



BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

EMS Information Bulletin 2011-015

DATE: November 8, 2011

SUBJECT: Provider Primary Impression Field PA NEMSIS

TO: Pennsylvania EMS Providers
Pennsylvania Approved Patient Care Report Vendors

FROM: Bureau of Emergency Medical Services
PA Department of Health
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The Pennsylvania NEMSIS Data Dictionary lists field E09-15, Providers Primary Impression, as a National Element that is required in the data file sent to the Bureau. The field may contain a null value, which allows a provider to select -25 (Not Applicable) for those calls where no patient is found. If a patient is located and a Patient Care Report (PCR) is generated field E09-15 should have a valid code for a practitioner's primary impression. Currently this field has a compliance rate of less than 50%.

EMS Agencies are asked to review the Agency's PCR policy and work with their PCR vendor to develop a method to correctly document the Providers Primary Impression when assessing patient and include that information on the PCR that is sent to the receiving facility, Regional EMS Councils, the Bureau of EMS and the NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center.

Please work with your Regional EMS Council and PCR vendor to improve compliance with this field.