

Summary Minutes

Regular Meeting of the
Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board
Data Policy Standing Advisory Committee
1 p.m., February 8, 2010
Conference Room A, 4th floor
2829 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis

Members Present

Brenda Brown, Chair
Renee Donnelly
Curtis Fraser
Suzanne Gaines
Kathleen Haney
Lee Pyles, M.D.
Darel Radde
Paul Satterlee, M.D.
Keith Zalewski

Members Absent

James Aagenes
Tom Fennell
Sen. Gary Kubly
Aaron Reinert

Guests

Leslie Seymour
Kim Tast

Staff

Katherine Burke Moore
Melody Nagy
Robert Norlen

I. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Donnelly moved approval of the agenda. Ms. Haney seconded. Motion carried.

III. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Satterlee moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Donnelly seconded. Motion carried.

IV. Staff Report

Data Requests (tab 1)

Mr. Norlen distributed a copy of the data requests for members to review. There were no questions or comments from the committee members.

Provider Compliance Report (tab 2)

Mr. Norlen said that the report was provided by email. He said that there are seven services that staff is verifying patient care report submission numbers for, and there are seven services that may receive correction orders for non compliance with submission requirements. Mr. Norlen indicated Life Link is finalizing data upload software compliance testing and will soon be submitting data on a regular basis.

Missouri Press Release (tab 3)

Mr. Norlen said that this press release is from NEMSIS. He said Minnesota has been collecting data since 2003 and have been providing data to the National Data Bank (NDB) since March 2006. Missouri has put a significant effort to start collecting NEMSIS data and start their submission to the NDB in 2009. Other states are just now starting to come online with systems. Mr. Norlen said that Minnesota is looked at as a leader in the nation for EMS data collection. The work of this committee continues to help move EMS data collection forward in Minnesota and nationwide.

V. Update – NEMSIS Version 3 Data Dictionary Development

Mr. Norlen provided three documents and said these documents were just released. Mr. Norlen provided a power point presentation that explained the transition to NEMSIS version 3.0 dataset. Mr. Nolen said that he will be working with the National Association of State EMS Officials – Data Managers Council on review and comments to Draft 2 NEMSIS version 3.0 dataset. Ms. Brown asked if we will receive feedback from the comments. Mr. Norlen said he will continue to provide feedback on comment process. This project will ensure that our data integrates with the federal data set. The version 3 data set will be released in May 2010 so that software vendors can work on their updates.

Mr. Norlen said that the committee will have to make some decisions for Minnesota about which elements we wish to collect. We need to decide how many data elements will be collected from the national data set. Ambulance services may also collect additional data. Mr. Radde said that this will complicate data entry. Mr. Fraser asked if they will build some screens to lead through this process.

Mr. Norlen said that if you want to look at the entire draft 2 version 3.0 data dictionary you can go to the NEMSIS website and review it. He commented that there will be mapping issues during the transition. Mr. Norlen said that we will probably see a reduced number of software vendors that will be able to meet compliance standards with the version 3.0 dataset.

Announcement – Former EMSRB employee, Karen Jacobson has accepted the job with NEMSIS as the Director of the Technical Assistance Center.

VI. Plan for Review and Possible Changes to EMSRB Data Dictionary

Development of Data Dictionary Review Workgroup

Mr. Norlen referred committee members to the comparison document. The committee needs to look at changes to the data dictionary. We need to develop a plan to migrate to NEMSIS version 3.0 dataset. Mr. Norlen asked which data elements we want to discontinue and which elements we want to add. The Board will be discussing opening the data dictionary in September 2010. This will allow a year for services to make changes to become compliant. The EMSRB is exploring an opportunity for grant funds to provide to ambulance services to help make the transition to and updated dataset.

Dr. Satterlee asked how long the dictionary will be open for revision. Mr. Norlen responded that he would like a draft available for the August meeting. Then there would need to be a public meeting to review this draft. He said he would like to present this to the Board at the January 2011 meeting. He said he does not think this will be a huge transition for ambulance services that are using ImageTrend.

Dr. Satterlee asked if there will be any resources available for the workgroup to review. Mr. Norlen said that we have received feedback from services and we will need to review data collected to see the value of the element. Mr. Norlen said that we will ask for feedback from special interests such as Cardiac Arrest, STEMI, Stroke, Pediatrics and Trauma.

Mr. Giese said that each change impacts providers in how they upload information. This will affect the larger providers who provide 75% of the data in the system. Mr. Radde asked how much this will affect the data entry screens. Mr. Norlen said that this version will probably be finalized in May 2010, with implementation through 2012. Mr. Radde suggested that we make all our changes at the same time.

