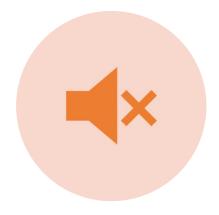
Please



TYPE QUESTIONS IN THE CHAT BOX



MUTE YOUR LINES

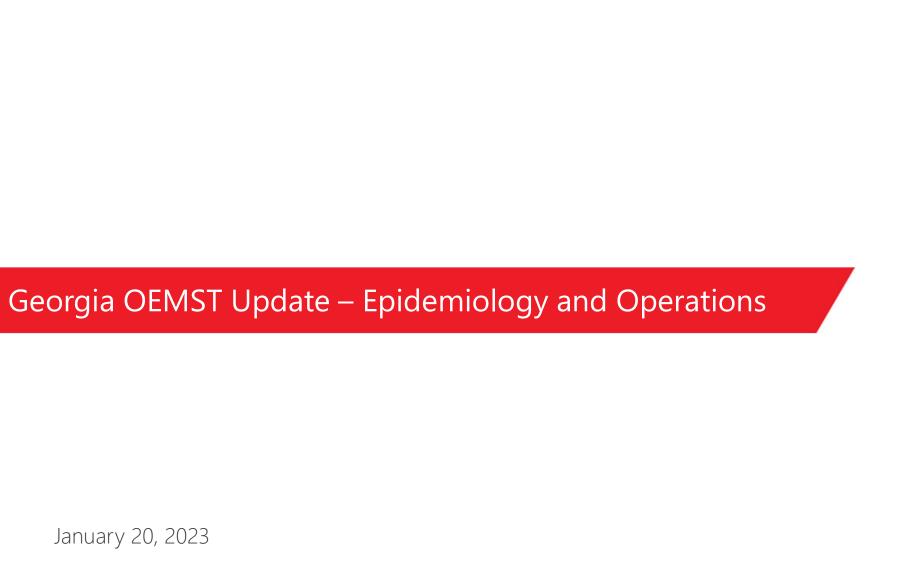
Note



This operational WebEx/call is for EMS agencies and EMS educational programs only.



If you are a member of the media or the general public, you are asked to disconnect from this WebEx/call immediately.

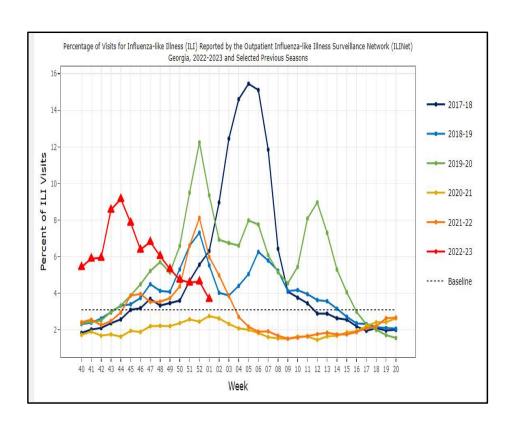


GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

EMS Epi Update, 1/20/2023

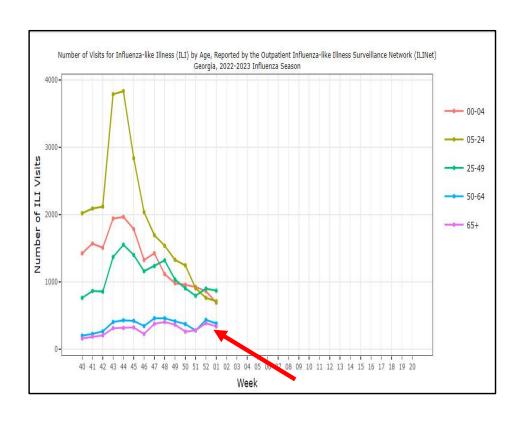
Cherie L. Drenzek DVM, MS/State Epidemiologist

Georgia Flu Snapshot (Consistently Declining)



