ePCR Software Validation

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to describe the validation process for ePCR software in the State of Florida.

Overview

The Health Information and Policy Analysis Section (HIPAS) in the Bureau of Emergency Medical Oversight (BEMO) will validate ePCR software vendors in the state of Florida. HIPAS will validate NEMSIS compliant and Non-NEMSIS compliant software. This document describes the process and what components will be validated. It also describes how NEMSIS version changes and Florida version changes will be validated. The validation process will ensure that Florida elements, custom elements and Florida business rules have been implemented.

Business Rules Implementation

Florida Business rules will be implemented in 3 phases.

1. National elements (Demographic and Events) and Florida Event Elements
2. Florida Demographic Elements
3. Florida Custom Elements

All vendors must comply with all phases of the business rules. If the ePCR vendor starts when some of the business rules have not been implemented, they will need to be validated for the sections of business rules not implemented at time of validation at a later date. HIPAS will schedule a follow-up validation meeting to validate any untested business rules.

Schedule

- Phase 1:
- Phase 2:
- Phase 3:

Not Part of Testing

The ePCR software validation process will not test the design or usability of the User Interface (UI).

Validation Process

The validation process will begin the same for all ePCR vendors. An application must be submitted to HIPAS to initiate that interest in being validated by the Florida Department of Health. All results submitted by the ePCR vendor must match the expected results. The vendor will download the test packages from www.floridaemstars.com. The test packages will contain:

- Demographic test cases
- EMS Event test cases

- Florida Schematron

All vendors will enter the test cases into the system.

HIPAS will schedule a demo with the vendor as part of the validation process. Demo may be conducted in person or via a web conference. Specifics on the demo will be detailed later in the document depending on the vendor's NEMSIS status.

NEMSIS Compliant Software

Brief Overview

If an ePCR software is NEMSIS Compliant, then the software will be validated in Florida for the following:

- Florida Custom Elements in the UI
- Generate an Demographic XML file that is NEMSIS compliant
- Generate an Events XML file that is NEMSIS compliant
- Validate the files against the NEMSIS XSD
- Validate the files against the Florida Schematron file
- Submit data via web services

Detailed Process

1. The ePCR Vendor will submit an application to begin validation process
2. HIPAS will process the application
3. The ePCR Vendor will download the test package
4. The ePCR Vendor will enter test cases
5. HIPAS will schedule a demo of the software
6. During the demo, HIPAS will confirm that the Florida Custom elements are available in the UI
7. Enter additional test cases provided by HIPAS for the demo
8. The ePCR software will generate the XML file from the test cases provided in the test package and the demo
9. The file must be validated against the XSD
10. The file must be validated against the Florida Schematron
11. The file must be submitted to the Intermedix System via the web service
12. This concludes the Demo section
13. HIPAS will validate the files through our back end process (2 days)
14. Complete process
    a. If everything passes
        i. HIPAS will announce vendor validation
    b. If any errors are identified,
        i. HIPAS will send the errors back to the vendor
        ii. The vendor will fix identified errors
        iii. The vendor will notify HIPAS that the errors are fixed
        iv. HIPAS will schedule another demo
        v. Repeat steps 7 – 14 until Step 14a is achieved

Non-NEMSIS Compliant Software

Brief Overview

If an ePCR software is Non-NEMSIS Compliant, then the software will be validated in Florida for the following:

- Florida Custom Element in the UI
- Florida Demographic Elements in the UI
- Florida Event Elements in the UI
- Implementation of Florida Business Rules
- Submit Data via Web Services if available

Detailed Process

1. The ePCR Vendor will submit an application to begin validation process
2. HIPAS will process the application
3. The ePCR Vendor will download the test package
4. The ePCR Vendor will enter test cases
5. HIPAS will schedule a demo of the software
6. Begin demo
7. HIPAS will confirm the Florida Demographic elements
8. HIPAS will confirm the Florida Event elements
9. HIPAS will confirm that the Florida Custom elements are available in the UI
10. Enter additional test cases provided by HIPAS for the demo
11. The ePCR software will generate the XML file from the test cases provided in the test package and the demo
12. The file must be validated against the XSD
13. The file must be validated against the Florida Schematron
14. The file must be submitted to the Intermedix System
15. This concludes the Demo section
16. HIPAS will validate the files through our back end process (2 days)
17. Complete process
    a. If everything passes
        i. HIPAS will announce vendor validation
    b. If any errors are identified,
        i. HIPAS will send the errors back to the vendor
        ii. The vendor will fix identified errors
        iii. The vendor will notify HIPAS that the errors are fixed
        iv. HIPAS will schedule another demo

Repeat steps 7 – 14 until Step 14a is achieved

NEMSIS Version Updates

Each time there is a NEMSIS updates to the standard, HIPAS will review the changes and determine what if any pieces of the software need to be revalidated for Florida.

Florida Updates

Changes to the Florida data collection standard will be limited to custom elements and business rules. All other changes will be implemented through the NEMSIS revision cycle to maintain the national standard.

If changes need to be done outside of the NEMSIS revision cycle, those changes will be backwards compatible

Business Process Flow