

## Overview

This file is an overview of every change made to the electronic patient care report in SIREN, regardless of anticipated impact to users.

The national objectives for these changes are to:

1. Reduce PCR data collection burden for clinicians
2. Make data collection more intuitive
3. Make data more usable
4. Make data more exchangeable

Our goal with implementing these changes is to:

1. Maintain national compliance
2. Improve users' ability to effortlessly navigate through the incident record
3. Reduce provider frustrations by:
  - Adding missing responses to fields
  - Adding optional workflows for faster documentation

**Providers can test the changes within the NEMESIS 3.5 Demo Environment. Credentials for this are as listed below.**

**Website:**

**<https://www.sirenems.com/Elite/Organizationvermont/>**

**Username: Sandbox22**

**Password: VTEMS22**

## Level of Impact Definitions

★★★ **High:** The change in question is one that the average provider is most likely to encounter when creating a patient care report. Throughout this file, all High Impact items will be in red font, for easy identification.

Example(s): Newly required fields

It is recommended that all providers review the High Impact changes.

★★ **Medium:** The change in question is one that the average provider may encounter infrequently or only when a situation requires information that may not pertain to most electronic patient care reports.

Example(s): New fields, new responses to fields, if a field has been moved.

★ **Low:** The change in question is very minor and is unlikely to impact providers as they navigate through creating a patient care report.

Example(s): Name changes, the order of "Yes" and "No" responses having been swapped.

## Changes At A Glance

High Impact	12	Medium Impact	18	Low Impact	22
New Field	1	New Field	5	New Field	
Field Replaced	2	Field Replaced	3	Field Replaced	
New Response	2	New Response	6	New Response	1
Response Replaced		Response Replaced	1	Response Replaced	
Priority Increase	3	Priority Increase		Priority Increase	
Process Change	2	Process Change		Process Change	
New Location		New Location	2	New Location	2
Response, Field, Location or Section Disabled		Response, Field, Location or Section Disabled	1	Response, Field, Location or Section Disabled	6
Display Change	2	Display Change		Display Change	1
Renamed		Renamed		Renamed	6
Sequence of Responses		Sequence of Responses		Sequence of Responses	6

## Updates to SIREN

Changes are listed in order of location on run form, with a top-down approach. These changes will start with the Dispatch Info section and end with the COVID-19 Summary. High impact items are listed in **red font**.

Level of Impact	Change Category	Field/Section	Location in Run Form	Change Details
★	New Response	State Licensure Level Agency Licensure Level/Practice Level	Users > User Name > Certifications	New options for the provider's license level have been added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EMR Student</li> <li>EMT Student</li> </ul>
★★★	Display Change	Validation Rules: Message Content	Click on the red number at the bottom of the incident record	<b>Error messages have been updated. The title of the error (found when clicking on the number at the bottom of the record) will explain why something is wrong. The details (found when clicking the number at the bottom of the screen and/or when clicking the exclamation mark next to the flagged field) will explain where to go to fix the problem.</b>
★★★	Display Change	Validation Rules: Message Type	Click on the red number at the bottom of the incident record	<b>A new type of Validation Rule has been added:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warning</li> </ul> <b>This will flag yellow but will not impact your validation score</b>
★	Renamed	Panels and Sections	The incident record	Select Panels and Sections have been renamed.

# October 2022: Updates At A Glance

Level of Impact	Change Category	Field/Section	Location in Run Form	Change Details
★★★	Priority Increase	In Service Date/Time	Times section	<b>Priority increase: this field is now mandatory for all incidents.</b>
★★	New Field	Date/Time Patient Care was Transferred to Hospital	Times section	Added to form as optional: this will likely be a mandatory field in the future. Providers are encouraged to start collecting this data, to be prepared for future national requirements.
★★★	New Field	Reason for Interfacility Transfer/Medical Transport	Dispatch Info > Dispatch Information	<b>The Reason for Interfacility Transfer is a new and required field for any transfers between patient care facilities.</b>
★★	New Response	Dispatch Reason	Dispatch Info > Dispatch Information	New response added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Dizziness”</li> </ul>
★	Sequence of Responses	Dispatch Reason	Dispatch Info > Dispatch Information	Order of responses has been changed with the 6 most commonly used (in order of frequency) at the top. All other responses are listed alphabetically.
★	Display Change	Are you looking for access to the Hospital Drop Form?	Dispatch Info > Dispatch Information	The tab for the Hospital Drop Form has been hidden unless users are specifically looking for it. Clicking Yes for this question will display the tab for the Hospital Drop Form.  <i>The Hospital Drop Form is entirely made up of duplicate fields, found elsewhere in the run form.</i>
★★★	Process Change	Mutual Aid: Your Agency Provides Mutual Aid	Dispatch Info > Dispatch Information.	<b>When your agency responds to another service’s primary service area, change Type of Call to “Mutual Aid”. The rest of the patient care report will be documented as normal.</b>
★★★	Process Change	Mutual Aid: Another Agency Provides Mutual Aid	Dispatch Info > Dispatch Information.	<b>If another agency responds to your service area, select “Click Here If The Call Was Transferred to Mutual Aid”.</b>  <b><i>It’s recommended all incidents transferred to Mutual Aid are documented.</i></b>
★★	New Response	Capability of Unit	Response > Responding Unit	Responses have been added and existing Renamed and activated responses. New list of options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Response (BLS)</li> <li>First Response (ALS)</li> <li>Ambulance (BLS)</li> <li>Ambulance (ALS)</li> <li>Ambulance (Critical Care)</li> <li>Intercept (ALS)</li> <li>Air Transport (Helicopter)</li> <li>Call Turn Over / Mutual Aid</li> </ul>

