

EMSAC DATA COMMITTEE / EMSTARS DATA MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10

9:00AM TO 12:00PM

ORANGE COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER

Lisa Creswell from American Heart Association spoke to the group regarding the AHA/Stroke Association initiative. Following Lisa's discussion, the Data Committee members were asked to stand to be recognized for their hard work and dedication over the past year.

Chief Moreland, Chair of the EMS Advisory Council Data Committee, spoke about the Data Committee Assessment that was distributed online and encouraged all provider agencies to participate in the assessment to help the Data Committee advise the Bureau of EMS on future resource needs.

Chief Moreland briefed the group on the Strategic Planning Session that was held in Tampa in September. He urged everyone to review the 2008-2010 Strategic Plan and to email comments to him before October 14, 2007. He commented on the Stage 1 Pilot Agency Training that was held on Tuesday, October 9 at the Central Fire Academy to give Key Users from the Stage I Pilot Agencies hands on training for EMSTARS.

Chief Moreland discussed the launching of the EMSTARS Pilot Program Testing on August 21, 2007 with Jacksonville Fire and Rescue to help test and fine tune EMSTARS for the provider agencies that will be participating in the other pilot programs as well as the Charter Program agencies. Chief Moreland recognized and thanked Capt. Ken Devin for his hard work in getting Jacksonville ready for the pilot program.

Capt. Ken Devin spoke about the process that Jacksonville Fire and Rescue followed and his experience with the system rollout. He discussed the testing, the installs, and some of the problems he experienced. Capt. Devin commented on the difference in time that it takes to submit the EMSTARS data in comparison to the Aggregate data submissions; EMSTARS requires a lot less time to submit. Chief Moreland emphasized the importance in going out into the field and talking with the medics during the rollout process.

Levi Owens, EMSTARS Project Manager, spoke on some of the problems that the pilot program testing have uncovered and how other agencies will reap the benefits from the pilot testing; exactly what the pilot program testing is designed for. He reiterated on the great work Capt. Ken Devin and Jacksonville Fire Rescue have done to be ready for the pilot testing.

Levi spoke about the details for the Pilot Stage II Testing that will begin in February 2008. Vendors need to be certified EMSTARS Compliant no later than December 1, 2007. The software needs to be installed and Stage II Pilot agencies need to be collecting data on the new software by Christmas. Pilot State II Testing will begin in February 2008 with the reporting of January 2008 data.

The EMSTARS Project Team was present at the meeting and introduced themselves to the group. The team includes Levi Owens, John Ross, Juan Esparza, Jide Thomas, Steve McCoy, Beth Curtin, and Stephanie Daugherty.

John Ross, Systems Administrator of EMSTARS, discussed the Validation Workflow which illustrates how the uploaded XML files move from the sFTP server, through the DOH network, to the EMSTARS system, and how the records are validated.

Juan Esparza, EMSTARS Business Analyst, gave a presentation on the Data Unit Workflow process to give an overview on how the data unit will use EMSTARS to distribute reminder notices and to monitor the monthly data submissions, data quality, etc..

Jide Thomas gave a presentation on the Aggregate Data Transition process for those agencies that will be transitioning from Aggregate Data reporting to EMSTARS reporting. He talked about the MOU and Vendor letter that are required before agencies can begin reporting the basic stats data for the transition period.

Levi Owens briefed the group on the Data Dictionary Version 1.3 and the Change Document. There was discussion on some of the validation rules.