

# Emergency Medical Services

## DEMONSTRATE AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM 1.0

**1.1** Describe key historical events that influenced the development EMS 1.1

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**1.2** Describe the components of an EMS system and the roles of each component (e.g., agencies and organizations; highly trained professionals; communications and transportation networks; trauma systems and hospitals; an informed public that knows what to do in a medical emergency) 1.2

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**1.3** Compare the training, roles, and responsibilities of EMRs, EMTs, AEMTs, and Paramedics 1.3

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**1.4** Describe desirable physical and personality traits of EMTs 1.4

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**1.5** Identify and explain specific statutes and regulations in Arizona regarding the EMS system 1.5

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**1.6** Describe the chain of survival and how it relates to the EMS system 1.6

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## MAINTAIN THE WELL-BEING OF THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN 2.0

**2.1** Describe different responses to emergency incidents (e.g., hazardous material, terrorist, rescue, violence) 2.1

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**2.2** Describe personal protection from airborne and bloodborne pathogens 2.2

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**2.3** Describe provisions of OSHA, CDC, and the Ryan White CARE Act as they relate to infection control 2.3

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**2.4** Determine the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) to prevent exposure to infectious diseases 2.4

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**2.5** Discuss body substance isolation (BSI) practices 2.5

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**2.6** Describe the proper hand-washing procedure 2.6

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**2.7** Describe health habits that promote physical and mental well-being 2.7

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**2.8** Discuss different reactions patients and family members may have to death and dying and how to handle them 2.8

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## Discuss the importance of critical incident stress debriefing (CISD) and

**2.9** Discuss the importance of critical incident stress debriefing (CISD) and critical incident stress management (CISM) 2.9

**EXAMINE MEDICAL,  
LEGAL, AND ETHICAL  
ISSUES** 3.0

- 3.1** Review the EMT Basic Scope of Practice as outlined by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) 3.1
  - 3.2** Explain the difference between scope of practice and standard of care 3.2
  - 3.3** Define and give examples of different types of patient consents (e.g., expressed, implied, consent for minors) 3.3
  - 3.4** Discuss different ethical issues encountered by emergency medical services and how to handle them (e.g., denying or delaying transport of patients, termination of resuscitation, restriction of EMS provider duty hours to prevent fatigue, substance abuse by EMS providers, and challenges of child maltreatment recognition and reporting) 3.4
  - 3.5** Explain advance directives, including do not resuscitate orders 3.5
  - 3.6** Explain the duty to act and legal protection provided by Good Samaritan laws 3.6
  - 3.7** Explain the importance and legality of patient confidentiality 3.7
  - 3.8** Explain the meaning of libel and slander in relationship to EMS 3.8
  - 3.9** Explain the EMT's responsibility regarding crime incidents (e.g., notifying the authorities and preserving the crime scene) 3.9
  - 3.10** Discuss legal issues associated with required documentation 3.10
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**DEMONSTRATE BASIC  
KNOWLEDGE OF  
GENERAL  
PHARMACOLOGY** 4.0

- 4.1** Identify the drugs in the EMT Basic Scope of Practice and describe each according to generic and common trade names, indications, contraindications, side effects, forms, and routes of administration 4.1
  - 4.2** Follow the Five Rights of medication administration to ensure safety and prevent complications or errors (right medication, right patient, right date, right dose, right route) 4.2
  - 4.3** Discuss the importance of having access to references in order to identify drugs and medication administration, including on-line or off-line to request medical direction 4.3
  - 4.4** Identify special considerations in medication related to the age and weight of patients 4.4
  - 4.5** Explain the importance of accurate documentation of drug administration and follow up on drug administration 4.5
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**DEMONSTRATE  
KNOWLEDGE ABOUT  
THE ANATOMY AND THE  
FUNCTION OF HUMAN  
SYSTEMS INCLUDING  
CORRECT  
TERMINOLOGY** 5.0

- 5.1** Describe the structure and function of the musculoskeletal system and properly name and label on a diagram 5.1

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- 5.2** Describe the structure and function of the respiratory system and properly name and label on a diagram 5.2

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- 5.3** Describe the structure and function of the cardiovascular system and properly name and label on a diagram 5.3

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- 5.4** Describe the structure and function of the nervous system and properly name and label on a diagram 5.4

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- 5.5** Describe the structure and function of the reproductive system and properly name and label on a diagram 5.5

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- 5.6** Describe the structure and function of the digestive system and properly name and label on a diagram 5.6

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- 5.7** Describe the structure and function of the integumentary system and properly name and label on a diagram 5.7

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- 5.8** Describe the structure and function of the endocrine system and properly name and label on a diagram 5.8

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- 5.9** Describe the structure and function of the renal system and properly name and label on a diagram 5.9

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- 5.10** Describe the anatomy and physiology differences between children and adults that affect assessment and emergency care 5.10

