



# COUNTY OF ORANGE

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## **OC Health Care Agency Receives 2024 CSAC Challenge Award for Innovative Emergency Medical Services Project**

**Santa Ana, Calif.** (March 6, 2025) – The County of Orange is proud to announce that the OC Health Care Agency’s (HCA) Emergency Medical Services (OCEMS) division has been honored with a prestigious 2024 Challenge Award from the California State Association of Counties (CSAC). The award recognizes OCEMS’ groundbreaking Bi-Directional Data Exchange Project, which enhances emergency medical response and patient care coordination throughout the county.

The Bi-Directional Data Exchange Project establishes secure connections between the existing EMS data system (known as the Orange County Medical Emergency Data System, or OC-MEDS) and each respective emergency receiving centers’ (ERC) Electronic Health Records (EHR) system(s) to ensure real time availability of EMS records for clinical use and ensure return of patient outcome data to EMS providers and OCEMS, to improve patient care and countywide medical/health situational awareness.

The CSAC Challenge Awards highlight county programs that find innovative, effective, and sustainable solutions to community challenges. Orange County’s recognition in 2024 reaffirms its leadership in advancing public health through technology-driven solutions.

For more information about the OC Health Care Agency and its programs, please visit [www.ochealthinfo.com](http://www.ochealthinfo.com).

To learn more about the 2024 CSAC Challenge Awards, please visit [www.counties.org/post/2024-challenge-awards](http://www.counties.org/post/2024-challenge-awards).



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*(From Left to Right) Dr. Gagandeep Grewal, EMS Associate Medical Director; Laurent Repass, EMS Information & Analytics Chief; Dr. Mindy Winterswyk, Specialized Medical Services Director; and Dr. Veronica Kelley, OC Health Care Agency Director.*

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