

Subject: Scope of Practice/Procedure – BLS Personnel
First Responder Scope of Practice

Associated Policies:

- I. Authority and Reference (incorporated herein by references)
 - A. Division 2.5 of Health and Safety Code
 - B. North Coast EMS Policies and Procedures
- II. Purpose
To define the regional First Responder Scope of Practice.
- III. Scope of Practice
 - A. While at the scene of a medical emergency and during ambulance transport of the sick and injured by EMT's, or while assisting the EMT's, a certified First Responder is authorized to perform the following care in accordance with North Coast EMS approved First Responder training:
 1. Evaluate the sick and injured.
 2. Provide basic life support and render first aid to patients with one or more of the following emergencies:
 - a. medical;
 - b. trauma;
 - c. environmental;
 - d. psychiatric; and
 - e. obstetrical.
 3. Obtain diagnostic signs including temperature, blood pressure, pulse, pupil status, and skin signs.
 4. Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation without the use of mechanical adjuncts for chest compressions or time-cycled ventilation, except under the supervision of an EMT-I, EMT-II, or EMT-P trained in the use of such mechanical adjuncts.
 5. Use the following airway adjuncts:
 - a. oropharyngeal airway;
 - b. nasopharyngeal airway;
 - c. upper airway suction devices;
 - d. liter flow oxygen delivery devices; and
 - e. manual and mechanical ventilating devices designed for prehospital use (as determined by the State EMS Authority and North Coast EMS).
 6. Use various stretchers and body immobilization devices. This does not include the use of pneumatic anti-shock trousers as an immobilization device.
 7. Provide the following care to trauma patients in addition to other First Responder evaluation and treatment modalities described herein:

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- a. control external hemorrhage;
 - b. apply dressing, bandages, and slings;
 - c. immobilize skeletal injuries with various splints, including femoral traction splints; and
 - d. perform spinal immobilization with cervical collars, backboards and related items, and/or with commercially prepared spinal immobilization devices.
8. Administer oxygen by liter flow (via nasal cannula or face mask) and/or manual positive pressure devices.
9. Administer oral glucose.
10. Perform rescue, extrication and disentanglement from entrapment.
11. Perform basic triage, including START triage, at the scene of a multi-casualty incident.
12. Assist an EMT-I, EMT-II, and/or EMT-P with care of the ill and injured during ambulance transportation to a medical facility.
13. Assist an EMT-II/P with pre-treatment preparation for ALS procedures as described below while under the direct supervision of an EMT-II/P:
 - a. Single lead (I, II, III) ECG monitoring;
 - b. IV set-up (except a solution containing medication);
 - c. MAST application not including inflation; and
 - d. Set-up for placement of an endotracheal tube or EOA/EGTA.First responder assistance with pre-treatment preparation for ALS procedures excludes authorization to set-up, or otherwise prepare, any medication for EMT-II/P administration.
14. Ventilate a patient via an endotracheal tube or EOA/EGTA while under the direct supervision of an EMT-II/P.
15. Assist with emergency childbirth.

Approved: 

Approved as to Form: 