



# NASEMSO Data Managers Council

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## MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 17, 2014 • 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time

### Call to Order / Call Roll / Approve Agenda\*

#### Attendees

Angie Rios (GA)  
Chip Cooper (NH)  
Chuck Happel (WI)  
Dan Lee (IL)  
David Lehrfeld (OR)  
Doug Fuller (NE)  
Gary Shirley (TN)  
Jay Ostby (WY)  
Jean Speck (CT)  
Linsey Narloch (ND)  
Melissa Belgau (WA)  
Michael Tayler (NY)  
Paul Sharpe (VA – Chair)  
Ridgley Ficks (MA)  
Robert Keys (SD)

#### Attendees (con't)

Rogelio Martinez (AZ)  
Steve Boylls (CO)  
Steve McCoy (FL)  
Sue Morris (OH)  
Tammy Sajak (TX)  
William Thompson (MD)

#### Additional Attendees

Clay Mann (NEMESIS)  
Josh Legler (Associate Member)  
Karen Jacobsen (NEMESIS)  
Ken Hughes (TX)  
Mark Roberts (CA – Inland Counties EMA)  
Rachael Alter (NASEMSO – Staff)  
Sharon Steele (NE)  
Juan Esparza (FL)

\*Due to technical difficulties with the Webinar, Paul Sharpe was unable to speak at the start of the meeting, so the agenda was slightly rearranged.

### Discussion Items

#### Old Business

- **V3 Validity Rules** – Lindsey Narloch (ND), Quality WG, and NEMESIS TAC
  - Purpose of this discussion is to give an overview of the Assertions that have been completed by the group (about 80% there)
  - Josh Legler gave an XML Validation vs Schematron Validation recap his Data Validation in the NEMESIS XML Standard guide (located [here](#)).
    - When XML is transferred from one system to another (or validated at the local level), it is: (1<sup>st</sup>) checked to make sure it is 'well formed' (adheres to the basic



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rules of what an XML file should look like); (2<sup>nd</sup>) checked against the NEMESIS XML schema (xsd); (3<sup>rd</sup>) check against rules defined in the Schematron file. Because of this, don't need have to add anything into Schematron that repeats the checks from the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> steps. Difference between XML schema and Schematron: XML schema does a lot of the validation, it checks data types are correct (numbers vs dates; min & max values, etc); Schematron pertains to relationships between multiple elements (check unit arrived at scene AFTER it was notified, if patient is pregnant must be female, etc). Schematron is needed for the additional cross element checks.

- Juan Esparza: Overview of null values in V3
  - V3 has three null (not) values: Not Applicable; Not Recording; Not Reporting.
    - Not Applicable: element is not applicable to the call.
    - Not Recorded: whether the field was left blank intentionally or not intentionally
    - Not Reporting: information for your agency level but choose not to send up to the state
- Paul Sharpe: Why these assertions needed by a state (Virginia Experience)
  - Hard rules cause a record to fail and also have additional layers of warning. Having these rules, won't cause errors for transfer, but gives the provider feedback on common errors and the state the ability to quantify the errors.
  - Feedback helps them know what is exactly wrong. Initially helped identify vendor issues. Frontline of defense, and will help states be on the same page.
- Clay Mann: Why consensus of rules is good from a vendor perspective
  - Initially NEMESIS took the approach that the vendors would appreciate flexibility of leaving the National Schematron file open to allow them to implement as they wanted to. NEMESIS sees now that this has caused problems with multiple Schematron files being run when not structured similarly.
  - NEMESIS put together a workgroup to discuss issues, and the vendors are open to standardizing the process.
  - Hoping to end up with an enhanced Schematron file, and a state-level validation file that will meet these recommendations.
- Lindsey Narloch: Overview for the vision of these rules
  - Started with a base-level of needs (Florida's list) with the goal to make the data better.
- Karen Jacobsen: Overview of the process the workgroup used to create the assertions



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- Took the bulk of the work that Florida completed, and added a few additional elements (flow of the EMS event): (1) Rule Level (indication of whether viewed as a state/local rule or National rule); (2) is it a National element; (3) description. Only looked at National Elements.
- Rogelio Martinez: Sales pitch
  - Purpose is to get the group on the same page. Issues of different rules and data dictionaries, so software is being created that is specific to each state. This will give the group the ability to give the vendors one standardized process; minimum requirement for national rules. Will give the group more of a say in standards at a national level.
- Lindsey Narloch: Asking for a vote of support of this concept
  - Need to let the group know ASAP if there is concern of any of the assertions.
  - We agree that there is a base set of rules that we all agree on 'if statements' that will give good information and will give a warning to the user as closest to point of entry as possible
  - Asking for a motion of approval
- **<MOTION> Support of the Assertions and for NEMSIS to work with the vendors**
  - Doug Fuller (NE) moves to accept; Juan Esparza (FL) seconds the motion
  - No discussion, no abstentions, no nays, motion passes
- Next steps: Josh Legler
  - Josh is working with NEMSIS TAC to rewrite the National Schematron Files; so he will take these assertions and prioritize them and they will go to public comment on January 1<sup>st</sup>. They will then be part of the Annual Release on March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Lindsey asks NEMSIS TAC if there is a rule for pregnant male, Josh will include this.
- Doug Fuller (NE) thanks Lindsey, FL, NEMSIS and those involved that their work is appreciated.

