v3.5 IS COMING SOON!

- Less complicated
- Increased clarity
- Better incident flow
- Improved accuracy

After 3+ years of collaboration with national EMS leaders, the NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center (TAC) has updated the National EMS Data Standard to version 3.5. This new version will improve the accuracy and efficiency of documentation, enhance health information exchange, and ultimately improve patient care.

In prehospital medical care, it is critical to stay current with expanding industry demands, increasing healthcare coordination, and public expectations. This can only be accomplished by EMS clinicians through prioritizing accurate and timely documentation.

Information collected from EMS activations is used for patient healthcare decisions across the continuum of care. It is also used for quality improvement, policy evaluation, medical research, and timely public health surveillance. The new v3.5 standard facilitates these vital evidence-based healthcare practices and partnerships.

KEY CHANGES TO v3.5

The table below highlights prominent v3.5 changes to the NEMSIS standard along with a short explanation regarding the change. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the NEMSIS TAC by email nemsis@hsc.utah.edu or visit nemsis.org.

Fewer National Required Elements	The number of elements required to be completed has been reduced. States and agencies may add other required data elements.
Revised Call Dispositions	The disposition of a call is now organized into 4-5 elements that allows more flexibility for various types of EMS response and increases the accuracy of documentation.
Harmonization with CARES	By aligning NEMSIS and CARES (Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival) elements, redundant data collection and the need for custom fields is dramatically reduced.
Updated Defined Lists	NEMSIS compliant software vendors are required to offer much condensed lists of codes for cause of injury, EMS impressions, patient symptoms, medications, incident location, and procedures.
Expanded Meanings of Pertinent Negatives	Pertinent Negatives (PN) can be added with a recorded clinical value and/or without a value.
More Accurate Reports	The inclusion of state-level information in NEMSIS compliant software will result in more accurate and robust reports.
Compliance Testing	NEMSIS compliant software will participate in retesting for compliance every 2 years or with any major product revision.
Universally Unique Identifier	The UUID, a technical addition to software, will allow better linkage for trauma registries and other registries. It will also support Health Information Exchange for better outcome data.