



BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

EMS Information Bulletin - # 076

DATE: May 10, 2010

SUBJECT: Submission of Patient Care Reports to the Bureau of EMS

TO: Licensed Ambulance Services and Quick Response Services **THRU:** Joseph W. Schmider, Director
Bureau of EMS

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This EMS Information Bulletin identifies the requirements for licensed ambulance services and recognized Quick Response Services (QRSs) as related to data collection and submission of Patient Care Reports (PCRs) to the Bureau of EMS.

§ 1001.41. (a) of the Pennsylvania Code, Title 28 requires that ambulance services shall file a report for any call to which it responds that results in patient care, assessment or refusal of the patient to be assessed. The report shall be made by completing an EMS PCR and filing it, within 30 days, with the Regional EMS Council that is assigned responsibilities for the region in which the ambulance service is based using the Department approved electronic PCR system.

§ 1015.1(a)(4) of the Pennsylvania Code, Title 28 requires recognized QRSs to comply with §§ 1001.41 and 1001.42 (relating to data and information requirements for ambulance services, and dissemination of information) for data elements included in an EMS PCR which the Department designates for completion by a QRS.

In the past, a limited number of ambulance services and Regional EMS Councils have been granted exemptions for non-emergent and interfacility transfers. Effective January 1, 2011, exemptions will no longer be granted. All licensed ambulance services and recognized QRSs will be required to meet the requirements of §1001.41.

It is the responsibility of the Regional EMS Councils to ensure that all ambulance services licensed to operate in this Commonwealth and recognized QRSs comply with this requirement. To meet this requirement, Regional EMS Councils are to identify the licensed ambulance services and recognized QRSs, based within the Regional EMS Council's geographic area, that are not submitting PCRs and educate the services of the policy and provide assistance to the services in obtaining Pennsylvania approved PCR reporting software.

On October 15, 2010, Regional EMS Councils shall provide the Bureau of EMS with a status report that identifies services that have not begun to implement PCR reporting and the actions the Regional EMS Council has taken to assist those services that are not compliant. Regional EMS Councils shall include this requirement in their quality improvement process and report compliance in the Quarterly Report.