

	05-0102	Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)- Scope of Practice
Nor-Cal EMS Policy & Procedure Manual	BLS/ALS Protocols	
Effective Date: 10/01/2020	Next Revision: 10/01/2023	
Approval: Jeffrey Kepple MD – MEDICAL DIRECTOR	SIGNATURE ON FILE	

Authority

Health and Safety Code Division 2.5, California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9.

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2, § 100063 and 100064.

Purpose

To establish the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) scope of practice in the NOR-CAL EMS region.

Policy

1. The scope of practice of an EMT acting under an agency in the NOR-CAL EMS region shall not exceed those activities specified in this policy.
2. During a mutual aid response into another jurisdiction, an EMT may utilize the scope of practice for which she/he is trained and authorized according to the policies, procedures and protocols established by NOR-CAL EMS where the EMT is employed as part of an organized EMS system.
3. Basic Scope of Practice:
 - A. During training, while at the scene of an emergency, during transport of the sick or injured, or during interfacility transfer (IFT), a certified EMT or supervised EMT student that has been authorized by the NOR-CAL EMS approved prehospital service provider to utilize the scope of practice and have received adequate training is authorized to do any of the following:
 - a. Evaluate the ill and injured.
 - b. Render basic life support, rescue, and emergency medical care to patients.
 - c. Obtain diagnostic signs to include, but not be limited to, temperature, blood pressure, pulse and respiration rates, pulse oximetry, level of consciousness and pupil status.
 - d. Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), including the use of mechanical adjuncts to basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (as approved by NOR-CAL EMS).
 - e. Administer oxygen.
 - B. Use the following adjunctive airway and breathing aids:
 - a. Oropharyngeal airway.
 - b. Nasopharyngeal airway.
 - c. Suction devices.
 - d. Basic oxygen delivery devices for supplemental oxygen therapy including, but not limited to, humidifiers, partial rebreathers, and venturi masks.
 - e. Manual and mechanical ventilating devices designed for prehospital use including continuous positive airway pressure.
 - C. Use various stretchers and spinal motion restriction/immobilization devices.
 - D. Provide initial prehospital emergency care to patients, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Bleeding control through the application of NOR-CAL EMS approved commercial tourniquet devices.
 - b. Use of NOR-CAL EMS approved hemostatic dressings.
 - c. Spinal motion restriction or immobilization.
 - d. Seated spinal motion restriction or immobilization.
 - e. Extremity splinting.
 - f. Traction splinting.
 - E. Administer oral glucose or sugar solutions.
 - F. Extricate entrapped persons.
 - G. Perform field triage.
 - H. Transport patients.
 - I. Apply mechanical patient restraint.
 - J. Set up for ALS procedures, under the direction of an AEMT or Paramedic.
 - K. Perform automated external defibrillation.

- L. Assist patients with the administration of physician-prescribed devices including, but not limited to, patient-operated medication pumps, sublingual nitroglycerin; and self-administered emergency medications, including epinephrine devices.
 - M. Administration of aspirin, acetaminophen, ibuprofen, and diphenhydramine in accordance with NOR-CAL EMS policies/protocols.
 - N. Performance of finger stick blood glucose testing in accordance with the NOR-CAL EMS policies/protocols.
 - O. Administration of IN naloxone in accordance with NOR-CAL EMS policies/protocols.
 - P. Administration of epinephrine by auto-injector for suspected anaphylaxis and/or severe asthma in accordance with NOR-CAL EMS policies/protocols.
 - Q. Transferring a patient, who is deemed appropriate for transfer by the transferring physician, and who has nasogastric (NG) tubes, gastrostomy tubes, heparin locks, foley catheters, tracheostomy tubes and/or indwelling vascular access lines, excluding arterial lines.
 - R. Administration of Nerve agent auto-injector (atropine and pralidoxime chloride by auto-injector) in accordance with NOR-CAL EMS policies/protocols.
4. Optional Skills:
- A. A certified EMT may use any or all of the optional skills listed in this section of the policy, under the following conditions:
 - a. The individual is part of the organized EMS system, functioning under the oversight of a NOR-CAL EMS approved BLS provider.
 - b. The individual has been authorized by the NOR-CAL EMS provider agency to use the optional skills.
 - c. The individual has received adequate training on the optional skills that they have been authorized to use. Training records for the providers must be documented with Nor-Cal EMS.
 - B. Authorized optional skills items include the following:
 - a. Use of an i-gel airway device in accordance with NOR-CAL EMS policies/protocols.
 - b. Epinephrine draw and injection.