

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AND TRAUMA
REGISTRIES**

**REHABILITATION/LONG TERM
ACUTE CARE**

**TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY AND
SPINAL CORD INJURY**

DATA DICTIONARY 2025



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

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Introduction

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Registries (EMSTR) Rehabilitation (Rehab) and Long-Term Acute Care (LTAC) Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) data dictionary establishes the Texas registry data exchange standard and serves as the EMSTR operational definitions. In accordance with the [Texas Administrative Code, Title 25, Part 1, Chapter 103](#), Rehab and LTAC facilities should report all individuals satisfying the inclusion criteria described in this document to the [EMSTR online reporting system](#). An entity should submit data to EMSTR within ninety (90) days of an individual's discharge from their facility. All entities should submit reportable data at least quarterly, though EMSTR recommends monthly electronic data submissions.

Texas Standard Inclusion Criteria

Definition – For consistent data collection, a patient or decedent is defined as an individual sustaining an injury meeting the following criteria:

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

A TBI or intracranial injury is an injury to the brain by an external force or mechanism that consists of varying degrees from mild, moderate to severe and can cause long term effects and/or death. These types of intracranial injuries can include but are not limited to:

- Anoxia due to submersion.
- Shaken infant syndrome.
- Intracranial hemorrhage of a newborn.
- Concussion.
- Unspecified intracranial injury without loss of consciousness.

Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)

An SCI is physical damage to the spinal cord which can interfere with normal motor, sensory, or autonomic functions. An SCI involves damage to any part of the spinal cord and can also include damage to the nerves at the end of the spinal cord. Types of Spinal Cord Injuries can include but are not limited to:

- Injury of cauda equina (nerve roots at the lower end of the spinal cord).

- Unspecified injury to sacral spinal cord.
- Disease of the spinal cord.
- Other incomplete lesions at C4 level of cervical spinal cord.
- Unspecified cord compression.

International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Addition, Clinical Modification (ICD 10 CM) Injury Codes

- S00-S09, S10-S19, S20-S29, S30-S39, S40-S49, S50-S59, S60-S69, S70-S79, S80-S89, S90-S99, T07, T14, T15-T19, T20-T25, T26-T28, T30-T32, T33-T34, T36-T50, T51-T65, T66-T78, T79, and T80-T88.

Usage

Definition: An indication of when the data element is expected to be collected. A Null Value is an option provided to the practitioner when the answer to a required field is unknown or has not been documented.

- Not applicable: This data element applies if, at the time of individual care documentation, the information requested was not relevant to the individual, the hospitalization, or the individual care event.
- Not known/Not recorded: This data element applies if, at the time of individual care documentation, the information was not given by the individual or family, or not documented by the health care provider. No value for the element was obtained for the individual patient.

Additional Information

- *Mandatory:* must be completed and does not allow null values (i.e., Unknown, Not Applicable, Not Recorded).
- *Required:* must be completed and allows null values.
- *Optional:* does not need to be completed.

Common Null Values

Definition - Rehab and LTAC facilities should use these values with each of the data elements described in this document defined to accept the null values.

Field Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Entity Name

Definition: The name of the reporting Rehab or LTAC entity.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is mandatory. If this element is not completed, the entity's record will not pass validation or be accepted into the EMSTR platform.
- The entity's DSHS number (DSHS ID) will auto-fill once the correct entity is selected. This is a non-editable field.
- To locate the DSHS facility Identification Number, please refer to the instructions on how to run the Entity Reference Code Report.

dshs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/injury/EMSTR%20Resources/SHARP_Report-Guide_Update_Mar2024.pdf

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Individual's First Name

Definition: The individual's first name. The term "individual" is used throughout this document as plain language for the person to whom the injury occurred.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is mandatory.
- The maximum entry length is 50 characters.
- If an individual's first name is not known, please enter UNKNOWN for this element.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Individual's Middle Name

Definition: The individual's middle name or initial.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.
- The maximum entry length is 50 characters.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Individual's Last Name

Definition: The individual's last name.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is mandatory.
- The maximum entry length is 50 characters.
- If the individual's last name is not known, please enter UNKNOWN for this element.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Individual's Home Address

Definition: The individual's home address.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is required.
- The maximum entry length is 50 characters.
- If the individual's home address is not known, please enter UNKNOWN for this element.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not Applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Individual's City of Residence

Definition: The individual's city, township, or village of residence.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is mandatory.
- The maximum entry length is 50 characters.
- If individual's city is not known, please enter UNKNOWN for this element.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not Applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Individual's State of Residence

Definition: The state (or District of Columbia) where the individual resides.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- If the Individual lives outside of the United States, select "Non-U.S. Country."

