



## Northwest Community EMS System Provider Based Performance Improvement 2017

NORTHWEST  
COMMUNITY  
EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL  
SERVICES  
SYSTEM

### Aspect of Care: Cardiac Arrest

- Purpose:** To determine if system paramedics are correctly documenting events and medications occurring during a Cardiac Arrest incident.
- Population:** All Patient Care Reports where CPR is performed.
- Date range:** Quarterly in 2017
- Instructions:** Using Report Writer in ELITE, run the query “NWCEMSS Cardiac Arrest” with the necessary date ranges. The query can be located in the “QA/QI” folder, or by searching for the name with the search field.
- Upload completed screen to <https://www.dropbox.com/request/9ir3MOUj4Z5gmr49S8h6> by the last Friday of the month it is due
- Title the screen file with the following nomenclature: “2017 XXXXX Agency Name Cardiac Arrest.xls” where “XXXXX” represents the quarter (01, 02, 03 or 04).
- Document the following on the screen:
- Column B – Select the appropriate agency name from the list.
  - Column C – Enter date of the incident.
  - Column D – Enter agency’s incident number.
  - Column E – Enter patient’s age in years (If infant less than 1 year, enter 0 in the box and note age in months in comments.)
  - Column F – Select the appropriate cardiac arrest intervention that was documented as being performed first after the patient was found to be in cardiac arrest. If a procedure was performed prior to the pt being in cardiac arrest, do not use that procedure here.
    - ALS Airway – Select this if a King Airway or an Endotracheal tube was inserted first.
    - Assisted Ventilations – Select this if the pt was ventilated first.
    - BLS Airway – Select this if an Oropharyngeal or a Nasalopharyngeal was inserted first.
    - Chest Compression – Select this if CPR was first. If chest compressions was documented with another choice at identical times, choose chest compressions.
    - Defibrillation – Select this if the pt was defibrillated first.
    - None or N/A – Select this if no procedures were performed after the pt was in cardiac arrest.
    - Other – Select this if a different cardiac arrest intervention than those listed was performed first.
  - Column G – Select the appropriate response to the question “What BLS airways were used prior to an ALS airway?”
    - Oral Airway – Select this if just an oropharyngeal was inserted prior to an ALS airway.
    - Nasal Airway – Select this if just a nasalopharyngeal was inserted prior to an ALS airway.
    - Nasal & Oral Airways – Select this if both an oropharyngeal and a nasalopharyngeal was inserted prior to an ALS airway.
    - No BLS Airway – Select this if neither an oropharyngeal nor a nasalopharyngeal was inserted prior to an ALS airway.
    - N/A – Select this if neither a BLS airway nor an ALS airway was inserted during the arrest.

- Column H – Select the method used by the paramedics to document that they are performing quality chest compressions during the cardiac arrest event.
  - Palpable Pulses during CPR – Select this if it was documented in the narrative that pulses could be palpated during compressions.
  - Capnography >10mmHg – Select this if the documented levels of ETCO2 were greater than 10mmHg during the incident.
  - CPR Feedback Device – Select this if it was documented that a CPR Feedback Device was used.
  - Known Exception (Comment) – Select this if was a viable reason for why one of these options does not apply such as documented ETCO2 values throughout the incident but values were never over 10mmHg. Describe in Column M what the exception was.
  - Other – Select if there was a documented method which was not an option in this list.
  - No Method Documented – Select if there was documented method within the report.
  - N/A – Select if this column is not applicable to this call for any reason.
- Column I – Select the appropriate response as to whether or not a Vasopressor was administered every 3-5 minutes after an IV was established and while CPR was being performed.
  - Yes – A Vasopressor was administered every 3-5 minutes per protocol
  - No – A Vasopressor was not administered every 3-5 minutes per protocol
  - N/A – If Vasopressors could not be administered due to the lack of an IV being established.
- Column J – Select the appropriate response as to whether or not the pt was defibrillated every 2 minutes when the pt was in a shockable rhythm.
  - Yes – Select if the pt was shocked every two minutes while in Ventricular Fibrillation or Pulseless Ventricular Tachycardia
  - No – Select if the pt was not shocked every two minutes while in Ventricular Fibrillation or Pulseless Ventricular Tachycardia
  - Not Shockable Rhythm – Select if the pt was never in a shockable rhythm during CPR.
  - N/A – Select if for any reason that the paramedics did not have the opportunity to shock the patient
- Column K – Select the appropriate response as to whether or not 300mg of Amiodarone was administered after the first Vasopressor.
  - Yes – Followed SOP – Select if 300mg of Amiodarone was administered within two minutes of the pt being in V-fib with an IV and a Vasopressor already administered.
  - No – Did not follow SOP - Select if 300mg of Amiodarone was not administered within two minutes of the pt being in V-fib with an IV and a Vasopressor already administered.
  - Time of VFIB did not allow for admin – Select if the paramedics could not administer Amiodarone due to the timing of V-fib which did not allow for administration such as the pt was in V-fib before an IV and was not in V-fib once an IV was established.
  - N/A – Select if this question does not apply due to the pt not being in V-fib ever during the incident.
- Column L – Select the appropriate response as to whether or not 150mg of Amiodarone was administered within 5 minutes of the first Amiodarone dose.
  - Yes – Select if the 150mg dose was administered within five minutes of the 300mg dose
  - No – Select if the 150mg dose was not administered within five minutes of the 300mg dose or was never administered
  - No, rhythm did not persist – Select if the pt did not stay in V-fib within the five minute window or return to V-fib after being in other rhythms
  - N/A – Select if this question does not apply due to the pt not being in V-fib ever during the incident.
- Column M – Add in any comments that help explain the responses or any interesting information about the incident that you feel is relevant.