

## PCR Software Update

One issue to consider for the use of your 2007-2008 EMSOF funding is that beginning January 1, 2008, Pennsylvania will begin to transition to the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) PCR dataset. (For more information on NEMSIS please see [www.nemsis.org](http://www.nemsis.org))

Effective January 1, 2008, any PCR software sold in Pennsylvania must be approved at the NEMSIS Silver level as a minimum. By January 1, 2009, the software must be Gold approved. This will require upgrades to all PCR software in use in the Commonwealth. There will be a transition period, where both the old and new systems will be in use, but all services will eventually be required to move to a NEMSIS compliant electronic PCR program.

Concurrently, the region will no longer be able to continue the regional license for KEMS that we have previously provided. We are currently seeking bids and upgrade information from vendors, and will include this information on the EMSOF purchase request list. Some of these upgrades may be covered by current maintenance agreements, but some services may face upgrade costs to move to the new version of their software or to transition to new software.

Services will be able to utilize their EMSOF (up to the maximum funds available for their service), at 100% funding to purchase software upgrades, new PCR software, or a range of PCR's for on-line PCR programs.

With the move to the NEMSIS standards, additional PCR programs will also be available for use in the Commonwealth. We are currently working to have the Firehouse Software (Version 7) PCR component available for EMS reporting in addition to fire incidents. Version 7 is currently approved at the NEMSIS Gold level, and may be an option for those fire affiliated services that will minimize the duplication of reporting for both fire and EMS. We are also looking at being able to offer upgrades to Firehouse version 7 from previous versions as part of the EMSOF program.

Additional information will be provided with the EMSOF purchase request packet in January.