



Notice of Adoption – Policy Statement

Title: EMS Data Reporting | Policy Statement Number WEMSIS24-01

Issuing Entity: Department of Health

Subject Matter: Postponing enforcement of data reporting requirements using the Washington Emergency Medical Services Information System (WEMSIS) for licensed ambulance and aid services (RCW 70.168.090, WAC 246-976-455).

Effective Date: September 30, 2024

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OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
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Policy Statement

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Document Number:	
References:	RCW 70.168.090, WAC 246-976-455(3)
Contact:	Jim Jansen, Research, Analysis and Data Manager
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Supersedes:	N/A
Approved By:	Megan Veith

The Department of Health (department) will not take enforcement action regarding Washington Emergency Medical Services Information System (WEMSIS) reporting until January 1, 2025, against currently operating Emergency Medical Services (EMS) that are not yet reporting to WEMSIS.

The scope of this policy is limited to the electronic data reporting requirements for EMS providers set forth in RCW 70.168.090 and WAC 246-976-455(3).

The department adopted rule amendments and new sections of rule establishing requirements for submitting patient data using WEMSIS under WSR 24-15-130 on July 23, 2024. These new requirements in chapter 246-976 WAC supporting EMS data system reporting requirements go into effect September 30, 2024. These rules establish department and EMS provider responsibilities related to EMS data reporting to WEMSIS, the state EMS electronic data system. WAC 246-976-455(3) requires EMS services to electronically report patient records to the department within 48 hours of dispatch. Under these rules, EMS services may utilize a proprietary

data reporting service through an external vendor, or the no-cost state provided data reporting system.

The department recognizes that EMS services with no current electronic data reporting system in place may require additional time beyond September 2024 to establish these reporting mechanisms and come into compliance with 48-hour reporting requirements.

To ensure adequate time for EMS services to establish electronic reporting systems and come into compliance with these requirements, the department will not take enforcement action regarding WEMSIS reporting against currently operating EMS services that are not yet reporting to WEMSIS until January 1, 2025, at which time the department may take enforcement action for violations that occur after December 31, 2024. Licensed Ambulance and Aid services must comply with all other applicable laws, regulations and existing Department of Health statutes and rules.

This policy statement will expire on January 1, 2025.