# October 2022: Updates At A Glance

Level of Impact	Change Category	Field/Section	Location in Run Form	Change Details
★★★	Field Replaced	Level of Care Provided to Patient (regardless of licensure level)	Response > Responding Unit	Highest Responder Level + Equip (ALS/BLS) Avail. has been disabled, with Level of Care Provided to Patient (regardless of licensure level) replacing it.
★	Sequence of Responses	Was Your Agency the First EMS Unit on Scene?	Response > Scene	“Yes” is listed first, “No” is listed second.
★★	New Response	Other Agencies on Scene	Response > Scene	New response added: “Vermont State Police, Berlin”
★★	New Field	Number of Patients or Potential Patients Contacted by This EMS Unit	Response > Situation	Optional new field: added to clarify the number of patients. This is only visible when the number of patients is “Multiple”.
★★	New Field	Number of Patients Treated by This EMS Unit	Response > Situation	Optional new field: added to clarify the number of patients. This is only visible when the number of patients is “Multiple”.
★	Renamed	Number of Patients Transported in this EMS Unit	Response > Situation	Renamed field to be in line with current national guidance.
★★★	Field Replaced	Disposition	Response > Situation	Five new fields replaced Patient Disposition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unit Disposition</li> <li>• Patient Evaluation/Care</li> <li>• Crew Disposition</li> <li>• Transport Disposition</li> <li>• Reason for Refusal/Release</li> </ul>
★★★	New Response	Initial Patient Acuity	Response > Situation	New response added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Non-Acute/Routine”</li> </ul>
★★	New Location	Initial Patient Acuity	Response > Situation	Field has stayed in the same section but has moved four spots up.
★	Renamed	Initial Patient Acuity	Response > Situation	Responses have been renamed to include corresponding triage color (Green, Yellow, Red, Black).
★★★	New Response	Final Patient Acuity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Response &gt; Situation;</li> <li>• Patient Condition &gt; Assessment;</li> <li>• Transport &gt; Transport Status and Priority</li> </ul>	Two new responses added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Non-Acute/Routine”</li> <li>• “Dead with Resuscitation Efforts”</li> </ul>
★★	New Location	Final Patient Acuity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Response &gt; Situation;</li> <li>• Patient Condition &gt; Assessment;</li> <li>• Transport &gt; Transport Status and Priority</li> </ul>	Field added to Response > Situation and is now available in three locations on form.

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Level of Impact	Change Category	Field/Section	Location in Run Form	Change Details
★	Renamed	Final Patient Acuity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Response &gt; Situation;</b></li> <li>• <b>Patient Condition &gt; Assessment;</b></li> <li>• <b>Transport &gt; Transport Status and Priority</b></li> </ul>	Responses have been renamed to include corresponding triage color (Green, Yellow, Red, Black).
★★	New Response	Patient Race	Patient Info > Patient Info	New response added: “Middle Eastern or North African”
★★	New Field	Patient Is Homeless Alternate Home Residence	Patient Info > Patient Address	New Preset Value: if selected, the address will auto-fill. This will automatically display and be selected if “Patient Is Homeless” is chosen.
★	Sequence of Responses	Complaint Type	Patient Condition > Assessment	Chief Complaint remained in the first position, Secondary Complaint moved to the second position and Other Complaint moved to the third position.
★★	New Response	Primary Symptom Other Associated Symptoms	Patient Condition > Assessment	New responses added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other / No Other Appropriate Choice</li> </ul>
★	New Location	Primary Symptom	Patient Condition > Assessment	Primary Symptom has been moved one position up within the Assessment section, so it is now before Date/Time of Symptom Onset.
★★★	<b>Priority Increase</b>	<b>Date/Time of Symptom Onset</b>	<b>Patient Condition &gt; Assessment</b>	<b>Priority increase: this is now required when a patient is assessed.</b>
★★	New Response	Working Diagnosis Other Diagnoses	Patient Condition > Assessment	New responses added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other / No Other Appropriate Choice</li> <li>• Exhaustion due to excessive exertion</li> </ul>
★★	Response Replaced	Signs of Suspected Alcohol/Drug Use	Patient Condition > Assessment	Responses have changed: “Physical Exam Indicates Suspected Alcohol or Drug Use” has been enabled to replace “Smell of Alcohol on Breath”.
★	Sequence of Responses	Did you perform spinal motion restriction?	Patient Condition > Spinal Assessment	“No” is listed first, “Yes” is listed second.
★	Response, Field, Location or Section Disabled	CPR Care Provided Prior to THIS EMS Units Arrival	Patient Condition > Cardiac Arrest	Field has been disabled.
★★	Field Replaced	Who First Initiated CPR	Patient Condition > Cardiac Arrest	“Who Provided CPR Prior to EMS Arrival” has been disabled and “Who First Initiated CPR” has been enabled as a replacement.
★★	Field Replaced	Who First Applied the AED Who First Defibrillated the Patient	Patient Condition > Cardiac Arrest	“Who Used AED Prior to EMS Arrival” has been disabled with “Who First Applied the AED” and “Who First Defibrillated the Patient” having been enabled as replacements.

