

## **EMS TRACKING AND REPORTING SYSTEM (EMSTARS) MEETING**

**APRIL 16, 2008**

**COCOA BEACH, FLORIDA**

**9:00AM – 12:00PM**

Chief Moreland, Data Committee Chair, opened the meeting with welcoming comments.

Ed Wilson, Grants Program Administrator, recognized the data committee members and other staff who participated on the grant review team for the 408 grant funds. LuWayne Bradley, Joe Kanzler, and Roy Pippin were recognized with a certificate for their hard work in scoring the 22 applications.

The EMSTARS project team and Bureau of EMS recognized the pilot agencies. The 20 agencies participating in the pilot program received a plaque for their dedication and commitment to EMSTARS and for their leadership.

Chief Bixler and Chief Moreland expressed their sincere thanks to all the agencies participating in the pilot program. Levi Owens, EMSTARS Project Manager, gave an update on EMSTARS to include the pilot program and startup in July. He announced that Florida is now extracting records to the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) and is one of only 10 states that are currently submitting data to NEMSIS. There are over 110,000 Florida records in the NEMSIS database.

Dave Freeman, with Orange County, gave a presentation on Unique Patient Identifiers (UPI). The purpose of UPIs is to link prehospital and hospital data. He explained that the band that is currently being used in Orange County is \$0.03 per band whereas RFID ranges from \$1.00 to \$2.50. Bands are only used for patients that are transported and the initial agency responding is responsible for placing the band on the patient. They have been successful in getting data back from the hospitals. Law enforcement has not been approached about the band at this time; most of the time law enforcement has left the scene by the time EMS arrives.

Ken Devin, Jacksonville Fire Rescue, presented on the Trauma Alert criteria that are in Florida Administrative Code 64E-2.017. He discussed the Single Adult and Adult Dual criteria and the process that Jacksonville Fire Rescue department uses to collect this data. It was agreed that data is already being collected by agencies but vendors need to be surveyed to find out how the software programs are set up to collect the data and validation rules definitely need to be in place.

Levi Owens discussed EMSTARS system enhancements to include online password reset, developing trauma agency extract, develop online help ticket, resubmission assessment, form to update/change demographic information, data lifeline page, modify provider and user login, and others.

It was requested that the EMSTARS project team provide automatic notification via email to key users for validation reports and have the details sent to the users instead of requiring users to login to EMSTARS; attach excel spreadsheet in email. It was also requested to add the Incident Number on the validation report.

It was also recommended to add a data element for date/time last seen normal for stroke patients. Stroke patients need to be taken to receiving facility within specified period. Date/time for last seen normal will assist in determining whether stroke patients arrived at receiving facility within 3 hour window.