

EMS QPS RLS Trend of the Month



Vital Sign Assessment & Documentation

AHS Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

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Did you know?

On average, every 28 days a RLS report is submitted regarding absence or incomplete vital signs on the ePCR and/or during verbal information transfer.

As RLS is a voluntary reporting system, true incidence may be higher. This trend is based on EMS related RLS submissions from April 19, 2017 to April 18, 2018.

How can we improve patient safety?

➤ Based on the [Standard Approach and Ongoing Assessment](#) MCP (Version 3.0), the primary vital signs to be collected for all patients include:

- Pulse
- Respirations
- Blood pressure
- SPO2
- GCS and
- Temperature



➤ At a minimum, practitioners must perform 2 sets of vital signs. Typically, at least 1 set on scene and 1 set during transport. Additional sets of vital signs must be performed:

- After every medication administration or treatment intervention
- Every 15 minutes on critical patients
- Every 30 minutes on non-critical patients

➤ **Vital signs captured by the cardiac monitor are incomplete** and manual editing is required to ensure full sets of vital signs are recorded.

➤ Ensure vital signs are assessed and documented as required and that they are conveyed during the verbal information transfer at clinical handover.

RLS: Sharing, learning and improving patient safety—together!

Brought to you by AHS EMS Quality & Patient Safety

Questions? Comments? Please contact Lisa.Christopherson@ahs.ca