# October 2022: Updates At A Glance

Level of Impact	Change Category	Field/Section	Location in Run Form	Change Details
★★	Field Replaced	Chest Assessment Finding Location Chest Assessment Lung Assessment Finding Location Lung Assessment	Provider Action > Exam > Assessment	“Chest/Lungs Assessment” has been disabled with “Lung Assessment Finding Location”, “Lung Assessment”, “Chest Assessment Finding Location” and “Chest Assessment” having been enabled as replacements.
★	Renamed	Carbon Dioxide (CO2/ ETCO2)	Provider Action > Exam > Vitals	Carbon Dioxide (CO2) has been renamed to “Carbon Dioxide (CO2/ETCO2)”.
★	New Location	Stroke Scale Score	Provider Action > Exam > Vitals	Field has been moved six spaces down below the “LVO/FAST-ED Score” (on the same page) to be in line with the natural flow of a stroke assessment.
★	Response, Field, Location or Section Disabled	Fall Risk (panel)	Patient Condition > Fall Risk	The Fall Risk panel has been disabled and will no longer show, along with these fields: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has the patient fallen in the past year?</li> <li>• Does the patient worry about falling?</li> <li>• Does the patient feel unsteady when standing or walking?</li> <li>• Does the patient have evidence of any other fall risk factors?</li> <li>• Patient Follow-Up Contact Phone</li> </ul>
★★★	Priority Increase	Date/Time Last Known Well	Provider Action > Exam	<b>Priority increase: this is now required when a patient is assessed.</b>
★★	New Field	Opioid screening test*	Provider Action > Treatment*	Screening question added due to changes in state protocols (8.11: Naloxone Leave Behind Opioid Overdose Rescue Program)  *As of 10/3/2022 details regarding this change are being evaluated by the Vermont Office of EMS and the information listed in this file is subject to change. Providers will be updated as information becomes available.
★	Renamed	Was a Naloxone Leave Behind kit left with someone on scene?	Provider Action > Treatment	“If an at-risk person was identified, was a Naloxone Leave Behind kit left with a person on scene?” has been renamed to “Was a Naloxone Leave Behind kit left with someone on scene?”
★	Sequence of Responses	Was a Naloxone Leave Behind kit left with someone on scene?	Provider Action > Treatment	“No” is listed first, “Yes” is listed second.  <i>Due to software limitations, this change will go live on 1/1/23.</i>
★	Response, Field, Location or Section Disabled	HIPAA Details	Narrative > Narrative	The extra details regarding HIPAA have been disabled.
★★	Response, Field, Location or Section Disabled	Provider Care Signature	Previously located: Narrative > Provider Care Signature	Disabled as this is a duplicate of information collected under the Signatures section.
★	Response, Field, Location or Section Disabled	Was the patient screened by EMS for COVID-19 symptom	COVID-19 Summary > COVID / PPE	This field has been disabled.

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Level of Impact	Change Category	Field/Section	Location in Run Form	Change Details
★	Sequence of Responses	Did the patient have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (fever, cough, shortness of breath)?	COVID-19 Summary > COVID / PPE	“No” is listed first, “Yes” is listed second.  <i>Due to software limitations, this change will go live on 1/1/23.</i>
★	Response, Field, Location or Section Disabled	Has the patient had contact with someone being monitored for or diagnosed with COVID-19 within 14 days of symptom onset?	COVID-19 Summary > COVID / PPE	This field has been disabled.
★	Response, Field, Location or Section Disabled	If EMS suspects or knows that the patient has COVID-19, was the receiving facility notified?	COVID-19 Summary > COVID / PPE	This field has been disabled.

## Key Takeaways

Changes can be seen in almost every area of the incident record, however providers are unlikely to be impacted by the majority of these updates.

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