

**From:** Smiley, Dan@EMSA

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 23, 2017 2:14 PM

**To:** Dia Gainor

**Cc:** Witten, Leslie@EMSA; 'Abbey, Rachel (OS/OSCP)'; Howard Backer, CA Emergency Medical Services Authority; Tom McGinnis (CA)

**Subject:** Request for NASEMSO sponsorship of Health Information Exchange for EMS national effort

Dear Dia;

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Exchange has asked the California EMS Authority to lead a national group to promote greater connectivity and interoperability between the target audiences of EMS agencies and hospitals to improve transitions of patient care through the sharing of electronic patient information. In our discussion with ONC, we believe that the sponsorship and support of NASEMSO is critical to success for EMS. State EMS offices are the logical place to champion this effort. Moreover, as a result of the opportunity for Medicaid funding for EMS onboarding and data analytics through September 30, 2021, State EMS offices may be well-positioned to take advantage of this opportunity.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers often enter emergency situations and have to make quick, life-saving decisions without any patient health information. Health information exchange (HIE) allows first responders and transport providers to appropriately access and securely share a patient's vital medical information electronically. HIE *refers to the secure and timely sharing of electronic health data across the boundaries of health care institutions*. The electronic prehospital care record (ePCR) that EMS creates is an important part of the patient's overall health record and should be integrated with the patient's longitudinal health record. Through interoperability between EMS providers and hospitals, facilitation through an HIE hub, the promise of better clinical care, improved clinical decision support, and improved measurement of system performance and population health can be achieved. While closely related to data, HIE is distinguished by its "real-time" availability of patient information and interoperability across multiple platforms. For NASEMSO, it holds promise for improvement in EMS Compass Performance Measures by mining hospital disposition data for the development of "OUTCOME" measures and relies upon NEMSIS standards to ensure interoperability with hospital Electronic Health Record platforms.

While California is pleased to lead the effort, we respectfully request that NASEMSO serve as a sponsor of this activity. Activities at this time are of an information sharing nature to include four teleconference calls per year and an information sharing platform (i.e. LIST-SERVE). Costs for the teleconferences would be borne by California EMS. Coordination with the Data Managers Council is important in this endeavor also.

I have attached 4 ONC products describing health information as it relates to EMS, plus a nice JEMS article from May 2017.

Thanks for your consideration,  
Dan

**Daniel R. Smiley**

Chief Deputy Director

State of California

Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA)

10901 Gold Center Drive, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

(916) 322-4336, Ext. 410 (OFC)  
(916) 431-3672 (DIR)  
(916) 698-7221 (MOB)

[dan.smiley@emsa.ca.gov](mailto:dan.smiley@emsa.ca.gov)  
[www.emsa.ca.gov](http://www.emsa.ca.gov)



***“The mission of EMSA is to prevent injuries, reduce suffering, and save lives by developing standards for and administering an effective statewide coordinated system of quality emergency medical care and disaster medical response that integrates public health, public safety, and healthcare.”***