

# Iowa Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES) Program

## Implementation Information

Iowa is one of the newest state participants in the Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES) Program. CARES was established by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Emory University to improve survival from cardiac arrest through out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA) data collection in the United States. CARES currently covers approximately 53% of the U.S. population and allows communities to benchmark their performance with local, state, or national metrics to better identify opportunities to improve their OHCA care. CARES offers a comprehensive understanding of where arrests are occurring, whether bystanders are providing intervention prior to EMS arrival, EMS and hospital performance, and patient outcomes. The data captured in the registry assists participating agencies and hospitals in making evidence-based decisions in their communities to increase survival from OHCA.

The Bureau of Emergency Medical and Trauma Services (BEMTS) has opted for the state upload implementation model. This model allows for 100% of the state's OHCA EMS data to be extracted from the state repository and submitted into CARES. We encourage all receiving hospitals to participate by establishing a point of contact to complete patient outcomes on an ongoing basis. We have a dedicated state coordinator to assist with hospital recruitment and all CARES-related matter – Jamie Burke ([jamie.burke@redcross.org](mailto:jamie.burke@redcross.org)).

Additionally, CARES National has developed co-branded Quick Reference Guides (QRGs) to assist agencies with EMS provider education. Please request a co-branded QRG using the provided link: <https://vendors.mycares.net/cares-qrgs>.

If you have any questions regarding Iowa-CARES participation, please do not hesitate to contact Jamie Burke.