

# National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT)

## Background

### Membership:

Approximately 10,000 members comprised mostly of EMTs, Paramedics, and EMS educators and EMS Chief Officers, managers and administrators.

### Responsibilities in bioterrorism/WMD events:

NAEMT members are primarily State and Local First Responders whose responsibilities include:

- Planning EMS responses to acts of terrorism including CBRNE
- Responding to acts of terrorism and their aftermath
- Participating in the recovery of a community in the aftermath of a terrorist incident
- Training members to safely and effectively operate and provide EMS services in these environments
- Management and supervision of planning, responses, and recovery phases of an EMS response to a CBRNE terrorist event

### Past bioterrorism/WMD information dissemination activities to members:

NAEMT has distributed print information on terrorism preparedness and has emailed information to NAEMT leaders with directions to redistribute the information widely in their regions.

### Current modes of communication with members:

1. Print materials
  - a. Bimonthly newsletter (*NAEMT News*)
2. Electronic
  - a. Website (<http://www.naemt.org/>)
  - b. Multiple topic- and member- specific listservs

## Project

### Target audience(s):

1. All members

### Target need(s):

1. Lack of capacity to expeditiously distribute information to members and the EMS community at large.

### Project goals:

Achieve a level of efficiency and timely effectiveness in the broadcasting of critical information to EMTs, Paramedics, and EMS Officers regarding bioterrorism and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or High-Yield Explosive (CBRNE) events. The end user will have quick access to reference, training, and operational doctrinal data that will enhance response capacity before, during, and after a terrorist event.

### Information to be disseminated:

1. Information from Federal authorities including CDC, HHS, DHS, and DOJ
2. Relevant information from other potential resources (e.g., AMA, APHA)
3. Safety notifications and briefings that are specific to the unique EMS operating environment

### Dissemination strategy:

1. Electronic system allowing users to access/receive information in the form of:
  - a. Website postings
  - b. Short Message Service
  - c. Email
2. System will be accessible via:
  - a. Computers
  - b. PDAs

c. Web-enabled cell phones

Evaluation strategy:

1. Beta tests with volunteers prior to system launch
2. User evaluation tool integrated and accessible from every page
3. Monitor website use to determine acceptance and utility of the system
4. Web based polling of end uses to assess current and future information access and distribution needs