



Center for  
Patient Safety



International Academies  
of Emergency Dispatch



National Association  
of EMS Physicians



National EMS  
Quality Alliance



National Traffic & Highway  
Safety Administration

# National EMS Quality Improvement Partnership

## Frequently Asked Questions EMS Quality Improvement Partnership Reducing Lights-and-Siren Use in EMS

1. Q: What is the EMS Quality Improvement Partnership?

A: The EMS Quality Improvement Partnership is a national EMS performance improvement collaborative focused on improving safety and the quality of care for EMS across the U.S.A. It's lead by the National EMS Quality Alliance, The Center for Patient Safety, the National Highway Traffic Administration's Office of EMS, the National Association of EMS Physicians, and The International Academies of Emergency Dispatch.

2. Q: What does the collaborative hope to accomplish?

A: The aim is to improve safety for EMS patients, providers, and the public by decreasing the use of lights-and-siren (L&S). Our goal is to reduce the use of L&S for 911 EMS responses so that 70% of responses occur **without the use** of L&S and 95% of transports occur **without the use** of L&S. This goal will be measure using the validated National EMS Quality Alliance Safety-01 and Safety-02 measures.

3. Q: Who should participate in the EMS Quality Improvement Partnership?

A: EMS and Fire-based EMS agencies or systems throughout the U.S.A. including urban, rural, suburban, large, small, volunteer, and paid.

4. Q: How many agencies or systems can participate in the EMS Quality Improvement Partnership?

A: There is room for up to 50.

5. Q: Is there a cost to participate in the EMS Quality Improvement Partnership?

A: No. All it takes is a commitment to improving safety.

6. Q: When will the EMS Quality Improvement Partnership start?

A: Early 2022.

7. Q: How long will the EMS Quality Improvement Partnership last?

A: It will last approximately 12 months.

8. Q: What kind of time commitment will the EMS Quality Improvement Partnership involve?

A: There will be three or four, 4-hour long Learning Sessions over the course of the project plus a small amount of information sharing each month. Approximately 25-35 hours over the course of 12 months.

9. Q: Beside attending the learning sessions, are there other requirements for participation?

A: Participants will be expected to share performance data, the results of their tests of change ideas using the Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) framework, and what they are learning about implementing these changes in their own system.