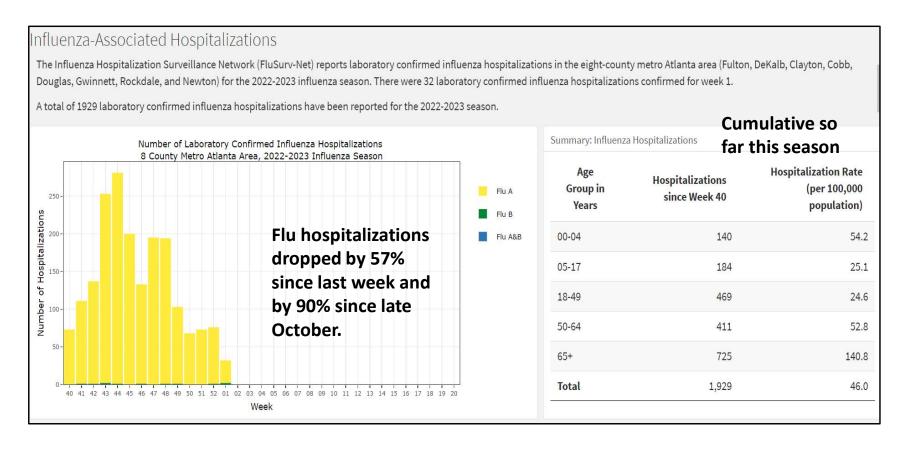
- Flu activity rose in Georgia very early and had "winter" peak levels in October.
- Flu activity has been declining over the last two months and is now down to "MODERATE" (6 on a scale of 1-13).
- 74% of viruses are Flu A, most (67%) are H3N2; Flu B rose to 26% (nationally is <1%).
- The proportion of outpatient visits for ILI in GA is 3.7% (see red line), nearly to baseline levels and lower than we have seen all season. This is very unusual for January.

Georgia Flu Snapshot

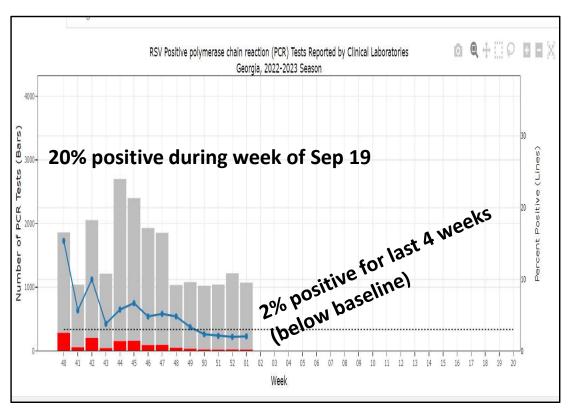


- For the first time this season, most (30%) outpatient visits for ILI last week were among adults 25-49 years old (green line).
- We consistently saw most visits among children before, but this has dropped by about 75% in the last seven weeks.
- We see only 11% of outpatient visits among those >65 but we do see most hospitalizations (38%) and deaths (66%) here (arrow).

Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations (Metro Atlanta)



Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) in Georgia



- RSV infection can be very serious or even deadly in young children, those under 12 months most at risk for hospitalization.
- The RSV season also was early this year (usually peaks in January)
- Similar to flu in that we don't count individual cases but use percent of lab specimens that are positive for RSV to look at trends.
- RSV activity was very high in Georgia during Sep and Oct, with a peak of 20% positive on Sep 19. It has declined to a steady level of 2% for the last 4 weeks (below baseline).

COVID Snapshot

- Overall COVID case numbers in Georgia decreased by 34% this week, COVID hospitalizations dropped by 14% and deaths decreased by 5% (holiday week).
- Caution is warranted because not all cases are reported, reporting patterns vary, immunity wanes, and new variants continue to gain ground.
- For example, nationally, XBB.1.5 is now up to 43% of all cases. In Georgia, BQ.1.1 still holds the top spot among variants (38% of all cases) while XBB.1.5 is now in second place at 31% (up from 17% last week).
- Overall, the immunity "wall" appears to be protecting against surges, and especially severe outcomes, so boostering is still critical (effective against XBB.1.5).



