



Progress Report – Summer (Jul. – Sept.) 2012

Steering Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <u>The group will continue to regularly meet until the system is fully implemented. Planning for the next meeting sometime in October 2012 is underway. A final date will be set soon.</u>
ePCR Software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ePCR software is continuously being improved to meet the dynamic needs of the Orange County EMS system. The latest version of the software, 5.5.0.0 has been released and is available for download from within Field Bridge and includes functionality such as a “Procedures” PowerTool, an icon to notify the user if he/she is connected to the internet, and several others. Two Ambulance Companies and ten 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 live testing began in April 2012, over 2,500 ePCRs have been completed and posted in which no paper method of documentation was used. 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, Garden Grove FD, Huntington Beach FD, Newport Beach FD, Orange City FD, Orange County Fire Authority. 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 and training their staff and will be “Going Live” with the OC-MEDS ePCR on Monday September 10th, 2012. HCA / OCEMS has been testing the receipt of data exports from EMS providers who are using NEMSIS complaint data systems other than OC-MEDS. To date, data exports have been successfully received from: Lynch Ambulance. OC-MEDS Super User Group: Planning for the first meeting of the OC-MEDS Super User Group is underway. The first meeting is anticipated to occur sometime in mid to late September. Stay tuned for updates. The group will be comprised of several individual field providers and/or EMS Coordinators who have been using the ePCR as their sole source of documentation and have either entirely or at least mostly replaced paper documentation. These individuals, referred to by some as “Super Users”, have developed or are developing core operational knowledge with regard to how to use the ePCR software / hardware and are providing extremely valuable feedback that has already strengthened the system and has improved its usability for current and future users. Based on this and recommendations from the Fire Chiefs EMS Committee, HCA / OCEMS is eager to form the OC-MEDS Super User Group which will serve to establish the coordinated exchange of information about the system between its members. NEMSIS / NFIRS Automated Data Exports: HCA / OCEMS is working with the OC-MEDS vendor and has accepted a statement of work from the OC-MEDS vendor for automated exports to a secure web-service that meet both NEMSIS 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. Report Writer Update: The OC-MEDS report writer has been significantly improved to address specific identified needs. The new report writer will be included in a soon to be released update in early October 2012. The report writer is accessible in the Service Bridge module at https://www.oc-meds.org/. 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
ePCR Hardware	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCA / OCEMS has been awarded a third and final year of UASI funding, \$500,000. The primary objective 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 recently sent a request to local fire departments to solicit letters of intent to participate in the funding opportunity. Fire Departments have been asked to respond to the request no later than September 28th, 2012. As of the date of this update (09/05/2012), three agencies have responded. Once 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.
Training / Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCA / OCEMS is continuing to provide onsite and online Field Bridge ePCR and Service Bridge training for EMS provider agencies. Contact Ruth Grubb directly to schedule training. She may be reached at: (714) 296-6406 or via email at rsg@ca.rr.com. A Google Group called the OC-MEDS Community Forum has been created. The “forum” is intended to encourage community feedback and open discussion between system participants and will function as an information clearinghouse to aid with system development. To join the group, go to: http://groups.google.com/group/oc-meds?hl=en. The OC-MEDS Office Hour is scheduled every Wednesday from 10am – 11am in which you can share your screen with one of the System Administrators to answer your questions. The webinar style opportunity may be accessed at: https://www1.gotomeeting.com/join/731839385 (password: ocmeds) and by calling the OC Conf. line at 714-834-7400, agent ID 39, Password 102404#
CAD Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To date, CAD integrations have been completed for the following agencies: Anaheim FD, Brea FD, Costa Mesa FD, Doctors Ambulance Service, Fountain Valley FD, Fullerton FD, Garden Grove FD, Huntington Beach FD, Newport Beach FD, Orange City FD, and Orange County FA. Please contact OCEMS is you have questions or concerns regarding any of the CAD integrations.



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<p>eBHR and Base Hospital Communications Equipment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic Base Hospital Report (eBHR): HCA / OCEMS has accepted a statement of work from the OC-MEDS vendor for the development of an 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 will be available to begin testing by mid to late October 2012. • 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. The equipment has been purchased and an MOU with the Base Hospitals is being finalized so that the equipment may be installed soon. • 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 should be 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>Patient Registry (Trauma, STEMI, Stroke, eHDDS)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Patient Registry is a component of the system that is intended to be used by hospitals to submit and track specialty care patients including Trauma, Cardiac (STEMI), and Stroke victims. The trauma component of the system is ready to be used for either direct data entry of for the submission of National Trauma Data Bank (NTDB) compliant imports. • HCA / OCEMS is working with Orange County Trauma Centers to best define how the system will be used for aggregate data sharing and countywide trauma system monitoring. • The Cardiac (STEMI) and Stroke modules are currently under development and will be ready for testing by the summer. These two new modules are intended to replace the paper based processes that are used today for the submission of data to OCEMS for statistical tracking of the outcomes of these types of patients. Stay tuned for more info. • The eHDDS module is intended to replace the existing paper-based Hospital Discharge Data Summaries (HDDS) already submitted to OCEMS to assist with determining ED patient outcome. This module will be the last to be implemented.
<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 15, 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. • 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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