

New York State Department of Health

Emergency Medical Technician Clinical Rotation Guide

This guide has been prepared to help facilitate the supervised clinical experience of the EMT student in the interest of the excellence in patient care.

The clinical experience the EMT student receives plays an important role in the overall educational process of becoming an EMT. In order for the student's clinical rotation to be a rewarding experience, there needs to be an experienced clinical team at each hospital and ambulance service that provides the required clinical rotation. The role and responsibilities of each member of these teams are outlined in this guide.

To promote a systematic and standardized approach to the clinical rotation experience, the skills appropriate to the EMT have been defined and evaluation forms for both the student and the preceptor have been developed. Students should be given every opportunity possible to use as many of their skills as possible during their clinical rotation. Just as important are the observations the EMT student will have during his/her clinical rotations. The student may not have a great deal of opportunities to use the new skills they have learned, but the observations they have can be just as rewarding.

There are two types of clinical rotations available to the EMT student. A student must complete a minimum of 10 hours of clinical rotation to complete the course and to be eligible to take the New York State Practical Exam. This clinical rotation can be done either with a NYS certified ambulance service or at a hospital's Emergency Department or a combination of both. Following is a description of each rotation:

Ambulance Clinical Rotation

The ambulance rotation affords the student the opportunity to experience what it is like to be a member of an ambulance crew. The student, under the direct supervision of an authorized preceptor, will be allowed to use the skills and knowledge he/she has learned in their current course. This clinical rotation will have the student involved in all aspects of an ambulance call from checking of the ambulance at the start of a shift, to providing patient care, and turning over the patient to the Emergency Department staff.

Emergency Department Clinical Rotation

The Emergency Department (ED) rotation affords the student the opportunity to experience how the ED works and how a patient is cared for in the ED once an ambulance turns over the care of their patient to the ED staff. The ED clinical rotation will also afford the student, under the direct supervision of an authorized preceptor, the ability to use the skills and knowledge he/she has learned in their current course.

At the completion of each scheduled clinical rotation, the preceptor should complete the student evaluation form. This form should be reviewed by the course CIC along with the student. The student evaluation form can be an important and useful tool in the educational process.

If there are any questions or concerns during the clinical rotation that need immediate attention, the preceptor should contact the course's Certified Instructor Coordinator for assistance.

Hospital Emergency Department Staff Clinical Guide

This section is provided as a guide for the ED staff to assure they are familiar with what is expected of them and of the EMT student during this important clinical rotation. The ED staff member/preceptor who will be responsible for the EMT student should review these guidelines along with any other materials provided by the EMT student and the course sponsor. Any questions or concerns about the student or the clinical rotation should be directed to the EMT student's Certified Instructor Coordinator.

One staff member should be designated as the staff member/preceptor who is in-charge of the EMT student during this clinical rotation. Many Emergency Departments and EMS course sponsors designate the Charge Nurse or Triage Nurse as the person who the EMT student will advise of their presence. The staff member who is assigned to the EMT student should be knowledgeable and experienced in emergency nursing, as well as pre-hospital emergency medical services, including the current EMT training program. Once the EMT student has been assigned to an ED staff member, the staff member should do the following:

- ✓ Confirm the student's identity through photo identification if available.
- ✓ Initiate any paperwork required to be completed for the clinical rotation.
- ✓ Establish what skills the student is allowed to perform according to the Skills Eligibility form and what will be expected of the student during the clinical rotation.
- ✓ Introduce the student to the on-duty physician(s) in the ED and advise the physician(s) of the level of training the student is currently enrolled in.
- ✓ Assure the student is familiar with the ED and all safety requirements are reviewed.
- ✓ Assure that the student has been exposed to how patients are received, triaged, and cared for within the ED.
- ✓ Monitor all activities related to the student's care of patients within the ED.
- ✓ Review and critique, with the student, the care he/she has provided to patients.
- ✓ Complete any required paperwork and/or evaluation forms for the student.

