

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH


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### *OEMS COMMUNICATIONS STATEMENT 16-13*

TO: All Connecticut EMS Agencies submitting electronic data and All software vendors

FROM: Raffaella Coler, R.N., MEd., Paramedic   
Director, Office of Emergency Medical Services

Ann Kloter, MPH, Epidemiologist   
Office of Emergency Medical Services

DATE: December 5, 2016

RE: Parallel Plan for Submitting 2016 and 2017 EMS data

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Thank you for your inquiries about next steps. As you know, we are currently asking EMS agencies to catch up with their 2016 data submissions, using the current version 2.2.1 data collector and current software used by your agencies. As a state, we are behind on our upload of 2016 data to NEMSIS for Quarters 2 and 3 and need to have your 2016 data in order to rectify that. Digital Innovation is addressing a processor glitch in the current collector.

The basic plan for moving ahead and transitioning from the version 2.2.1 data collection to version 3.4.0 data collection follows the February communication that gave two target dates: 1) by September 30, 2016, service chiefs communicate with their ePCR vendors to assure that their software is NEMSIS 3.4 compliant.  
2) January 1, 2017, submission of year 2017 data in version 3.4.0 format begins.

Digital Innovation will continue running the data collector in version 2.2.1 until January 31, 2017 in order to capture any outstanding Quarter 4 data for year 2016.

During December 2016, it will be important to have vendors and any manual submitters send a test file of version 3.4.0 data and work with the feedback given by the new system to address any issues. Initial testing with a few vendors and manually-submitting agencies will expand to all data submitters. If you are a software vendor that will use the web service to submit data for one or more EMS agencies, please



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contact Ann Kloter so we can be sure you have an account and password. Likewise, if you are an EMS agency submitting data manually, you will need to communicate with your software vendor about readiness and talk to Ann Kloter about signing in to your account in the test system.

So far we have seen a lot more feedback from the new system for users, which should be helpful to all of us. DPH does not do troubleshooting of submissions – that needs to be a conversation with your software vendor. By now, all the software to be used for 2017 data is either NEMSIS compliant with version 3.4.0 or close.

Digital Innovation will open the new version 3.4.0 data collector for **all 2017 data**. Your 2017 data needs to be entered in ePCRs using software that is compliant with NEMSIS version 3.4.0. This is a challenge for all of us, especially with the holidays. There is never any perfect time for transition, and no transition happens perfectly at the flick of a switch. Communication with OEMS and with your software vendor is crucial. If there is any system piece here that is not ready, we will alert you and the software vendors to hold on to your 2017 data.

We hope to step forward together into the new year with a better data collection system and we appreciate the efforts it will take to become familiar with all the moving parts. Thank you all.