January 20, 2023

OEMST Position Updates

Michael Johnson

OEMST Position Updates

Deputy Director of Systems of Care / Cardiac Program Coordinator

 April Moss April.moss@dph.ga.gov

Trauma Program Manager

Renee Morgan retiring Feb 1st

EMS Data Manager

Application closed, interviews in process

Stroke Program Coordinator

Will be posted in next few days



Michael Johnson

Assessment Updates

- American College of Surgeons Trauma System Assessment January 9-13, 2023
- Pennsylvania Trauma System Foundation Rural Trauma Assessment October 11-13, 2022
- NHTSA EMS Assessment

August 29-September1, 2022



Kelly Joiner

Number of Licensees as of 01/20/2023

Level	As of 01/01/22	As of 04/01/2022	As of 1/20/2023	Δ 1/1/22	Δ since 4/01
EMT-Responder	99	203	330	+231	NA
EMT	5,805	5,431	6,431	+626	+1,000
EMT-Intermediate	4,881	4,805	4,802	-79	-3
Advanced EMT	4,931	4,716	5,289	+358	+573
Cardiac Technician	28	27	27	-1	NC
Paramedic	8,770	8,562	9,133	+363	+571
TOTAL	24,514	23,744	26,012	+1,498	+2,268



Kelly Joiner

Naloxone for EMS Agencies

- Next request application will open in Feb 2023
- Naloxone supplies are to supplement current EMS agency inventory and will be allocated based on supply on hand and previous Narcan usage.

EMS Armband Project

Kelly Joiner

EMS Armband Project

Pilot Areas: White County, Lumpkin County

Deterministically link **Crash Records**, **EMS Records**, and **Hospital Records** with one unique number.

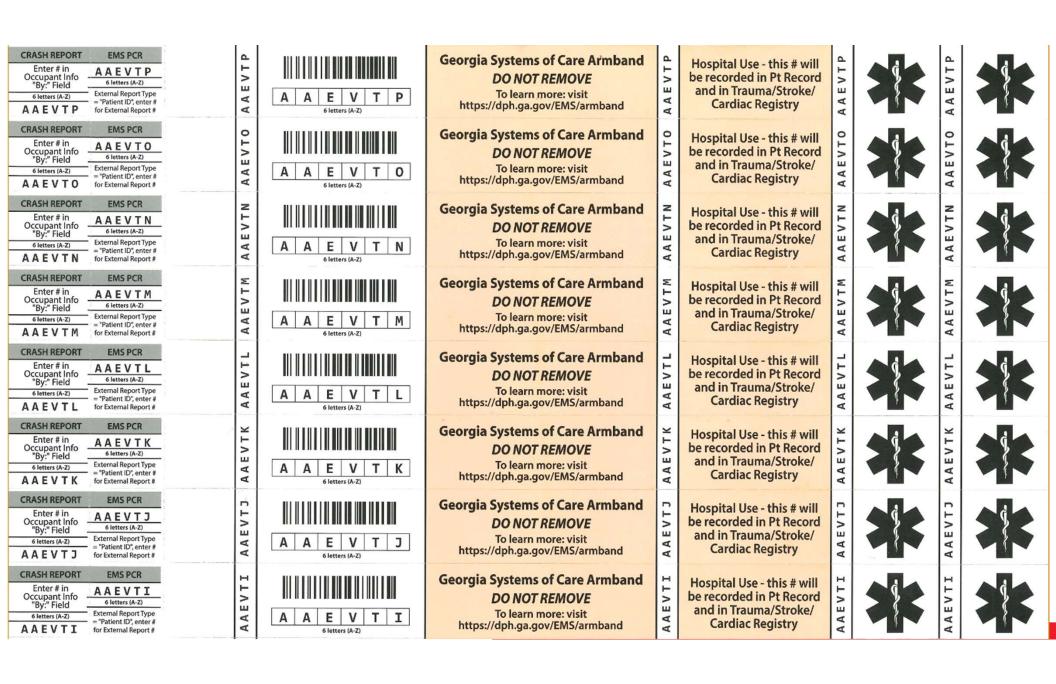
Three (3) phase project that includes Law Enforcement, EMS, and Hospital partners. During the pilot testing, Phase 1, will allow us to learn what works well and where opportunities for improvement lie before expanding the project.

