

ECH/ Essex County QA/QI Narrative Guide

This guide will serve as an example of things that should be included in a standard PCR narrative. This is not an all-inclusive list, and is not a replacement for any of your agencies' documentation requirements. This is merely a reminder of some aspects you should include in your narrative.

1. Dispatch information; (Ex: "AGENCY dispatched for a/an AGE year old GENDER with DISPATCH REASON")
2. Response delays; (Ex: "Response delayed for crew response to station." Or "UNIT staged at station for law enforcement to declare scene safe.")
3. Response; (Ex: "UNIT responds Priority 1 with distance and traffic delays.")
4. Initial Impression; (Ex: "Patient found sitting upright in chair in living room of well-kept home.")
5. Mental Status; (Ex: "Patient is LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS and ORIENTATION.") (Alert and oriented x4)
6. Primary Assessment: (Airway patency, presence of difficulty breathing/apnea, chest rise/fall, lung sounds, bilateral pulses, skin color/temp/condition, hemorrhage)
7. Subjective History/HPI: (Chief and secondary complaints, OPQRST, specific questions relating to condition)
8. Pertinent Negatives: (Presence of: head/neck/back pain, dizziness, visual changes, difficulty breathing, chest discomfort, abdominal pain, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, recent falls/trauma, recent fevers/chills/infection, etc.)
9. Secondary Assessment: (Review applicable body systems, may defer reader to assessment section of electronic PCR if thoroughly completed)
10. How patient is moved: ("Patient secured on stairchair and brought downstairs to stretcher. Stand and pivot to stretcher. Secured POSITION to stretcher.")
11. Transport: (Ex: "Transport initiated priority 2 to FACILITY")
12. Treatment: (Treatments, reason for treatment, dose of treatment, administration route, response)
13. Report: ("Radio report including ALERT [like stroke or STEMI] called to FACILITY with ETA.")
14. Care transfer: ("Patient brought to FACILITY ER room #. Moved to ER bed via METHOD. Report given and care transferred to NAME, RN. Left in bed with ER staff at bedside.")

These are bare minimum aspects of a standard narrative. Make sure you include any other pertinent information regarding the call. Always be truthful and develop a system that works for you. **REMEMBER TO PROOFREAD YOUR PCR!**