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- 5.11** Use common prefixes, suffixes, and roots to determine the meaning of medical terms 5.11

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- 5.12** Explain acronyms and abbreviations commonly used in EMS 5.12

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- 5.13** Use anatomical and medical terms in terms of position and direction to describe the location of body structures and body positions in written and oral communication with EMS and healthcare professionals, as well as authority personnel 5.13

**MANAGE THE  
EMERGENCY SCENE AND  
USE SAFETY  
PRECAUTIONS** 6.0

- 6.1** Identify the components of scene size-up (e.g., potential dangers, body substance isolation, nature of illness or mechanism of injury, number of patients, need for additional resources) 6.1

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- 6.2** Describe potential hazards found at a scene of a medical or a trauma patient 6.2

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- 6.3** Describe when to establish a danger zone at a scene 6.3

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- 6.4** Describe indications of possible crime scenes and potential violence 6.4

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**6.5** Describe when to use Standard Precautions to protect against disease exposure 6.5

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**6.6** Identify potential dangers to EMS providers and others at a scene where poisoning, alcohol abuse, or substance abuse is involved. 6.6

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**6.7** Use proper body mechanics when reaching, pushing, pulling, lifting, and moving patients and heavy objects Explain the importance of determining the number of patients and the need for additional resources 6.7

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**6.8** Explain the importance of determining the number of patients and the need for additional resources 6.8

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**6.9** Describe the teamwork, timing, and transport decisions in assessing and managing patients with multisystem trauma or multiple trauma 6.9

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**ACQUIRE BASELINE VITAL SIGNS, SAMPLE HISTORY, PRIMARY ASSESSMENT, SECONDARY ASSESSMENT, AND REASSESSMENT 7.0**

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**7.1** Assess a patient's baseline vital signs (e.g., pulse, respirations, skin, pupils, blood pressure, oxygen saturation, blood glucose) 7.1

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**7.2** Obtain a SAMPLE history (i.e., signs/symptoms, allergies, medications, pertinent past history, last oral intake, events leading to injury or illness) 7.2

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**7.3** Complete a primary assessment for an infant, child, and adult (e.g., form a general impression; determine responsiveness; assess airway, breathing, and circulation; determine priorities of patient care) 7.3

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**7.4** Explain the C-A-B approach (circulation, airway, breathing) versus the A-B-C approach (airway, breathing, circulation) to a primary assessment 7.4

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**7.5** Complete a secondary assessment for a patient with medical and/or traumatic injuries to determine appropriate physical examination 7.5

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**7.6** Conduct a physical examination as determined appropriate including respiratory system, cardiovascular system, neurological system, musculoskeletal system, and all anatomical regions 7.6

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**7.7** Explain the importance of recording changes in the patient's condition and reassessing interventions 7.7

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**7.8** Discuss the assessment of a patient who appears to be suffering from a behavioral or psychiatric emergency 7.8

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**7.9** Explain the steps of assessment for pediatric patients, including the scene size-up, primary assessment, secondary assessment with physical exam, and reassessment 7.9

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**7.10** Apply fundamental knowledge of life span development to patient assessment and management 7.10

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- 7.11** Discuss situations requiring the need for advanced life support (equipment and personnel) 7.11
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- 7.12** Demonstrate effective communication with patients and family members of various ages and cultures, hospital personnel, and authority figures 7.12
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- 7.13** Discuss the importance of having organized, complete, concise verbal reports with pertinent patient information to be delivered to receiving healthcare personnel 7.13
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**ASSESS AND MANAGE  
MEDICAL  
EMERGENCIES 8.0**

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- 8.1** Recognize conditions, signs, and symptoms of respiratory emergencies (e.g., COPD, asthma, pneumonia, pulmonary embolism, epiglottitis, common cold) 8.1
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- 8.2** Provide respiratory emergency care based on medical assessment and physical examination [e.g., oxygen techniques, artificial ventilation, CPAP (continuous positive airway pressure), inhalers] 8.2
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- 8.3** Recognize signs and symptoms of cardiac emergencies (e.g., coronary artery disease, aneurysm, electrical/mechanical malfunctions of the heart, angina pectoris, acute myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure) 8.3
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- 8.4** Provide cardiac emergency care based on medical assessment and physical examination [e.g., administration of nitroglycerin or aspirin, AEDs (automated external defibrillators), chest compressions, CPR] 8.4
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- 8.5** Recognize conditions, signs, and symptoms of diabetic emergencies involving hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia and develop a plan to manage patients 8.5
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- 8.6** Recognize signs, symptoms, and history consistent with cause of altered mental status, including seizures, stroke, dizziness, and syncope and develop a plan to manage patients 8.6
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- 8.7** Differentiate between the signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction and an anaphylactic reaction 8.7
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- 8.8** Prioritize the steps in managing and reassessing patients with allergic and anaphylactic reactions (e.g., administering and assisting a patient in using an epinephrine auto-injector) 8.8
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- 8.9** Recognize the signs and symptoms of patients where poisoning (ingested, inhaled, or absorbed), alcohol abuse, or substance abuse (stimulants, depressants, narcotics, volatile chemicals, and hallucinogens) are involved and develop a management and/or treatment plan 8.9
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- 8.10** Recognize conditions that can cause unusual behavior (e.g., stress, psychiatric condition, attempted suicide) and determine a treatment plan 8.10
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**8.11** Recognize signs and symptoms of environmental-related emergencies (e.g., hypothermia, effects of heat, water-related accidents, bites and bee stings) and develop a management and/or treatment plan [8.11](#)

