



Direct input – services can use the free web interface to directly input each PCR into the database

Billing service /software – an ambulance service that has its own billing system or billing company contract can have the billing software/service directly upload data into the system.

Field Bridge – services that wish to do field data collection and have electronic reports can use field collection software and directly upload to WARDS.

Service Bridge- This product is equivalent to the WARDS software but allows more customization by the service in regards to data fields, values, and data reports. In addition it allows for integration of CAD software and billing software that the service may already be using.

SERVICES WITHOUT ANY DATA SYSTEM

Deployment 01 - "Free Access"

WARDS was designed to be a free program. This was done to allow all services to submit data to the system in a cost effective manner.

Requirements:

- Hardware: Any computer with internet access
- Software: Any internet browser
(Internet Explorer 5.1 or later and Flash required)
- Uplink: Internet connection

The system is designed to be a run report. It can replace your existing paper forms and provides and electronic copy of the patient care report (PCR).

The strategy is to have internet access available at the receiving hospital. The report can be completed with access to the internet. Once the report is completed it can be printed and a copy left with the receiving facility. If the hospital does not have access it can be completed once the crew returns to the station.

The information is submitted immediately to the database because it is the PCR that is the interface to submit data into the system.

Deployment 02 – Field data collection using a specialized program

This option allows for report completion at the patient side or in the ambulance. The service purchases a notebook computer and loads the *ImageTrend* “Field Bridge” software. This software is an intuitive program that is similar to using a note pad to “write” down information about the patient and the assessment. When the computer is returned to the station it is connected to the internet and the information is submitted to the WARDS database.

Requirements:

Hardware: Notebook Computer for ambulance (preferable a tablet PC)
Software: Field Bridge (\$1250 per unit plus \$400 /yr maintenance and support)
Uplink: Internet connection

Deployment 03 – Field data collection using internet

This option allows for report completion at the patient side or in the ambulance. The service purchases a notebook computer. The computer is equipped with a wireless card that is supported by a local cellular service. The crew uses the web browser capability to directly access the WARDS database and complete the report.

Requirements:

Hardware: Notebook Computer for ambulance (preferable a tablet PC)
Wireless WAN card purchased/leased from the local cellular service
Software: Web browser
(Internet Explorer 5.1 or later and Flash required)
Uplink: Internet connection -cellular data service (Average \$45-60 per month)

SERVICES WITH A DATA SYSTEM

There are solutions if your service has an existing data system. The place to start is the vendor of your data/billing system. Contact the account representative for your data program and discuss thier solution to submit your data to the WARDS system. The cost and availability is designated by your software vendor. *ImageTrend* (the WARDS program developer) supplies the necessary code for importing into WARDS at no charge to the other software developers. If you have a proprietary system you will need to have your programmers contact Image Trend to discuss development of an upload method. WARDS uses the NEMSIS 2.2.1 data set and requires an XML formatted file to integrate the data from your system.