New CARES Team Member

Please join us in welcoming Lynn Chheang to the CARES family. Lynn is a native of Minnesota and graduated from Saint Cloud State University, MN with a B.S. in Sports Management and a minor in Business. After undergraduate studies, Lynn worked for United Health Group-Optum Health for 5 years. There, he held roles as Supervisor of Wellness Engagement, Business Analyst/Project Manager, and Manager of Health Consult/Wellness Coaching. Lynn currently lives in Atlanta, GA with his wife, Erin. Public health is one of Lynn’s highest priorities, and we are pleased that he joined the CARES team as a Program Coordinator.

Healthy People 2020 Objective

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has requested that CARES provide data for a newly proposed Healthy People 2020 Objective related to active bystander intervention and survival from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. CARES staff has been working closely with HHS on the development of the topic, with goals centered on increasing the rates of bystander CPR and AED application, as well as survival to hospital discharge among patients who experience a non-traumatic cardiac arrest. CARES will be providing annual data for the following 4 metrics:

1. Bystander CPR rate for non-traumatic cardiac arrests
2. Bystander AED application rate for public arrests
3. Survival to hospital discharge rate for patients who receive bystander CPR and/or AED application
4. Survival to hospital discharge rate for patients that have a bystander witnessed arrest, present in a shockable rhythm, and receive bystander CPR and/or AED application (Utstein Bystander patients)

CARES will be providing data from the 2015 cohort, which is comprised of over 600 EMS agencies, serving a population of approximately 85 million. The new Healthy People 2020 goals will soon be published in the Federal Register.

HHS is promoting bystander response in order to strengthen community resilience, in an effort to save lives and assist individuals after an emergency.
New and Improved CARES Website

In an effort to broaden exposure and streamline content, CARES staff have developed a new layout for the CARES website. The goal is to inform peers and the general public about new developments within the registry and how CARES can be utilized in their communities. CARES will continue to operate as a secure, web-based data management system in which participating communities can enter local data and generate their own reports with new and improved features. The sample layout below will be live in the coming week.
New CARES Software Updates

Since April, CARES has released several software updates and resources on the CARES website, including enhancements to reporting features and account access for multi-agency administrators. Specific details about each item can be found below.

Reports User Guide and Webinars

CARES has added a new Reports User Guide to the website that is designed to help EMS and hospital users access, generate, and interpret their respective CARES reports. The user guide includes review of the Utstein, Summary, Survival, Demographics, Call Times, EMS/FR CAD Times, and Hospital Reports. In addition, detailed webinars have been recorded to help end users interpret arrest characteristics and outcome definitions for the various EMS and Hospital Reports. The Reports User Guide and webinars can be accessed under the Data ➔ Reports tab of the CARES website.

Additional Reference Material Updates

CARES has made updates to the EMS and Hospital User Guides based on software enhancements released throughout the year. Both the EMS and Hospital User Guides can accessed under the For Existing Sites tab of the CARES Website. Also, a User Guide for the DA-CPR Module can be accessed under Education/Resources ➔ Dispatcher Assisted CPR Training tab of the CARES website.

EMS and First Responder CAD Times Reports

CARES updated the setup criteria page for both CAD Times Reports to include a “National” Data Scope option, allowing participating agencies to benchmark their First Responder and Ambulance times against the national dataset.

Multi-Agency User Accounts: Limited and Read-Only

CARES has added two new user levels that allow streamlined management and review of multiple EMS agencies under a single coordinator or medical director’s oversight. The Multi-Agency Limited User account allows individuals to enter, audit, edit, and report on multiple EMS agencies’ data at the macroscopic and agency levels. The Multi-Agency Read-Only User account has been developed for end users that would like to view data and reports in read-only format for multiple EMS agencies (individual or group basis). Multi-Agency Read-Only users cannot not add or edit account setup information and user accounts. For both of these user accounts, access to EMS agency data is only granted where permissions are allowed. If either of these two accounts applies to your daily functionality, please contact your CARES liaison for account setup and assistance.
**CPR Quality Metrics Module**

CARES has developed an XML file in order to accept device data on additional metrics that measure quality of CPR during an event. This is a supplemental module that is currently in the beta testing phase. The CPR Quality Metrics XML file and data dictionary can be found under Education/Resources → Supplemental Modules → CPR Quality Metrics Module.

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**Publications**

As a growing registry, CARES data is often analyzed for research reports and national publications. It is our goal to provide useful data to the EMS community to help foster dialogue and awareness on out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. Below are just a few publications CARES has contributed to recently:


A comprehensive list of publications that utilize CARES data can be found on our website under the “Publications” tab. The Publications tab also has a hyperlink from each citation to the publication abstract in PubMed.
Conference Attendance 2015

CARES is expanding its brand and exploring additional venues in which to connect more closely with EMS colleagues and program participants. CARES staff have been fortunate to attend various conferences this year, which provide an open forum for relationship building with existing and future CARES sites.

Please see below for CARES presence at conferences this year and upcoming events:

- Pinnacle Conference - August 2015
- National Conference on Health Statistics - August 2015
- National Association of State EMS Officials Conference - October 2015
- National EMS and Physician Meeting - January 2016

If you are attending any of the upcoming conferences, please stop by the CARES table!

IOM Report

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) report on “Strategies to Improve Cardiac Arrest Survival” has been officially released to the public and can be accessed via the following link: http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2015/Strategies-to-Improve-Cardiac-Arrest-Survival.aspx.

This new report recommends the establishment of a national registry to track out-of-hospital cardiac arrests, while boosting involvement in teaching bystander CPR to communities. The report highlights that “A national responsibility exists to improve the likelihood of survival and favorable neurologic outcomes following cardiac arrest. This will require immediate changes in cardiac arrest reporting, research, training, and treatment.” CARES is well positioned to serve as the recognized out-of-hospital cardiac arrest registry for the US, currently covering 25% of the national population with an aim to increase coverage to >50% by 2018.

CARES Subscription Fee Reminder

The first installment of the CARES subscription fee is due by January 31st, 2016. Please refer to the payment schedule below for annual subscription fees at the site and state levels. If a state subscription fee is expected to be in place for 2016, no fee is required at the site level. The following resources are available on the CARES website: CARES Brochure, State Model FAQ sheet, and Subscription Model Fact Sheet for reference.
Timeline for Payment

- The 2015 subscription fee will be waived for all current CARES participants. However, to continue participation in 2016 and retain access to the registry, CARES must receive payment by January 31st, 2016.
- From 2016 onward, payment must be received by January 31st for participation for the calendar year.

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For more information about the subscription fee and how it affects your community, please contact your CARES liaison.

CARES Partners