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TO: EMS Medical Directors
EMS System Coordinators
EMS Provider Agencies

FROM: Dan Lee, Prehospital Database Program Manager
—on behalf of—
Jack Fleearty, RN, EMTP
Chief, Division of EMS and Highway Safety

DATE: 30 December 2015

RE: Summary of changes affecting prehospital data submitters

**Attention EMS System Coordinators—Please forward this memo to your
EMS System Medical Director and your System’s EMS Provider Agencies**

This memo contains information of interest to submitters and users of Illinois prehospital data, including reporting changes and dates associated with our state’s transition to Version 3 of the National Emergency Medical Services Information System standard for this type of data, commonly referred to as NEMSIS V3.

- Third-party software users:
 - Effective immediately, the state will accept NEMSIS Version 3.3.4 ambulance run report records with a dispatch that occurs later than 31 December 2015.
 - The state will not accept NEMSIS Version 2.2.1 ambulance run report records with a dispatch that occurs later than 30 November 2016.
 - The state will not accept NEMSIS Version 3.4 ambulance run report records with a dispatch that occurs earlier than 1 April 2017. This date is tentative, and the earliest report dates accepted for Version 3.4 could be later than this estimate but will not be earlier. We expect that the work associated with the transition from Version 3.3.4 to Version 3.4 will be minimal relative to the initial transition to the NEMSIS standard five years ago or the current transition from Version 2.2.1 to Version 3.3.4.
 - Our website for third-party software users and their vendors has been updated to focus primarily on Version 3.3.4: <http://www.emsdata-2.com/ILNEMSIS/index.htm>. We have

provided a link from the new Version 3.3.4 site to our Version 2.2.1 specifications for those who may still need that information.

- KeyData users (Keydata is the run report software available at no cost through the state):
 - KeyData software will be upgraded to NEMSIS Version 3.3.4 before the end of the first quarter of 2016. The update will be pushed out to each installation over the internet and installed automatically. Notification of this update will go out by email two to three business days before it occurs.
 - The state will distribute Version-3.3.4-compatible administrator and user manuals prior to the software update.
- Paper submitters:
 - Submission of prehospital data on paper forms is not compatible with NEMSIS V3.
 - In preparation for the phase-out of Version 2.2.1 data, the state will not accept paper prehospital care reports forms, more widely known as bubble sheets, with a dispatch that occurs later than 30 June 2016.
- EMS System Medical Directors:
 - A number of data elements in the new Illinois prehospital dataset rely on already-existing national and international standards as the sources for data element values. Examples of these sources include
 1. The Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine – Clinical Terms (SNOMED CT);
 2. RxNorm (a standardized nomenclature for clinical drugs and drug delivery devices); and
 3. The 10th revision of the International Classification of Diseases – Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM).
 - A shortcoming of this approach is that these standards may contain thousands of values that are not applicable to the prehospital setting. To facilitate their use as prehospital data elements NEMSIS has prepared "suggested lists" of values consisting of subsets of the complete sets (<http://www.nemsis.org/v3/resources.html>).
 - Although Illinois has adopted the NEMSIS suggested lists without modification, this should not be construed as the State requiring or recommending the use of every procedure or medication that may appear in these lists.

Please direct questions about the above or any other aspects of the Prehospital Database Program to Dan Lee.

Thanks for your attention and best wishes for a safe and prosperous 2016.