Allows Null Values

- Not Applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Individual's Zip Code of Residence

Definition: The individual's home zip/postal code of primary residence.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is required.
- May be stored as a 5- or 9-digit code (XXXXX-XXXX) for U.S. or Canada or can be stored in the postal code format of the applicable country.

Associated Edit Checks

- If the patient's zip code and corresponding county of residence do not pass validation, the entity may report the zip code as Not known/Not recorded to allow the other address information to be transmitted to EMSTR.

Allows Null Values

- Not Applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Individual's County of Residence

Definition: The county or parish where the individual resides (or best approximation).

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- If the patient's postal zip code and corresponding county of residence are not passing validation, the zip code may be reported as Not known/Not recorded to allow the other address information to be transmitted to EMSTR.

Allows Null Values

- Not Applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Individual's Country of Residence

Definition: The country where the individual resides (or best approximation).

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is mandatory.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Individual's Date of Birth

Definition: The individual's date of birth.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is mandatory.
- Collected as MM/DD/YYYY.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not Applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Age (Years) at Incident

Definition: The individual's age at the time of incident.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.
- The Individual's age in years will auto-fill once the date of birth is entered. This is a non-editable field.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Age (Months) at Incident

Definition: The individual's age at the time of incident.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.
- The Individual's age in days, months, and years will auto-fill once the date of birth is entered. This is a non-editable field.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Age (Days) at Incident

Definition: The individual's age at the time of incident.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.
- The Individual's age in days, months, and years will auto-fill once the date of birth is entered. This is a non-editable field.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Individual's Sex

Definition: Individual's sex at time of incident.

Field Values

- Male.
- Female.
- Unknown (Unable to Determine).

Additional Information

- This element is mandatory.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Individual's Race

Definition: Individual's race.

Field Values

- American Indian / Alaska Native.
- Asian.
- Black or African American.
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.
- White.
- Other.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not Applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Individual's Ethnicity

Definition: The individual's ethnicity.

Field Values

- Hispanic or Latino.
- Not Hispanic or Latino.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Social Security Number

Definition: The 9-digit number unique to the individual that was assigned by the U.S. government.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.
- Collected as XXX-XX-XXXX.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Individual's Phone Number

Definition: The individual's contact phone number.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.
- Collected as XXX-XXX-XXXX.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Individual's Email

Definition: The individual's contact email.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- To be collected as [XXX@XXX.XXX](#).
- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Primary Method of Payment

Definition: The individual's preferred method of payment and/or reimbursable payment for services rendered to patient.

Field Values

- Blue Cross (fee for service).
- CHAMPUS.
- Crippled Children's Services.
- Employee Courtesy.
- MCO (Managed Care Organization) HMO (Health Maintenance Organization).
- Medicaid MCO.
- Medicaid Non-MCO.
- Medicare MCO.
- Medicare Non-MCO.
- No Fault Automobile.
- Other.
- Private Pay.
- Private/Commercial Insurance.
- State Vocational Rehabilitation.
- Unreimbursed.
- Workers Compensation.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Event Type

Definition: The type of event being reported.

Field Values

- Rehab.
- LTAC.

Additional Information

- This is a non-editable field.
- The event type will autofill according to the type of patient care report completed.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Acute Care Hospital Name

Definition: The name of the acute care facility which provided immediate and/or short-term treatment for the referred individual.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is required. If this element is not completed, the entity's record will not pass validation or be accepted into the new platform.
- The entity's DSHS identification number (DSHS ID) will auto-fill once the correct entity is selected.
- To locate the DSHS (facility) Identification Number, please refer to the instructions on how to run the Entity Reference Code Report.

dshs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/injury/EMSTR%20Resources/SHARP_Report-Guide_Update_Mar2024.pdf

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not recorded.
- Not reporting.

Acute Care Hospital's Patient ID Number

Definition: The unique identifier assigned to the individual by the acute care facility which provided immediate and/or short-term treatment.

Field Values

- Numeric value.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Patient ID

Definition: The unique identifier assigned to a patient from the reporting facility.

Field Values

- Numeric value.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Medical Record Number

Definition: The unique identifier assigned to a patient in a health care Information Technology (IT) system.

Field Values

- Numeric value.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Injury/Incident Date and Time

Definition: The date and time the injury/incident occurred.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is required.
- Collected as MM/DD/YYYY and HH:MM AM/PM.
- Estimates of injury date/time should be based upon report by the individual, witness, family, or health care provider.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Injury/Incident Location

Definition: The reported injury/incident occurred within the U.S.

Field Values

- Yes.
- No.

Additional Information

- This element is mandatory.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Injury/Incident City

Definition: The city, township, or village where the injury/incident occurred.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is required.
- The maximum entry length is 50 characters.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Incident State

Definition: The state (or District of Columbia) where the individual was found or to which the unit responded (or best approximation).

