MEDS software which provides an online method for Paramedic Receiving Centers (PRC) to receive electronic copies of prehospital care reports that have been completed by EMS providers. All 25 PRCs have been added to the system and are operational. • HCA / OCEMS has added accounts for and trained several hundred hospital staff members. In addition, a new module has been added that enables hospitals to manage their own staff. HCA / OCEMS is rolling out this new module and has asked that every emergency department name at least one person and up to two alternates to serve as Hospital Dashboard Administrators. These individuals will serve as the primary points of contact for everything OC-MEDS and Hospital Dashboard related and will be able to add, modify, or inactivate their own staff in the system. Updated “Dashboard” user guides have been posted in the OCEMS website at: http://ochealthinfo.com/ems/ocmeds
<p>Licensure Management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCA / OCEMS is pleased to announce that portions of the new OC-MEDS Licensure Module will be available for public use on or after December 17, 2012. Initially, the system will be accessible to EMT applicants and will enable them to apply for and pay associated fees entirely online. • The system will include a public section for remote access that will enable such things as: online applications and fee payments. For example, individuals will have the ability to apply for EMT renewal online, pay associated fees, and receive their certification card(s) without having to come to the HCA / OCEMS office. • HCA / OCEMS will be rolling out a Beta Test of the system beginning in mid-October 2012. HCA / OCEMS will soon issue a call for Beta Testing Volunteers to critique the system so that it can be as good as possible on launch day. Beta Test Volunteers should be Public or Private EMS providers or EMT School Students. Current EMS Providers will be issued up to 2 hours of Continuing Education (CE) Credit for their time and effort. EMT Schools will be encouraged to offer their students “Extra Credit” for participating in the Beta Test. • This module is intended to replace all paper-based processes associated with the regulatory functions of OCEMS and will be used for such things as: EMT Certification / Accreditation, Paramedic Accreditation, MICN Authorization, Ambulance Company Licenses, Ambulance Vehicle Inspection Tracking, and Hospital Designations Tracking.
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