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**ASSESS AND MANAGE  
TRAUMATIC  
INJURIES** [9.0](#)

**9.1** Differentiate among arterial, venous, and capillary bleeding and describe the care for external bleeding [9.1](#)

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**9.2** Identify the signs and symptoms of internal bleeding and describe the steps in the care for internal bleeding [9.2](#)

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**9.3** Distinguish between open- and closed-soft tissue wounds [9.3](#)

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**9.4** Describe treatment for abrasions and lacerations, puncture wounds, impaled objects, avulsions, amputations, and genital injuries, including dressing and bandaging open wounds [9.4](#)

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**9.5** Describe assessment and management of burns with each level of severity (e.g., thermal, chemical, electrical, radiation) [9.5](#)

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**9.6** Describe four types of musculoskeletal injury (fracture, dislocation, sprain, and strain), define open and closed extremity injuries, and discuss the assessment of injury and general care [9.6](#)

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**9.7** Describe the assessment and management of types of musculoskeletal injuries (e.g., shoulder girdle injury, pelvic injury, hip dislocation or fracture, femoral shaft fracture, knee injury, tibia or fibula injury, ankle or foot injury) [9.7](#)

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**9.8** Recognize signs and symptoms of injury to the head, neck, and spine and determine the management for injuries (e.g., applying a cervical collar; immobilizing a seated patient, including rapid extrication for high priority patients; applying a long backboard; rapid extrication from a child safety seat; immobilizing a standing patient, immobilizing a patient wearing a helmet) [9.8](#)

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**ASSESS AND MANAGE  
OBSTETRIC AND  
GYNECOLOGIC  
EMERGENCIES** [10.0](#)

**10.1** Review the anatomical and physiological changes that occur during pregnancy and describe fetal development [10.1](#)

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**10.2** Describe the three stages of labor [10.2](#)

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**10.3** Describe the steps in preparation and delivery [10.3](#)

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**10.4** Describe and discuss care for complications of delivery (breech presentation, limb presentation, prolapsed umbilical cord, multiple birth, premature birth, meconium) [10.4](#)

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**10.5** Describe and discuss care for emergencies in pregnancy (e.g., excessive pre-birth bleeding, ectopic pregnancy, seizures in pregnancy, miscarriage and abortion, stillbirths) [10.5](#)

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**10.6** Describe and discuss care for gynecological emergencies (e.g., vaginal bleeding, sexual assault) 10.6

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**10.7** Explain the indications and procedures for neonatal resuscitation 10.7

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**10.8** Describe after-delivery care for mother and baby 10.8

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**ASSESS AND MANAGE  
PEDIATRIC  
EMERGENCIES** 11.0

**11.1** Describe and discuss the developmental and anatomical differences in infants and children 11.1

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**11.2** Recognize common medical and trauma situations involving pediatric patients [e.g., difficulty breathing, seizures, fever, meningitis, diarrhea and vomiting, poisoning, drowning, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)] 11.2

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**11.3** Discuss the signs and symptoms of child abuse and neglect and the EMT's ethical and legal responsibilities 11.3

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**11.4** Demonstrate adaptations to techniques and equipment to properly manage the airway, ventilation, and oxygenation of pediatric patients 11.4

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**11.5** Discuss special challenges for pediatric patients (e.g., tracheostomy tubes, home artificial ventilators, central intravenous lines, gastrostomy tubes) 11.5

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**DEMONSTRATE  
UNDERSTANDING OF  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
SERVICES  
OPERATIONS** 12.0

**12.1** Recognize the types of ambulances specified by the U.S. Department of Transportation 12.1

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**12.2** Discuss safe ambulance operation while responding to the scene 12.2

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**12.3** Describe laws that apply to ambulance operations 12.3

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**12.4** Describe the required equipment to be carried by EMS response units 12.4

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**12.5** Describe the roles and responsibilities of the Emergency Medical Dispatcher 12.5

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**12.6** Describe the phases of an ambulance call 12.6

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**12.7** Identify the phases of vehicle extrication and rescue operations 12.7

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**12.8** Describe the EMT's responsibilities in transferring patients to receiving healthcare personnel 12.8

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