

- d. State and local systems may have Mandatory or Required fields that are not Mandatory or Required by NEMSIS. The manager for these systems should be contacted for a list of these fields.
- 3. Not Values, Nil, and Pertinent Negatives
 - b. Not Values (NV), Nil, and Pertinent Negatives (PN) are values that are attributes of certain NEMSIS elements designed to clarify a null data entry or qualify data entry into the element with which the NV, Nil, or PN is associated.
 - c. Not Values available are “Not Applicable” and “Not Recorded”
 - i. Some NEMSIS rules require one of these values to be entered when data is imported/exported if there is no other data in a field (e.g., at least one medication given must have a value, if no medications are given, then the software system must insert “Not Applicable” in the medications field when exporting)
 - ii. At times the EMS clinician use of “Not Applicable” is appropriate documentation (e.g., using “Not Applicable” under *eInjury.03—Trauma Center Criteria*, per the ACS-COT 2022 National Guideline for the Field Triage of Injured Patients, when transporting a patient with a simple sprained ankle)
 - d. Nil Values are blank values
 - i. Values can be left blank, which can either be an accidental or purposeful omission of data.
 - ii. Value fields can appropriately and purposefully be left blank if there was nothing to enter (e.g., a procedure field left blank if no patient was encountered).
 - e. Pertinent Negatives are attributes or qualifiers for both elements and fields. There are 11 possible Pertinent Negative values and the available list for each field varies as appropriate to the field. Two examples of the use of Pertinent Negatives are:
 - i. Documenting non-administration of ASA for chest pain by the EMS clinician with the Pertinent Negative of “Medication Already Taken” to show evidence that this treatment requirement was met.
 - ii. Documenting assessment of, and lack of a gunshot wound to the chest with the qualifier of “Chest --> gunshot wound --> Exam Finding Not Present” in the examination section (previously you could only document a positive finding of a gunshot wound with was no way to document that you looked and did not find one).
- 4. NEMSIS Element and Value Name Formats
 - b. NEMSIS Elements/Fields are organized into groups with other related elements/fields
 - i. There are two parent datasets: Demographic (designated by a “d”) and EMS (designated by an “e”). The majority of the documentation in any ePCR falls in the “e” section. The Demographic dataset is intended to be descriptive of the EMS agencies and system characteristics for correlation at a larger research level, rather than for use in operational CPI reviews.
 - ii. The element numbering structure reflects the dataset and the text group name of the element
- 5. Example: “eVitals.06—SBP (Systolic Blood Pressure)” where “e” is the EMS dataset and “Vitals” is the dataset grouping for all elements related to Vitals and the number is the number assigned to a specific element.
 - b. “eVitals.06” is used to store the data in the background and “SBP (Systolic Blood Pressure)” is what clinicians and reviewers see.
 - c. Values are designated by a code and text name.