Dr. Satterlee said that we need to provide information to providers on the data collected. Mr. Norlen said that we want to review the proposed changes and not collect elements that are being discontinued. He said that there would not be significant changes if we refine elements and define the elements better. The committee needs to decide what level of changes will be recommended. He said that “vital signs” is a needed element for trauma system information. Ms. Gaines said that the software availability date is too far in the future. Mr. Norlen said that we will make a one time change by defining which data elements we will accept and then we will be compliant with the 3.0 standard. Mr. Zalewski said you need to give information to vendors and ask them how much it will cost to make these changes. Mr. Radde said that I do not want to have services to have to pay for changes twice. Mr. Zalewski said that we need to open this up to discuss the changes or we will push the changes back another year. The cost for the changes will not be significant but the cost for staff time and training could.

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Mr. Norlen said that the software vendors will be required to have business logic components built into their systems. Mr. Radde asked how this will affect data entry for version 3 with null values and business logic added into the system. Mr. Zalewski said that the committee must review what is acceptable at the state level for business logic. Mr. Fraser said that he would like to see this information come from NEMSIS.

Mr. Norlen asked for volunteers for a workgroup. He said that we can have conference call meetings to have these discussions. The Board will be looking for a recommendation regarding opening up the data dictionary or waiting for another specific time frame. We need to look at what we are collecting today and we need to be able to report accurate information on the data that is collected. We also need to look at what data will be important to help support the work of the statewide trauma system.

Ms. Gaines said the goal of the workgroup would be to make a recommendation to the Board on opening the data dictionary and suggestions for changes to data elements. Ms. Gaines asked for a written goal of the workgroup and a bullet point list of objectives. Ms. Brown asked for a cost evaluation to determine the impact on providers and the EMSRB to move to the version 3.0 dataset. Mr. Fraser asked if there is a document that provides a list of suggested changes. Mr. Norlen said that would be developed by the workgroup.

The following committee members volunteered to be on the workgroup: Ms. Donnelly, Tom Fennell, Curtis Fraser (Leslie Seymour), Suzanne Gaines, Dr. Pyles, Darel Radde, Keith Zalewski. The chair will be nominated at the first meeting. Mr. Norlen said that the workgroup would accept comments from all committee members.

Ms. Donnelly left at 3:05

VII. 2010 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Norlen said that a 2010 meeting schedule was provided. Please mark your calendars.

VIII. Other Business

Mr. Norlen said that he has drafted an article for the *EMSRB Bulletin* that will encourage collection of optional elements for trauma data collection.

Ms. Gaines asked if NEMSIS has defined performance measurements. Mr. Norlen said that they have flagged what is important at the federal level he said that he thinks this will be developed in the future.

Mr. Radde asked about Dr. Satterlee's comments about a "quiz" for renewal. Dr. Satterlee said that has not happened yet – he needs more information. Mr. Radde said that this relates to data collection. Mr. Radde asked if this should move forward now or should we concentrate our efforts on the NEMSIS 3.0. We need to look at validity to have good data to provide to ambulance services. Mr. Norlen said he has looked at cancelled calls but has not had time to look at this data further.

Mr. Zalewski said that this was an educational effort to have people understand the primary responsibility of collection of data. Dr. Satterlee said that he will have a proposal for the next board meeting. Ms. Burke Moore said that she would like to see his proposal. Mr. Radde asked if staff have time to review data validity. Mr. Norlen said that staff time is severely limited. Mr. Fraser suggested that this could be a task for the epidemiologist. Mr. Norlen said that he would have a conversation with Ms. Seymour.

Ms. Burke Moore said that there is a rumor to have a bill in the legislature to stop collecting data at the state level. The committee discussed how this would affect data collection and quality in the state.

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Ms. Gaines moved that the committee support EMS data continue to be collected in accordance with statutory requirements at the state level and that the support be made known in case of legislative relevance to the EMSRB. Dr. Satterlee seconded.

Dr. Satterlee said that we need to show the value of the data. Mr. Fraser said that MDH uses this data for a lot of reasons. Ms. Seymour said that for the trauma system this data will be used to evaluate trauma system improvement.

Ms. Burke Moore said that we cannot provide reports without staff to complete this work. Ms. Burke Moore said that there is an effort to link this information with CODES data base. Mr. Norlen said that we are just beginning to collect good data and other states are now attempting to collect data. Mr. Norlen said that providers can look at their data at any time.

Mr. Norlen asked for a vote on the motion. Motion carried.

IX. Next Meeting

Monday, May 10, 2010
1 p.m. at the EMSRB office

X. Adjourn

Dr. Pyles moved to adjourn. Ms. Gaines seconded. Motion carried.