

**HEMS
SYSTEM**

EMS COMMUNICATIONS INTEROPERABILITY

Date: April 2013
Last Revised Date: 1/4/2024

Section: 8-29 (S2)

EMS Communications Interoperability

All licensed life support vehicles operating in the HEMS/ Wayne County Medical Control Region shall be equipped for radio communications consistent with the State of Michigan MEDCOM Plan. Such requirements include (but are not limited to):

1. A MEDCOM compliant and state-approved radio system capable of communicating with the HEMS Radio Network for field-to-hospital communications. Examples of approved systems include:
 - a. VHF 155.340 MHz and 155.400 MHz
 - b. UHF "Med Channels" 1, 3, 4, and 9
 - c. Interconnected 800 MHz radio systems including:
 - i. Livonia
 - ii. Western Wayne Consortium
 - iii. Downriver Consortium
 - iv. Wayne County Government
 - v. MPSCS
2. All life support vehicles shall be equipped for communication on 155.340 MHz (HEAR System) with the HEMS CTCSS code of 151.4 Hz.
3. All life support vehicles shall be equipped for communication on 155.355 MHz with a statewide CTCSS code of 210.7 Hz. This resource is available for mobile and portable units only and will be available for on-scene tactical coordination.
4. The use of cellular telephones or Nextel devices is not authorized for primary patient-side communications. Use of such devices in a communications failure shall be through the HEMS phone patch line by calling 734-727-7286. No calls are to be made directly from a field unit to the receiving hospital emergency department.

Additionally, the following requirements and recommendations shall be instituted within the HEMS/Wayne County Medical Control Region:

1. All life support vehicles ***shall be*** equipped for communication on 155.400 MHz with a CTCSS encode tone of 97.4 Hz. This frequency will be used as a resource coordination and disaster channel and will provide a multidisciplinary interoperability platform for public and private EMS providers with disparate

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- radio systems. The HEMS operators will continue to monitor this frequency 24 hours per day.
2. It is *recommended* that life support agency dispatch centers, emergency operating centers and mobile command resources be equipped with tone activated receivers on 155.400 MHz with A=1153.4 Hz/B=1321.2 Hz alerting tones.
 3. It is a **requirement** that life support vehicles be equipped for communication on the following national interoperability channels. These channels may be used to facilitate multidisciplinary tactical interoperable communication for large-scale incidents or for communication outside the unit's home region. It should be noted that the national interoperability channels use narrow-band technology and will only be compatible with newer radio equipment. EMS providers are encouraged to add these channels in such bands as may be available in their vehicles.

VHF

155.7525	VCALL
151.1375	VTAC 1
154.4525	VTAC 2
158.7375	VTAC 3
159.4725	VTAC 4

UHF

453.2125	UCALL
453.4625	UTAC 1
453.7125	UTAC 2
453.8625	UTAC 3

800 MHz

866.0125	ICALL
866.5125	ITAC 1
867.0125	ITAC 2
867.5125	ITAC 3
868.0125	ITAC 4