Crash Related Incidents Criteria:

- All Motor Vehicle Collisions (MVC/MVA)
- All MVC/MVA versus Pedestrian
- All MVC/MVA versus bicyclist
- All MVC/MVA versus motorcyclist
- All MVC/MVA versus ATVs

Data Reports

- Crash Report:
 - Contains crash specific information about the patient
- EMS Report:
 - Includes all 911 and Interfacility Responses and Transports
 - ALL Ground Ambulance, Air Ambulance, and licensed MFR Agencies.
 - Contains prehospital information about the individual patient from time of EMS first contact till arrival at the hospital.
- Hospital Report:
 - Contains diagnosed injuries, treatment, and outcomes of the patient



Post Licensure Skills

Kelly Joiner

Post Licensure Skills

Revised SOP (PLS) Policy and posted to website https://dph.georgia.gov/EMS/post-licensure-skills-pls-paramedics

Revisions:

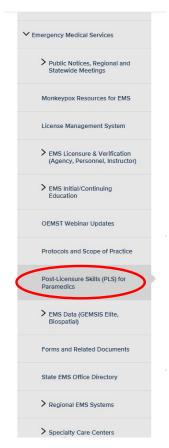
- Agency approval will be for 2 years.
 - Education request and education will still have to be done on an annual basis
- Added a Post Licensure Skill
 - Initiation of the administration of Blood/Blood Products in prehospital environment

Post Licensure Skills

Post-Licensure Skill for Paramedics

- 1. Initiation and maintenance of **Advanced Transport Ventilators (ATV)** that are capable of more advanced modes (i.e., capable of adjusting more than rate and tidal volume).
- **2. Initiation of additional units of blood/blood products**, includes initiating an additional blood/blood product infusion if supplied by the sending facility after all proper safety checks are completed by the sending facility and the ambulance has addressed appropriate storage and temperature maintenance during transport.
- 3. Maintenance of Intra-Aortic Balloon Pumps (IABPs)
- 4. Maintenance of Transvenous Cardiac Pacing (TVP) devices
- **5. Maintenance of external cardiac support devices**, including percutaneous Left Ventricular Assist Devices (pLVAD), Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) devices, etc.
- 6. Administration or maintenance of high flow oxygen via nasal cannula.
- 7. Initiation of the administration of blood/blood products in the pre-hospital environment.

Post-Licensure Skills (PLS) for Paramedics





es > Post-Licensure Skills (PLS) for Paramedics

Post-Licensure Skills (PLS) for Paramedics

Post-Licensure Skills (PLS) for Paramedics are those skills that are above and beyond the normal scope of practice for a Georgia licensed Paramedic as listed on the current Scope of Practice for EMS Personnel.

Paramedics are permitted to perform only those additional post-licensure skills listed below at an EMS agency that has been approved to utilize those post-licensure skills for paramedics, and only once the paramedic has been: *trained* on those skills; *certified* as competent; *credentialed* to perform those skills by the agency's EMS Medical Director; and only while operating under standing, verbal or written *orders* from the agency's EMS Medical Director, transferring physician, or medical control physician.

Georgia licensed Paramedics are only permitted to perform any of the skills above if the following requirements are met for EACH specific skill for EACH EMS agency that the skill will be performed at.

EMS agencies will only be approved to utilize post-licensure paramedic skills if all the requirements below are met.

To submit for EMS agency approval:



After an EMS agency has been approved for a Post Licensure Paramedic skill and education, the agency must:



To renew EMS agency Post Licensure Skill(s) for Paramedic:



Relevant Guidance Resource Documents

- Additional Blood Products Guidance
- Advanced Transport Ventilators Guidance
- External Cardiac Support Device Guidance
- High Flow Nasal Cannula Guidance
- IABP Guidance
- Transvenous Cardiac Pacing Devices Guidance

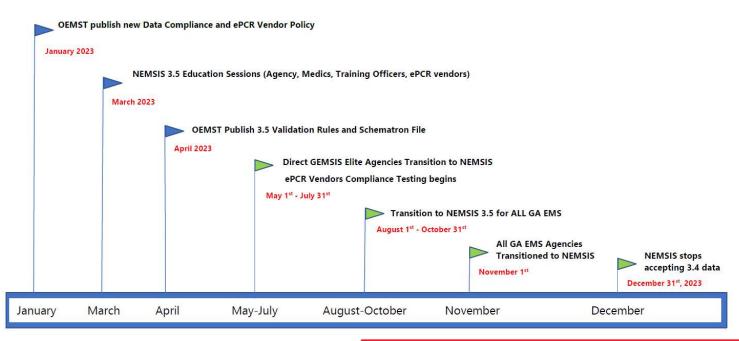
OEMST v3.5 Transition

Kelly Joiner / Dipti Patel

OEMST NEMSIS v3.5 Transition



Georgia Timeline for NEMSIS 3.5 Data Transition



OEMST NEMSIS v3.5 Transition

WHY TRANSITION TO v3.5.0?