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- If the incident occurred outside of the U.S., select “Non-U.S. Country.”

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Incident County

Definition: The county or parish where the individual was found or to which the unit responded (or best approximation).

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- If the patient’s postal zip code and corresponding incident county are not passing validation, the zip code may be reported as Not known/Not recorded to allow the other address information to be transmitted to EMSTR.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Emergency Department Recorded Cause of Injury – Direct Entry

Definition: The ICD-10 CM Cause of Injury associated with the patient’s injury.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision Clinical Modification (ICD-9 CM) injury codes are not accepted.

Emergency Department Diagnosis – Direct Entry

Definition: The ICD-10 CM Injury diagnosis associated with the patient’s injury.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- ICD-9 CM injury codes are not accepted.

Emergency Department Procedures – Direct Entry

Definition: The ICD-10 Procedure Coding System (PCS) code associated with any treatment provided to the patient while in the emergency department.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- ICD-9 PCS procedure codes are not accepted.

Admission Date

Definition: The date the patient was admitted to the acute care facility for medical treatment.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.
- Collected as MM/DD/YYYY.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.
- Not reporting.

Medical/Surgical History

Definition: Was the patient's medical history provided to the reporting facility?

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.
- Relevant International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10 CM) code.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- ICD 9 CM codes are not accepted.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Patient Vitals Taken

Definition: Neurological observations made for the patient in accordance with Glasgow Coma Scale.

Field Values

- Known.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

Glasgow Coma Score (GCS) Eye

Definition: Assessment of the individual's pupils.

Field Values

- No eye movement when assessed (all age groups).
- Opens eyes spontaneously (all age groups).
- Opens eyes to painful stimulation (all age groups).
- Opens eyes to verbal stimulation (all age groups).
- Refused.
- Unable to complete.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.
- Not reporting.

Glasgow Coma Score (GCS) Verbal

Definition: Assessment of the individual's orientation.

Field Values

- Confused (and >2 years), cries but is consolable, inappropriate interactions.
- Inappropriate words (and >2 years), inconsistently consolable, moaning.
- Incomprehensible sounds (and >2 years), inconsolable, agitated.
- No verbal/vocal response (all age groups).
- Oriented (and >2 years), smiles, oriented to sounds, follows objects, interacts.
- Refused.
- Unable to complete.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.
- Not reporting.

Glasgow Coma Score (GCS) Motor

Definition: Assessment of the individual's motor function.

Field Values

- Extension to pain (all age groups).
- Flexion to pain (all age groups).
- Localizing pain (all age groups).
- No motor response (all age groups).
- Obeys commands (and >2 years); appropriate response to stimulation.
- Withdrawal from pain (all age groups).
- Refused.
- Unable to complete.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.
- Not reporting.

ICD-10 CM Injury Diagnosis Category

Definition: The general ICD-10 CM Injury diagnosis category associated with the patient's injury.

Field Values

- S00-S09 – injuries to the head.
- S10-S19 – injuries to the neck.
- S20-S29 – injuries to the thorax.
- S30-S39 – injuries to the abdomen, lower back, lumbar spine, pelvis, and external genitals.
- S40-S49 – injuries to the shoulder and upper arm.
- S50-S59 – injuries to the elbow and forearm.
- S60-S69 – injuries to the wrist, hand, and fingers.
- S70-S79 – injuries to the hip and thigh.
- S80-S89 – injuries to the knee and lower leg.
- S90-S99 – injuries to the ankle and foot.
- T07 – injuries involving multiple body regions.
- T14 – injury of unspecified body region.
- T15-T19 – effects of foreign body entering through natural orifice.
- T20-T25 – burns and corrosions of external body surface, specified by site.
- T26-T28 – burns and corrosions confined to eye and internal organs.
- T30-T32 – burns and corrosions of multiple and unspecified body regions.
- T33-T34 – frostbite.
- T36-T50 – poisoning by adverse effect of and undergoing of drugs, medicaments, and biological substances.
- T51-T65 – toxic effects of substances chiefly nonmedicinal as to source.
- T66-T78 – other and unspecified effects of external causes.
- T79 – certain early complications of trauma.
- T80-T88 – complications of surgical and medical care, not elsewhere classified.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- ICD-9 CM injury codes are not accepted.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

ICD-10 CM Injury Diagnosis Subcategory

Definition: The ICD-10 CM Injury diagnosis subcategory associated with the patient's injury.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- ICD-9 CM injury codes are not accepted.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

ICD-10 CM Injury Diagnosis – Direct Entry

Definition: Direct or manual entry of the ICD-10 CM associated with the patient’s injury.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- ICD-9 CM injury codes are not accepted.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

ICD-10 PCS Procedures – Direct Entry

Definition: Direct or manual entry of the ICD-10 PCS associated with the patient’s injury.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- ICD-9 PCS procedure codes are not accepted.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.

