

# INTEGRATED PATIENT TRACKING INITIATIVE

## SENATE REPORT RECOMMENDS KEY COMPONENTS OF IPTI

Recently, the Senate's Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee (HSGAC) released "Hurricane Katrina: A Nation Still Unprepared." COMCARE and members of the patient tracking project worked to educate the committee staff about the importance of data interoperability. This marks the first Congressional report

to recognize the lack of data interoperability, a basic requirement of patient tracking, within the emergency services. Follow this link for the Senate's full report: <http://hsgac.senate.gov/files/Katrina/FullReport.pdf>. Specific sections of interest include Chapter 18, Section 70 of the findings, and Recommendation 26.



## COMCARE INVITES COMMENT ON FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, COMCARE opened a three-month public comment period on the *Draft Report of Functional Requirements for an Integrated Patient Tracking Solution*. The requirements were developed by a diverse group of over seventy organizations as part of the Integrated Patient Tracking Initiative (IPTI). Their focus was on both mass casualty incidents (MCIs) and day-to-day incidents; the theory being that a system used every day affords practitioners enough familiarity for it to be used with greater ease in a large-scale emergency. The draft report is currently available for review and comment on the recently launched website [www.PatientTracking.org](http://www.PatientTracking.org).

Requests and comments may be submitted via an electronic form through the Patient Tracking Website, faxed to (202) 296-2962, or emailed to [ipti@comcare.org](mailto:ipti@comcare.org). All comments will be posted on the website so that practitioners and vendors alike may share in the process of refining the requirements.

COMCARE hopes you will encourage your colleagues to review and comment on the draft requirements. The comment period will be open until July 31, 2006.

### PARTICIPATE IN THE INITIATIVE

Check out the [Patient Tracking Technology Directory](http://www.patienttracking.org) at [www.patienttracking.org](http://www.patienttracking.org).

Opportunities are available to advertise in the directory. Email [info@patienttracking.org](mailto:info@patienttracking.org).



### WHY THE PHASED APPROACH?

You may notice that the functional requirements are now classified into three phases. Our goal is to provide a transition path to a fully integrated system while maximizing the use of funds and resources. The diagram (below) represents the three phases of implementation and

enhancement. The first phase enables patients to be tracked and located. The second phase begins integration with other systems so that additional patient/victim information can be received and sent to appropriate caregivers. The third phase fully integrates with all stakeholders.