- Develop standards for health information exchange
- Better Incident flow and increased clarity

NEMSIS V3.5

WHAT WILL v3.5.0 OFFER?

- More dispositions
- Less data entry errors
- Increase data accuracy

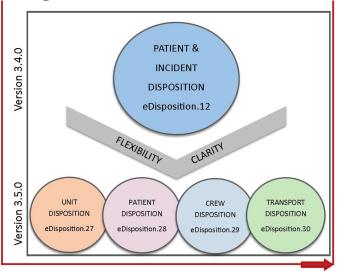
OEMST CONTACT

EMAIL: <u>GEMSIS@DPH.GA.GOV</u>

WEBSITE: https://www.dph.ga.gov/ems/gemsis

OEMST Transition to NEMSIS v3.5

Example of one of the changes:



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.

OEMST Transition to NEMSIS v3.5

Changes from v3.4.0 to v3.5.0

Overall Changes	New	Updated	Removed
Total	73	100	58
EMS Elements	26	80	10
DEM Elements	0	20	4
StateDataSet Elements	47	0	44
Changes in National Elements	v3.4.0	v3.5.0	
Total (excluding SDS, eOutcome)	165	155	
Mandatory	37	32	
Required	128	123	

More Information Coming Soon

Please keep check on the website and your emails containing more information about:

- Steps in the transition for Go Live with v3.5
- Education Webinars
 - Education of the Changes
 - Definitions of data elements/data fields
 - Validation Rule updates and changes
 - Current documentation issues
- Guidance Documents for v3.5 Changes



NEMSIS v3.5 Transition

NEMSIS has started compliance testing with ePCR software vendors.

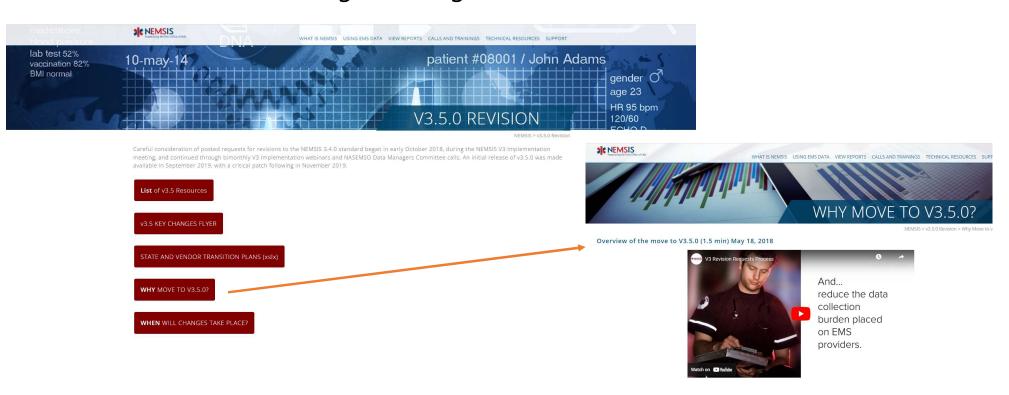
- Currently 18 ePCR software systems are v3.5 compliant
- https://nemsis.org/technical-resources/version-3/v3-compliant-software-and-compliance-testing-status/

Georgia will be implementing an ePCR Software Vendor compliance testing process.

