



National Association of State EMS Officials

201 Park Washington Court • Falls Church, VA 22046-4527 • www.nasemso.org
703-538-1799 • Fax 703-241-5603 • info@nasemso.org

Contact Joe Ferrell
Telephone 515-291-2550
Email joe@nasemso.org

Alabama, Tennessee and South Carolina Join National Collaborative for Bio-Preparedness

May 17, 2018 (Falls Church, Va.) – The Alabama Department of Public Health, Office of EMS, Tennessee Department of Public Health, Office of EMS, and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control have each completed Data Use and Analytic Agreements with Biospatial, Inc. to join the National Collaborative for Bio-Preparedness (NCBP). These states will be submitting National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) data elements both to assist in national preparedness and to enhance each states' ability to visualize their data with other data layers of relevance.

These three states bring the total number of the National Association of State EMS Officials' (NASEMSO) South Region participating in the collaborative to six, with 10 total states across the nation. Tennessee's State EMS Director and NASEMSO's South Region Chair Donna Tidwell feels that one of the benefits of participating in the NCBP is the ability to track trends occurring in neighboring states that may affect Tennessee. With six of the 14 states in the South Region participating, and others actively working on joining, the region will have comprehensive insight into trends and events. Tidwell also is actively participating with Biospatial, Inc., to identify other data sources that can enrich the NEMSIS data.

The NCBP is a collaborative of state and local responders and the national preparedness enterprise to provide early warning of health events and trends not otherwise detectable. NCBP has been a ground-breaking, multi-year pilot cooperative research and development program between the University of North Carolina (UNC) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Through a new partnership between UNC and Biospatial, Inc., NCBP is transitioning to a commercially-hosted system, while maintaining NCBP's unique mission and capabilities through growing and sustaining our national network of data owners and NCBP users.

In exchange for access to EMS data, NCBP provides operational and clinical insight to state and local data owners to help improve operations and patient outcomes. NCBP provides alerts to anomalous health events, visualization of syndromic events and trends, and clinical and operational dashboards. The collaborative data network widens the context of events by enabling sharing of data and syndromic trends with neighboring jurisdictions. These capabilities are provided through a *no-cost subscription to state and local data owners*. NCBP also enables new health- and safety-related insights through multi-agency collaboration, such as linking motor vehicle crash records with injury severity derived from the EMS Revised Trauma Score.

Biospatial and UNC are working closely with the NASEMSO to develop and grow the Collaborative through state EMS offices. NASEMSO has partnered with the NCBP because of the value the analytics

can provide to the NEMSIS data that state EMS offices collect. The NCBP has created a pathway to contribute to state specific surveillance and offer real time value to state epidemiologists and state health officers.

The National Association of State EMS Officials is a leading national organization for EMS, a respected voice for national EMS policy with comprehensive concern and commitment for the development of effective, integrated, community-based universal and consistent EMS systems. Its members are the leaders of their state and territory EMS systems. State EMS Offices that are interested in participating in the NCBP should contact Joe Ferrell at joe@nasemso.org or 515-291-2550.

###