



Sudden cardiac arrest can affect anyone, anywhere, at any time. A 12-year-old girl in a school classroom. A 31-year-old father jogging in the park. A 60-year-old grandmother at home with her family.

Every year, more than 300,000 people experience an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest in the United States. Unfortunately, the majority of these patients do not survive.

That's where CARES can make a difference. CARES helps communities measure performance and identify how to improve cardiac arrest survival rates.

To find out how CARES can help your community, read on >>



The survival rate from sudden cardiac arrest in many cities and towns across the United States has remained stagnant for decades. Yet some communities have found ways to significantly improve a patient's chance of surviving cardiac arrest—often with simple changes to 911 dispatch procedures or EMS training and protocols. The process of collecting and measuring data alone seems to make a significant difference in survival rates.

While many communities have discovered ways to increase survival rates, others struggle to know if they're moving in the right direction.

Show your commitment to saving lives from cardiac arrest by enrolling your community in CARES today.

What is CARES?

CARES—the Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival—was established by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Emory University to improve survival from cardiac arrest through out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA) data collection in the United States. Communities that join CARES commit to entering cardiac arrest data from EMS agencies and hospitals into a national database in order to track their performance confidentially over time and improve the quality of patient care—and ultimately prevent needless deaths.

By joining CARES, communities gain more than just access to information that will help them improve performance and save lives. They also contribute to one of the largest EMS registries in the world, and one of the few that also includes patient outcome information from hospitals. Those features enable CARES data to be used to conduct vital research that furthers our knowledge of cardiac arrest treatment and saves countless lives for years to come.

“What a community can gain from measuring and truly understanding the quality of its cardiac arrest care and cardiac arrest patient outcomes is invaluable—and I think CARES is the best way we can do that.”

DOUGLAS KUPAS, MD
COMMONWEALTH EMS MEDICAL
DIRECTOR, PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Who uses CARES:

- Hospitals
- State EMS officials
- Ambulance services
- Fire departments
- Researchers

CARES helps you answer questions about cardiac arrest in your community:

- Who is affected by cardiac arrest?
- Where and when are cardiac arrest events occurring?
- How do our cardiac arrest survival rates compare to other communities?
- Where can we make improvements in care that will save more lives?

Benefits of joining CARES:

- Join a network of communities working together to increase survival from sudden cardiac arrest.
- Compare your community to local, state, and national performance and discover ways to improve your emergency medical system's response cardiac arrest
- Use simple, HIPAA-compliant, web-based software to link EMS and hospital data, creating a single record for each OHCA event
- Access multiple real-time reporting features, including charts, graphs, and tables for use in reports, presentations, and more
- Receive training and ongoing support from CARES staff to get the most out of participation, including one-on-one consultation to review your community's annual reports and comparison to national benchmarks

Subscriptions are available at both the state level and the community level. If your community is interested in improving cardiac arrest care, CARES wants to talk with you. Learn more at mycares.net or email us at cares@emory.edu.



CARES
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