

# PCR Outage FAQ

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## 1. Is NYS out of PCRs?

Yes. The Office of Prehospital Care typically distributes 4,000 PCRs each month and we routinely order PCRs. Without any advance notice, we were notified on November 16<sup>th</sup> that the NYS DOH no longer had any PCRs in its inventory due to “contractual and state budget issues” which have prevented the completion of the PCR print order.

## 2. What should EMS agencies do until PCRs become available?

EMS agencies MUST continue to complete a PCR for each patient. A downloadable PCR document can be found on our web site: [www.OPCEMS.org](http://www.OPCEMS.org) . From this downloadable document, agencies should make blank photocopies which will serve as a substitute for the usual triplicate PCR.

The EMS Agency will complete the PCR for each patient and then photocopy the completed document, leaving the copy at the receiving facility (keeping the original).

## 3. If we initiate care and another agency provides an intercept (or transport), what should we provide to the transporting EMS agency.

Unless you have a photocopier on your unit it will be virtually impossible for you to provide a PCR to the transporting EMS agency. Therefore, we recommend you complete an EMS-9 card (DOH-2770) when transferring a patient to another EMS agency. You can obtain these cards from the Office of Prehospital Care. It is important to remember that the EMS-9 is not substitute for completing a PCR at the conclusion of the EMS run.

## 4. Do we still have to send in PCR's to OPC to forward to the NYS DOH?

Yes, we still need a photocopy of your PCR's to forward to the State for EMS research.

## 5. What should we do about the unique red PCR number (5-#####) which does not appear on the downloadable document?

The PCR number has been useful for inventory and determining duplicate data records. However, the DOH will not expect this number to be present while using photocopied documents.

## 6. What Should the BLS FR agencies use?

At this point, the Office of Prehospital Care has BLS FR forms available. The default is to follow the same procedure as mentioned above.

## 7. Is there and expected target date of when PCRS will be available?

At this time we do not have a date when PCR's will be available for distribution. Continue to check in our web site for further developments.

## 8. If we are out of PCRs and a neighboring EMS agency has extra PCRs, can they share their supply with us?

Absolutely. We strongly encourage this type of collaboration.