All states must be fully transitioned to v3.5 before 2024

www.nemsis.org

From NEMSIS Home Page > Using EMS Data > V3.5.0 Revision

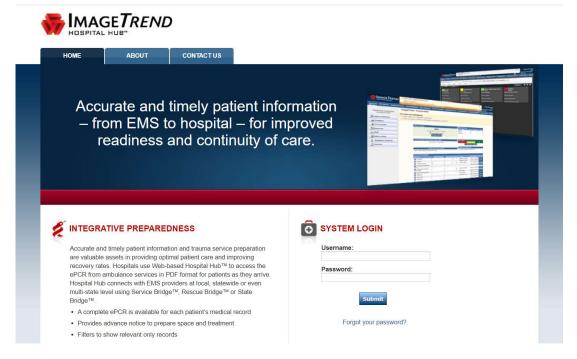


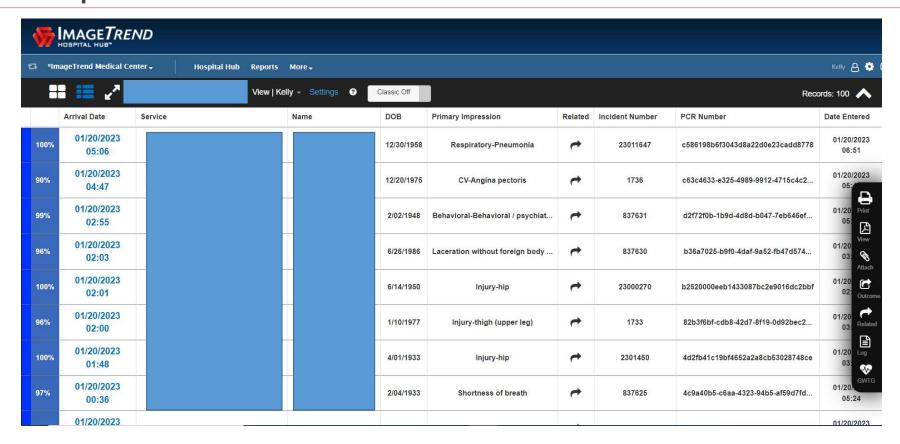
Hospital Hub

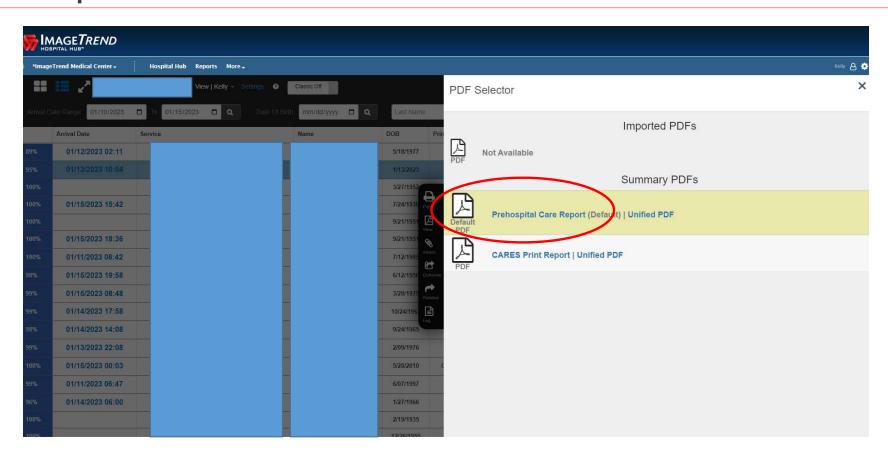
Kelly Joiner

Hospital Hub

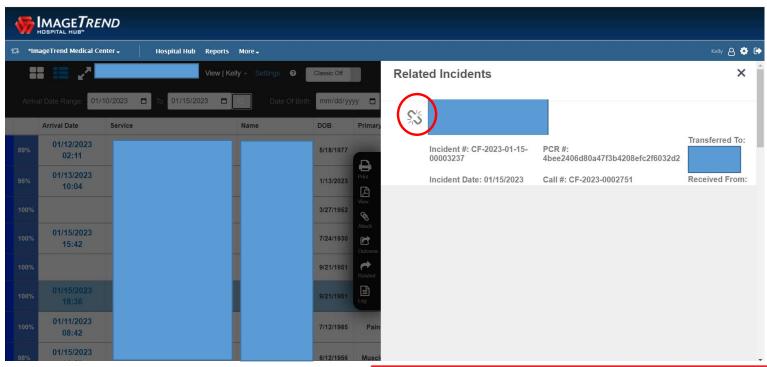
The Hospital platform to obtain EMS PCRs for patients transported to their facility.



