



National Association of State EMS Officials

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NASEMSO Announces Resolutions Supporting CARES and FirstNet

October 10, 2016 (Falls Church, VA) At its recent Fall Meeting, the National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials (NASEMSO) passed resolutions on two important issues: 1) supporting the data elements in CARES as the national standard prehospital data set for cardiac arrests, and 2) championing the First Responder Network Authority as the nationwide broadband network for EMS.

CARES – Supporting a National Standard Prehospital Data Set for Cardiac Arrest

The National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine (IOM) previously recommended that a national cardiac arrest registry be established and directed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to coordinate this cardiac arrest data collection. As a result, the CDC sponsored the development of the **Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES)**, which has become a virtually unchallenged consensus cardiac arrest registry. CARES, which includes a standard set of data elements for cardiac arrest performance improvement, allows for the development of continuous quality improvement programs to measure and improve prehospital cardiac arrest care. NASEMSO calls upon electronic patient care report vendors to incorporate the required and mandatory CARES prehospital data elements and export function as part of their basic standard prehospital electronic patient care reporting products to be activated at the choice of each state, and not as extra cost add-ons to basic standard products. Importantly, NASEMSO's resolution also calls upon CARES to assure that its dataset complies with the National Emergency Medical Services Information System (NEMSIS) Version 3 and any subsequent updates. **Support of the Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES)** is available at [Resolution 2016-01](#).

Support of the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)

NASEMSO has actively participated in the planning, development, and promotion of the broadband network dedicated to public safety, known as **FirstNet**. NASEMSO continues to help lead the FirstNet initiative, believing that the practice of EMS and its impact on patient care will be substantially improved and that EMS professionals will become the most prevalent FirstNet users. EMS professionals are strongly urged to become aware of this opportunity and to prepare to integrate it into their systems of care. In addition, state governors will be asked to choose whether to allow FirstNet to build the radio access networks to link users and the nationwide network in their state or to engage in a likely longer process in which the state would build its own network. NASEMSO urgently calls upon EMS associations at the state and national levels to encourage governors to allow FirstNet to build radio access networks rather than proposing to build their own networks. **Calling for EMS Colleagues to Prepare for and Support FirstNet Implementation in States** is available at [Resolution 2016-02](#).

NASEMSO is the lead national organization for emergency medical services (EMS) and a respected voice for national EMS policy.

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