Ambulance Service Staff Clinical Guide

This section is provided as a guide for the ambulance service staff to assure they are familiar with what is expected of them and of the EMT student. The ambulance staff member/preceptor who will be responsible for the EMT student should review these guidelines along with any other materials provided by the EMT student and the course sponsor. Any questions or concerns about the student or the clinical rotation should be directed to the EMT student's Certified Instructor Coordinator.

One staff member from the ambulance service should be designated as the staff member/preceptor who is in-charge of the EMT student during this clinical rotation. This staff member must be a NYS Certified EMT-B or higher and should be knowledgeable and experienced with the current EMT training program. Once the EMT student has been assigned to the staff member the staff member should do the following:

- ✓ Confirm the student's identity through photo identification if available.
- ✓ Initiate any paperwork required to be completed for the clinical rotation.
- ✓ Establish what skills the student is allowed to perform according to the Skills Eligibility form and what will be expected of the student during the clinical rotation.
- ✓ Introduce the student to the on-duty ambulance service staff.
- ✓ Assure that the student is familiar with the ambulances and where equipment is located.
- ✓ Review the procedures of the agency for receiving emergency calls, communications, response, levels of care in the agency, mutual aid plans, and destination hospitals served by the agency.
- ✓ Complete objectives listed on the Clinical Evaluation form under the section entitled "Ambulance ONLY: Operational Objectives".
- ✓ Complete any required paperwork and/or evaluation forms for the student.

Emergency Medical Technician Student Clinical Guide

This section is provided as a guide for the EMT student to assure he/she is familiar with what is expected of them during the clinical rotations. It is the responsibility of the EMT student to assure that all clinical rotation staff members/preceptors are knowledgeable in what the student is capable of doing during the clinical rotation. The EMT student is also responsible for assuring that all required paperwork is completed for the clinical rotation. If any problems occur during the clinical rotation the EMT student should contact the course Certified Instructor Coordinator as soon as possible. The EMT student should do the following:

- ✓ Be neatly attired and in a physical and mental state conducive to learning.
- ✓ Have proper identification and name tag available to all clinical rotation staff.
- ✓ Report to the appropriate staff member at the ED or ambulance service on the date and time assigned by your Course Instructor Coordinator.
- ✓ Be under direct supervision of an assigned staff member/preceptor from the hospital or ambulance service.
- ✓ Observe all rules pertaining to patient confidentiality.
- ✓ Observe all policies and regulations set by the EMS Course Instructor Coordinator, hospital, and ambulance service.
- ✓ Return all required paperwork to the course CIC.

Emergency Medical Technician Student Skills Eligibility

Student : _____ Hospital/Agency Name: _____
(print)

Course CIC: _____ EMS Course Sponsor: _____
(print)

The student listed above has been educated in the skills, which the course CIC has initialed below. This student may perform these skills under direct supervision of the preceptor. The student is not to perform any skill in which he/she has not been educated.

- _____ Baseline vital signs including respirations, pulse, blood pressure, and lung sounds.
- _____ Lifting and moving patients
- _____ Airway skills including oralpharyngeal and nasopharyngeal airways, oxygen therapy, artificial ventilations using bag valve mask and pocket mask, and suctioning.
- _____ Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation for infant, child, and adult.
- _____ Patient assessment skills and history & physical exams.
- _____ Assisting patient with self-administered medications to include Nitroglycerin and Bronchodilator inhalers.
- _____ Operation of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).
- _____ Administration of oral glucose.
- _____ Epinephrine auto injectors
- _____ Administration of activated charcoal and Syrup of Ipecac.
- _____ Safe techniques for restraining a patient with a behavioral problem.
- _____ Normal cephalic delivery of an infant including cutting of the umbilical cord, delivery of the placenta, and post-delivery care of the mother and infant.
- _____ Control of external hemorrhaging and care for hypoperfusion (shock).
- _____ Care for soft tissue injuries including burns and amputations.
- _____ Splinting techniques for extremities including traction splinting.
- _____ Immobilization techniques for suspected spinal injuries.
- _____ Care of pediatric patients.
- _____ Removal of patients with suspected spinal injuries from a motor vehicle.
- _____ Mass Casualty Incidents and performing triage.
- _____ Other skills not listed: _____

Course CIC Signature: _____ Date: _____