A DATA-DRIVEN EMS SYSTEM IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) has recently rolled out a sophisticated, data collection system called LEMSIS that is used by emergency medical services providers across San Diego County. This system collects and manages EMS data, and HHSA will be using this data to make informed decisions on how best to provide high-quality EMS services throughout the region.

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IMPROVING THE EMS DELIVERY SYSTEM IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Emergency Medical Services
Medical Care Services Division
County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency

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At the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA), we continuously seek to improve services provided to residents and support a healthy, safe and thriving San Diego County.

HHSA contracts with ambulance companies to provide service in many of the more rural areas of the County. After analyzing many years of data we see that call volumes for emergency medical services in rural areas continue to rise. This leads to more reliance on “mutual aid” from one ambulance service provider to another, but only when it is available.

In order to improve the access to and quality of emergency medical services in these more rural areas, we are proposing changes to unify and integrate the service delivery system. We are seeking community input on these proposed concepts as an important part of our service delivery improvement process.

Proposed Concepts

- Update the framework for ambulance response time standards in these communities to reflect changes in population centers and zoning attributes.
- Ensure paramedic-level response is consistently available in these communities by bringing together currently “undesignated” areas into a broader “unified service area.”
- Coordinate requests for emergency medical services so that the closest, most appropriate resource can be sent to the scene—the right service, to the right person, at the right time.
- Closely monitor the emergency medical services system using the County’s new LEMSIS data collection system.
- Create a service delivery model that anticipates the future needs of patients accessing of our emergency medical services system.