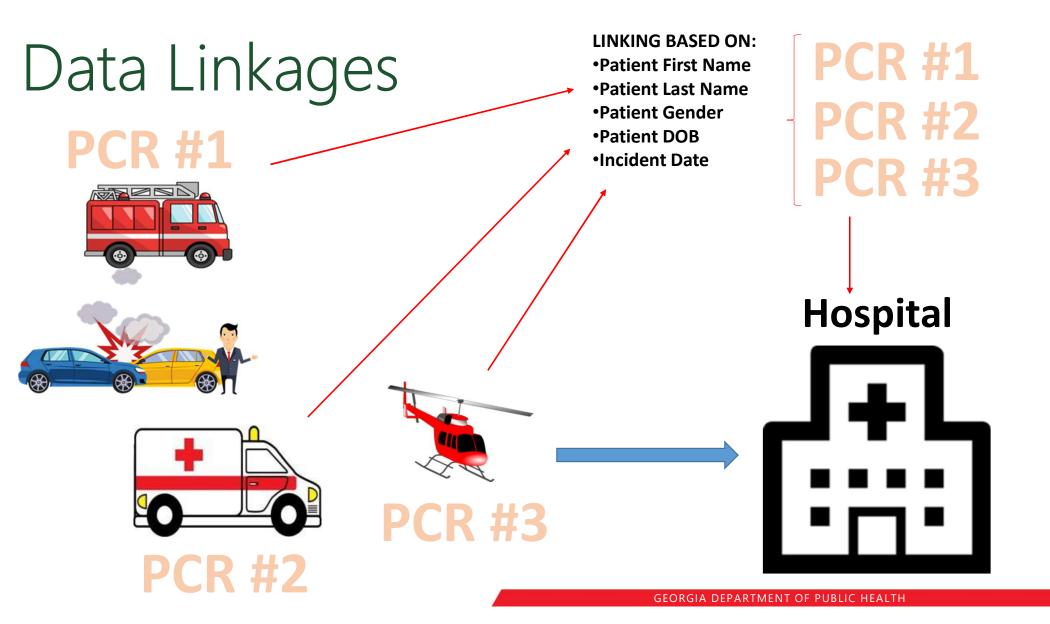


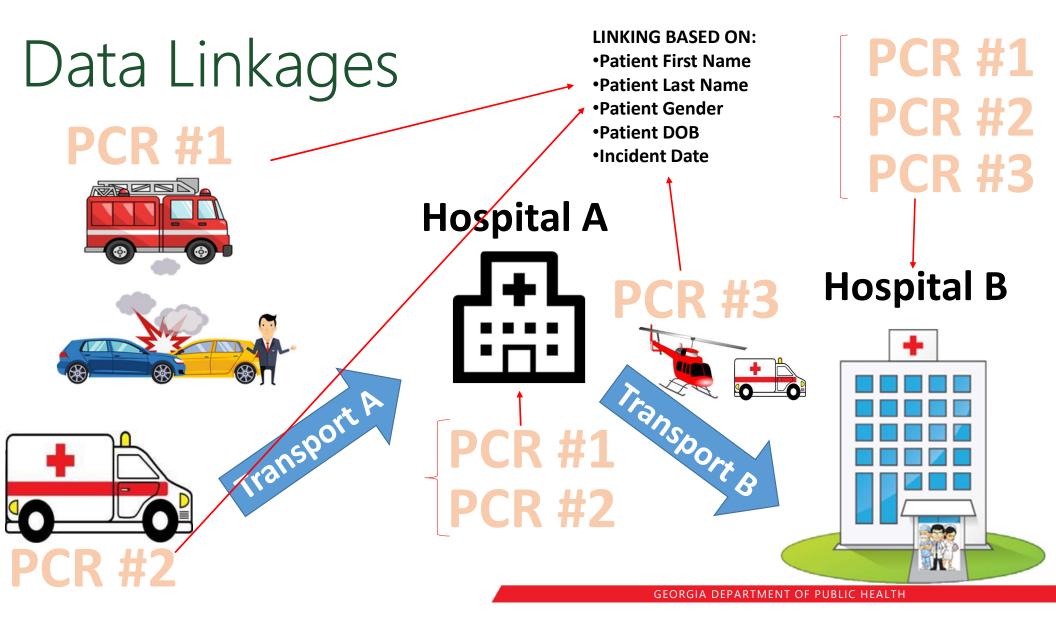


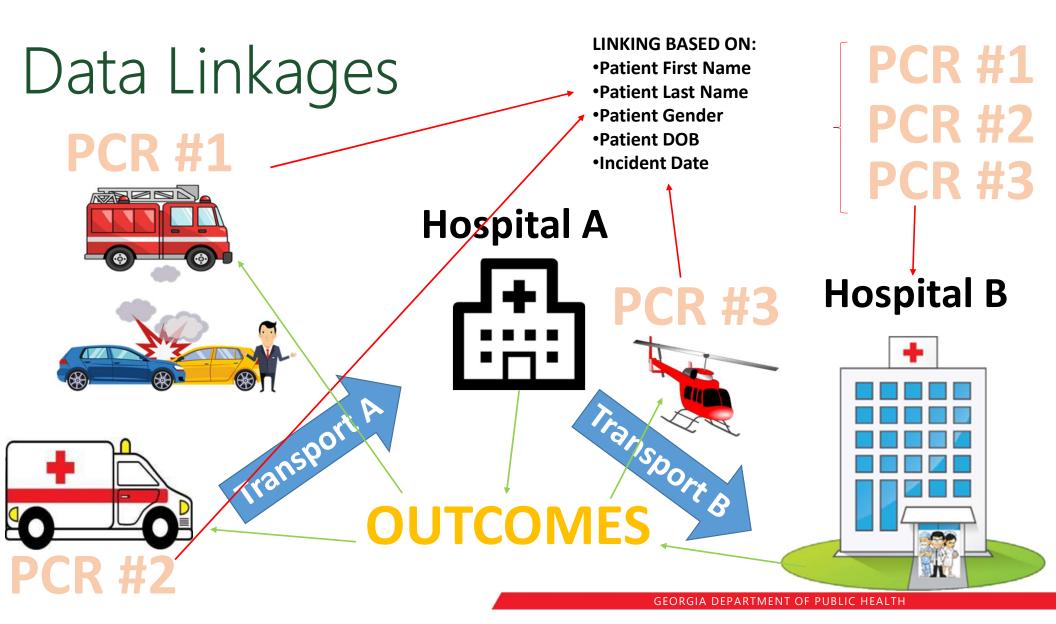
Also can link ePCRs completed for a patient regarding that specific incident.



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH







Capabilities:

- A platform for Hospitals to obtain EMS PCRs.
- A tool to link all the PCRs related to a patient for a specific event for hospitals.
- A tool to provide Outcome data to the EMS agencies

Current Issues:

- Hospital Facility Codes not correct in ePCR Software Systems
- EMS not knowing patient demographics when completing PCR
- Linkage of data elements

LINKING BASED ON:

- Patient First Name
- Patient Last Name
- Patient Gender
- Patient DOB

EMS Personnel License Renewal

Richard Rhodes

Personnel License Renewal for 3/31/2023

Georgia Medic Renewal application available (October 1st).

- Continuing Education (CE) must be entered into Education Report into LMS
- Must upload BCLS and ACLS (if applicable) cards
- \$75.00
- \$2.75 credit card charge

Agency-Indicate Medics for Renewal Payments application will close on February 15th

EMS Instructor and Instructor/Coordinator Late Renewal

Late renewal period is now open until June 30th, 2023

