



Date: September 15, 2021

DQA Memo 21-004
BCD 2021-06

To: Wisconsin Nursing Homes, Hospitals,
EMS Providers, Local Health Departments, Tribal
Health Departments

From: Otis Woods, DQA Administrator
Paula Tran, DPH Administrator and State Health Officer

DHS Requests Nursing Homes Join Hospitals in Wisconsin to Use the EMResource Bed Tracking System for Health Care Entities

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services' (DHS) Division of Quality Assurance and Division of Public Health asks all nursing homes, hospitals, EMS providers and other eligible entities to use the [EMResource Bed Tracking System](#) during the COVID-19 pandemic and into the future.

The [EMResource Bed Tracking System](#) tracks bed availability, identifies the number of patients pending post-acute discharges, and provides a real-time picture of bed capacity in both hospitals and nursing homes across the state. The system, expanded in March 2021 to include a nursing home dashboard, has the ability to save hospitals and nursing homes many hours of searching for beds by phone and email. Forty percent of nursing homes are signed up and actively report in the system. DHS requests the remaining 60% to enroll in EMResource and consistently report into the bed tracker dashboard. The dashboard provides real-time bed availability in nursing homes and hospitals, the number of facilities accepting admissions, and a comment section to identify special admission conditions. Hospital discharge teams can find the right place for each person at the right time and nursing home admission coordinators have the opportunity to receive patient referrals and focus on transition of care.

Reporting this data is also critical to making decisions on staffing resources statewide. It is used to track critical infrastructure issues regarding mass casualty incidents, bed counts, and other time-sensitive information to develop response activities on a local, regional, and statewide level. The data feeds into a dashboard which can be viewed by other health care partners using the software.

Registration and Questions

To register with EMResource, visit dhs.wisconsin.gov/preparedness/systems/emresource.htm.

If you have questions or would like more information about the program, contact DHS at:
DHSEMResource@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

Partners

- LeadingAge Wisconsin
- LeadingChoice Network
- Wisconsin Health Care Association/Center for Assisted Living (WHCA/WiCAL)
- Wisconsin Hospital Association (WHA)