

Greetings to all!

The Metropolitan Emergency Services Board-Metro Region EMS System is happy to announce that the National Academy of Ambulance Coding's *Certified Ambulance Documentation Specialist (CADS) ONLINE* class is coming back to Minnesota, May 4, 2022! The CADS class is a virtual 8-hour course (just one full day) and we can accommodate over 50 students. This class is intended for EMS providers from throughout the state.

Registrations are online at <https://emsmn.org/event-registration/>

Wednesday, May 4, 2022 9am-5pm CST

Please Note: Registrations close March 27, 2022

So why a class on EMS clinical documentation?

Kuhn, et al (2015) concluded "clinical documentation was developed to track a patient's condition and communicate the author's actions and thoughts to other members of the care team. Over time, other stakeholders have placed additional requirements on the clinical documentation process for purposes other than direct care of the patient. More recently, new information technologies, such as electronic health record (EHR) systems, have led to further changes in the clinical documentation process. Although computers and EHRs can facilitate and even improve clinical documentation, their use can also add complexities; new challenges; and, in the eyes of some, an increase in inappropriate or even fraudulent documentation."

"Complete and accurate EMS patient record documentation fosters quality and continuity of care."

A recent CADS student from the metro region stated, "While the content of the course is well in line with the materials that we have been teaching, I believe the legitimacy of a well renowned national training group from outside MN and the quality of the course material creates a high level of motivation to improve documentation performance. The course also provides a solid platform for the QA committee members to conduct their reviews. The class covers documentation framework, fundamentals, special situations, narrative improvement, CMS compliance, medical necessity and signature requirements all designed to protect providers and agencies (including medical directors)."

All EMS providers are encouraged to attend!

Improved EMS documentation and narrative skills will also enhance the use of good clinical data for process improvement (improved outcomes), research, and risk management initiatives. Excellence in EMS documentation nurtures a means of communication between providers and between providers and patients about health status, treatment, planning, and delivery of care.

The Certified Ambulance Documentation Specialist (CADS) training is also for ambulance billing personnel - anyone involved in the ambulance revenue cycle.

CADS certification is recommended for billing office supervisors and managers, compliance officers, QA coordinators and upper level management in an ambulance service, billing company or any other entity involved in ambulance billing or reimbursement.

Such as those involved in:

- Reviewing patient care reports
- QA/performance improvement
- Research
- Selecting procedure codes, diagnosis/condition codes and modifiers
- Filing ambulance claims
- Payment, follow-up, appeals and review processes
- Internal claims auditing

REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

A few comments from the February 2022 class:

- Great material and good review! Will be doing my PCR's a bit more thoroughly from now on.
- This course reinforced my understanding of documentation and refreshed concepts that I had forgotten about. It provided excellent perspectives to the fundamentals of documentation outside of the clinical use of the ePCR.
- This was a good course. It seemed to go very fast. I will recommend that my entire department takes this program. Some of the hospital staff we work with should take it also.
- Great class! Learned a lot about good documentation. This class is needed for new providers!
- Much better than I thought it would be. I learned new things... Thank you.
- The instructors were very engaging and did well to use examples from their career experience. This was most helpful!
- I thought that this was a great class. Lots of good information, and I can bring this info back to my department to help our documentation improve across the board. I will be sure to let others on my department know if this is available for more people to take it.
- Great course! Thank you for making the material easy to access and follow.
- It took me over 20 years to find a class like this! All my employees will be going to these classes!