CE and Active Teaching will be accepted from 1/1/2020 – 6/30/2023

Late fee of \$25

EMS Education Consortium

Richard Rhodes

EMS Education Consortium

Next Meeting March 3rd 10AM – 12PM, Doctors Hospital and Virtual

Would really like to have Medical Director engagement

Two sub-committees have been created

- Advanced Placement for non-EMS healthcare (LPN, RN, PA, MD, DO, Etc.)
- Initial Education Program re-designation criteria

Upcoming Meetings/Trainings

Richard Rhodes

Upcoming Meetings/Trainings

EMSAC Quarterly Meeting – February 21, 2023, at 10:00am

• (Virtual & In Person, OEMST, 1680 Phoenix Blvd, Atlanta, GA)

EMSMDAC SOP Meeting – March 7th, 2023, at 10:00am (Virtual)

EMSMDAC Quarterly Meeting – April 11th, 2023, at 10:00am

https://dph.georgia.gov/EMS/public-notices-regional-and-statewide-meetings

Regional Instructor Symposiums

- January 20th Coastal Pines Technical College Jessup
 - NREMT will be presenting virtually
- February 13th Southern Crescent Technical College Griffin
- March 3rd Doctors Hospital Augusta
 - The EMS Education Consortium will also be held this day from 10-12

Questions? And Open Discussion



Thank you for all that you do!

- Be Safe
- Watch for emails