### Secretary's Report

- **<ACTION ITEM> Approval of Nov. 19, 2013 Minutes**
  - Rachael asked for a point of clarification: For the letter to be drafted regarding Joe Moreland's tenure as Chair, that should be drafted by the DMC and given to Jim DeTienne. Will update the minutes to reflect this and that Jean Speck made the recommendation.
    - **<ACTION>** Jean or Paul will draft this letter.
  - **<MOTION>** Rogelio Martinez (AZ) moves to approve the minutes as amended; Seconded by Gary Shirley (TN). Motion passes.



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### Discussion Items (con't)

#### *New Business*

- **Update from the NASEMSO BOD Retreat** – Paul Sharpe (VA-Chair) gave a synopsis of the December Board Meeting:
  - *Interstate Compact for EMS Personnel Licensure* was reviewed. Not like the Nursing Compact (doesn't allow reciprocity), but is covering EMS providers who may cross borders on short-term business. Question was raised regarding medical direction – a compact is looking at this issue as well.
  - Discussion on future strategic direction: *EMS Data Agenda for the Future*; Additional topics to include in updated National EMS Assessment; Trauma Center information; Disciplinary actions between states; How NEMSIS data will integrate with communication systems to include HIE (could help Directors/Offices/Systems understand where we are trying to go with EMS data, and give Data Managers talking points and benefits of NEMSIS).
  - *Community Paramedicine*: how to get a handle on the concept at a national level. Some state directors feel that the cart is ahead of the horse and NASEMSO wants to get more involved.
  - Reforming a council to deal with Licensure & Credentialing (to include vehicles and personnel). Education & Professional Standards Council may refocus their time on this issue if it isn't realistic to form a new Council.
  - National Fire Protection Administration (NFPA) gave a presentation on how they create and promulgate their Standards (in relation the 1917 Ambulance Standards). NASEMSO has voiced their concern over the NFPA process and that EMS didn't have a strong enough voice during the creation of the Standards. NFPA assured the group that there would be opportunity to voice opinions during the process. CAAS is looking at becoming accredited to become a Standard creating body.
  - Paul also attended a HITS conference call to review the responses to TRCC questions from the DMC Environmental Scan.
    - Rachael added that the DMC has a Task in the current NHTSA contract related to TRCC and the HITS Committee will help us with completing this Task.
- **Mid-Year Meeting** – Mid-Year Meeting will be held March 3-5 in Orlando. The Data Managers are scheduled to meet on Monday, and there are a few Data relevant items on Tuesday and Wednesday that may help with travel requests (NEMSIS V3 Panel Discussion on Tuesday, which



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will allow state directors to discuss/ask questions about V3 and a session on Showcasing Differences Made with Data (performance improvement, etc – what is the benefit of collecting data?). Lindsey Narloch (ND) asked if the Panel discussion would be inclusive of EMS Providers and Vendors (for more perspective) and Rogelio offered to help with this session. Paul will send out an email asking for people who would like to participate in either session as well as topic ideas for the MDC Mid-Year.

- **Election of a Chair Elect** – Need to have elections for Chair Elect. We received 3 nominations: Lindsey Narloch (ND), Chip Cooper (NH), and Gary Shirley (TN). Rachael will send out an anonymous SurveyMonkey so the Council can vote, and we should have a final tally by the January meeting. Due to Joe stepping down in the middle of his term, Paul is filling Joe’s remaining time as Chair, and then will start his official time as Chair at the Annual Meeting in October. This Chair-Elect position will be re-elected (or a new vote taken) at that October meeting for a full 2-year term (to end at the Annual Meeting 2016).
- **Data Managers Strategic Plan** – Rachael asked that those who were involved in the Workgroup discussions at the Annual Meeting, if you could please take a look at the Action Items and send recommendations to Rachael on changes/updates/deletions. Paul took two Strategic Priorities and combined them, so expect a new version in early January – when Rachael will also send an email asking for recommendation for the Action Items.

### Adjourn

Minutes respectfully submitted by Rachael Alter (NASEMSO).