



RESCUE Exchange

Emergency Medical Service Personnel (EMSP) are required to submit an electronic patient care report (ePCR) to the Office of EMS (OEMS) for each patient encounter within 72 hours of the encounter. The information is to be entered into the Recording of Emergency Medical Services Calls and Urgent-care Environment (RESCUE) state software system upload or via an approved vendor. Due to the time allowed for ePCR submission, the report is often not available to hospital personnel upon EMSP departure.

The OEMS has worked with the RESCUE software development team to develop a secure site (RESCUE Exchange) for each hospital to have a designated and secure webpage for their staff to retrieve a PDF version of the ePCR, once it is submitted to OEMS. RESCUE Exchange was pilot-tested by several hospitals during the summer and fall of 2019 and it is now ready to be offered to other hospitals. There is no cost to participate and all hospitals are welcome to participate.

Each hospital has an assigned facility code which is a data point on the ePCR. When the ePCR is submitted to the state, a copy of the record is sent to the secure site with the associated facility code. If an ePCR does not include a facility code or has the incorrect facility code that record will not be accessible via the RESCUE Exchange system.

During RESCUE Exchange setup for each hospital, the link to the secure webpage is provided to one person, who is designated by the hospital to be the administrator of the RESCUE Exchange system for his or her hospital. The administrator then manages employee access for record retrieval. The hospital decides operationally how they want the system to work for them, who, how often, etc.

Training videos and a user manual are available. Hospitals interested in participating need to obtain their leadership's approval and email the name and contact information of the person identified to be the administrator to Lori.McInerney@adph.state.al.us. OEMS IT staff will work with the RESCUE Exchange contact to provide the information needed to access the hospital's secure site.

RESCUE Exchange participants are encouraged to follow up with OEMS if they identify that ePCRs are not being found in the system for patients being brought to their facility by EMSP.

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