ICD-10 PCS Procedures Category

Definition: The classification of procedures performed in inpatient health care settings.

Field Values

- 0 – Medical and surgical.
- 1 – Obstetrics.
- 2 – Placement.
- 3 – Administration.
- 4 – Measurement and monitoring.
- 5 – Extracorporeal or systematic assistance and performance.
- 6 – Extracorporeal or systematic therapies.
- 7 – Osteopathic.
- 8 – Other procedures.
- 9 – Chiropractic.
- B – Imaging.
- C – Nuclear medicine.
- D – Radiation therapy.
- F – Physical rehabilitation and diagnostic audiology.
- G – Mental health.
- H – Substance abuse treatment.
- X – New technology.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- ICD-9 PCS procedure codes are not accepted.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not recorded.

ICD-10 PCS Procedures Subcategory

Definition: Correlates the ICD-10 PCS procedure category along with body region and root operation.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- ICD-9 PCS procedure codes are not accepted.

ICD-10 PCS Procedures Sub-Subcategory

Definition: This element includes the previous response to the subcategory information in addition to the body part.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- ICD-9 PCS procedure codes are not accepted.

ICD-10 PCS Procedures

Definition: This element includes all characters in the associated procedure code.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- ICD-9 PCS procedure codes are not accepted.

Adult Discharge Disposition

Definition: The patient's discharge disposition.

Field Values

- Acute unit of another facility.
- Acute unit of own facility.
- Alternate level of care (ALC).
- Assisted living residence.
- Chronic hospital stay.
- Died.
- Home.
- Intermediate care (nursing home).
- Other.
- Skilled nursing facility (nursing home).
- Subacute setting.
- Transitional living.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.

Discharge Referrals

Definition: Type of continued medical treatment as determined at time of discharge from facility.

Field Values

- Day treatment.
- Home-based paid professional therapy.
- Inpatient hospital.
- None.
- Other (examples: homeless or women's shelters, protective services, etc.).
- Outpatient.
- Outpatient and home-based paid professional therapy.
- School-based.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.

Discharge/Transfer Date

Definition: The date the patient was discharged from the treating facility.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.
- Collected as MM/DD/YYYY.

Additional Information

- This element is required.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Allows Null Values

- Not applicable.
- Not known/Not recorded.
- Not reporting.

Glasgow Outcome Scale

Definition: The individual's objective degree of recovery from a TBI.

Field Value

- Death.
- Good recovery.
- Moderate disability.
- Severe disability.
- Vegetative state.

Additional Information

- This field is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Disability Rating Scale Usage

Definition: The Disability Rating Scale (DRS) tracks and measures general functional changes over the course of recovery for individuals with moderate to severe TBIs.

Field Value

- Yes.
- No.

Additional Information

- This field is optional.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

Date of Death

Definition: The individual's date of death.

Field Values

- Relevant data for this element.

Additional Information

- This element is optional.
- Collected as MM/DD/YYYY.

Associated Edit Checks

- None.

General Informational Page

General Information

The Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Registries (EMSTR) is comprised of four registries: the EMS Registry; the acute Traumatic Injury Registry; the Traumatic Brain Injury Registry / Spinal Cord Injury Registry; and the Submersion Registry. EMSTR is a statewide surveillance system collecting reportable event data from EMS providers, hospitals, justices of the peace, medical examiners, and rehabilitation facilities. Texas is home to one of the largest EMS and trauma registries in the U.S. with more than 5 million records submitted annually.



TEXAS
Health and Human Services

**Texas Department of State
Health Services**

Our Goals

- Provide a robust registry reporting framework for recording reportable traumas.
- Reduce the burden of injury to the public resulting from preventable occurrences using trend analysis.
- Provide data as close to real-time as possible for local, state, and national leadership use.

Our Mission

- Improve Texans' health, safety, and well-being through good stewardship of public resources with a focus on core public health functions.
- The Injury Prevention Unit works to understand how injuries impact Texans. By providing injury and violence data and education, we can help you lead the way on injury prevention in homes, workplaces, and communities.

Contact Information

EMSTR

Texas Department of State Health Services
1100 West 49th Street
Mail Code 1922
Austin, Texas 78756

Phone: 800-242-3562

injury.web@dshs.texas.gov

dshs.texas.gov/injury-prevention/ems-trauma-registries

Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Registries

***[dshs.texas.gov/injury-
prevention/ems-trauma-registries](https://dshs.texas.gov/injury-prevention/ems-trauma-registries)***