Wyoming Department of Health

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Brent D. Sherard, M.D., M.P.H., Director and State Health Officer **Governor Dave Freudenthal**

Memorandum

To: EMS Agencies

From: Jay Ostby, Financial Statistical Specialist
EMS Office

Date: December 28, 2009

Re: WATRS (Wyoming Ambulance Trip Reporting System) 2010 Update

The EMS Office is in the process of replacing the current generation of WATRS, which is programmed with the Centers for Disease Control's EPI Info program, with a new single entry electronic patient care report system. The new single entry electronic patient care report is planned to be a replacement to paper reports. Please discontinue entering data into the current WATRS database using the Epi Info program beginning January 1, 2010.

The WATRS Next Generation is a smart client software program that allows an EMS provider to enter a patient care report on a portable computer or a desktop computer with internet access. Completing the electronic patient care report will satisfy data submission in a single process. A roll out plan is currently in development to distribute the new program statewide. In addition, plans are being developed to help systems catch up with entering reports from paper and then switching to the new electronic patient care report.

EMS agencies will have the option of submitting a paper PCR or via electronic for the foreseeable future. EMS Agencies should continue using the current approved PCR until the new single entry electronic PCR is provided. An updated paper PCR will be available either the end of the first quarter or second quarter of 2010 for those desiring to continue using a paper report.

EMS agencies currently using a NEMSIS Gold Compliant software packaged are encouraged to continue entering patient care reports. The EMS Office's new system will be gold compliant and data should transfer seamlessly. Patient care reports from January 1 through December 31 2009 will need to be converted to the Epi Info version of WATRS.

The WATRS Next Generation software is anticipated to be available the first quarter of 2010. More details will be sent out soon. If there are questions or comments, please call Jay Ostby at (888) 228-8996.

Office of Emergency Medical Services
Hathaway Building, 4th Floor · Cheyenne WY 82002
FAX (307) 777-5639 · TTY (307) 777-5648 · **(307) 777-7955**