

Warning System Use At Niagara EMS

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Agenda

- Background
- Why Is This Important
- Improvements That Have Been Made
- Next Steps

Warning Systems

- Warning systems are the flashing lights and sirens on response vehicles
- Thought to improve outcomes by reducing time to get to patients
- Research shows limited benefit with significant added risk

Background

- Using the improved triage system, approximately 50% reduction in warning system use by Niagara EMS since 2005
- Improved prioritization in 2019 led to further 20% reduction
- Next steps: reduce use to 15% of previous baseline by utilizing linked data

Why Reduce Warning System Use

- Increased Health and Safety
- Better Resource Management
- Reduced Wear and Tear



Bus collides with ambulance on QEW by Ontario Street

All lanes re-opened

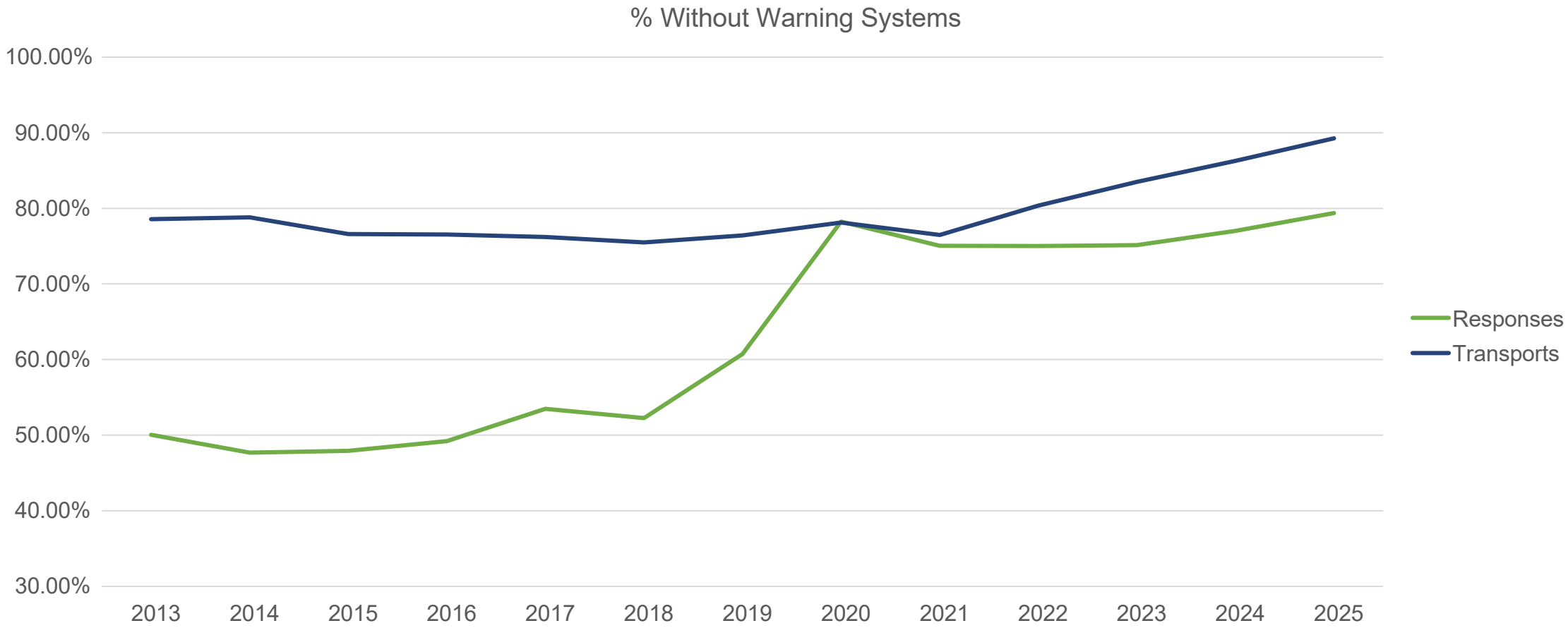
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How Niagara EMS Has Made Improvements

- System Transformation Changes
- National EMS Quality Alliance (NEMSQA) Collaborative
- Changes to Clinical Response Plan
- Paramedic Education and Policy Changes

Calls Without Warning System Use



What's Next?

- Application of further refinements based on clinical evidence to reduce warning system use
- Improved resource utilization to allow for enhanced response to truly critical patients
- Continuous review of clinical evidence to adjust response plans accordingly, along with continued education and monitoring of paramedic compliance

Questions / Comments