Objectives

1. Define key terms introduced in this chapter.
2. Describe the key historical events that have shaped the development of the emergency medical services (EMS) system, including (slides 17-19):
   a. Lessons learned in trauma care from experiences in the Korean and Vietnam conflicts
   b. Publication of Accidental Death and Disability: The Neglected Disease of Modern Society
   c. Highway Safety Act of 1966
   d. Emergency Medical Services System Act of 1973
   e. Public CPR courses
   f. Publication of the National Emergency Medical Services Education and Practice Blueprint
   g. Publication of EMS Agenda for the Future and The EMS Education Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach
   h. Development of National EMS Core Content, National EMS Scope of Practice Model, and National EMS Education Standards
   i. The Institute of Medicine report The Future of EMS Care: EMS at the Crossroads
Objectives

3. Briefly explain each of the components of the Technical Assistance Program Assessment Standards (slides 20-21):
   a. Regulation and policy
   b. Resource management
   c. Human resources and training
   d. Transportation
   e. Facilities
   f. Communications
   g. Public information and education
   h. Medical direction
   i. Trauma systems
   j. Evaluation

Objectives

4. Discuss the differences between 911 and non-911 EMS access systems, including the features and benefits of 911 systems (slides 23-24).
5. Compare and contrast the scopes of practice of the following levels of EMS providers (slides 25-26):
   a. Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
   b. Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
   c. Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT)
   d. Paramedic
6. Explain the importance of the EMT's understanding of the health care resources available in the community (slides 27-29).

Objectives

7. Give examples of how EMTs can carry out each of the following roles and responsibilities (slides 31-43):
   a. Personal safety and the safety of others
   b. Patient assessment and emergency care
   c. Safe lifting and moving
   d. Transport and transfer of care
   e. Record keeping and data collection
   f. Patient advocacy
Objectives

8. Describe the expectations of EMTs in terms of each of the following professional attributes (slides 44-53):
   a. Appearance
   b. Knowledge and skills
   c. Physical demands
   d. Personal traits
   e. Maintaining certification and licensure

Objectives

9. Discuss the purposes of medical direction/oversight in the EMS system (slides 54-55).
10. Describe the purpose of quality improvement/continuous quality improvement programs in EMS (slide 56).
11. Explain the EMT’s roles and responsibilities in quality improvement (slide 57).
12. Identify activities in EMS that pose a high risk of mistakes and injuries (slides 59-60).
13. Discuss steps that you can take to minimize mistakes and injuries in EMS (slides 59-60).

Objectives

14. Discuss the steps of evidence-based decision making (slides 60-61).
15. Explain the limitations of evidence-based decision making in EMS (slide 60).
16. Describe the relationship between EMS and public health (slides 62-63).
17. List the ten greatest public health achievements in the United States in the 20th century.
Multimedia Directory

Slide 29   EMS and the Community Video
Slide 64   Healthy People 2010 Video

Topics

» The Emergency Medical Services System
» The EMT
» Research and EMS Care
» Public Health

CASE STUDY

Dispatch
Respond to 10915 Pine Lake Road in Perry Township for an elderly male who has fallen. Perry Township Fire Department is also en route.

Time out 1032

Upon Arrival

- 65-year-old male fell approximately 30 feet down embankment
- Conscious; states injured right arm and leg
- Rescue preparing to extricate patient

How would you proceed?
A Brief History

- Korean and Vietnam War
- “White paper”
- Highway Safety Act of 1966
- Emergency Medical Services System Act of 1973
- American Heart Association CPR
A Brief History
• National Emergency Medical Services Education and Practice Blueprint in 1993
• EMS Agenda for the Future
• EMS Education Agenda for the Future
• National EMS Core Content in 2005
• National EMS Scope of Practice Model
• The Future of EMS Care: EMS at the Crossroads
• National EMS Education Standards

Technical Assistance Program Assessment Standards

Standards
• Regulation and Policy
• Resource Management
• Human Resources and Training
• Transportation
• Facilities
Standards

- Communications
- Public Information and Education
- Medical Direction
- Trauma Systems
- Evaluation

Technical Assistance Program
Assessment Standards

Access to the EMS system

• E911
• Cell phones
Technical Assistance Program
Assessment Standards

Levels of Training

Back to Objectives

Emergency Medical Responder
Emergency Medical Technician
Advanced Emergency Medical Technician
Paramedic

The Health Care System

Back to Objectives
Roles and Responsibilities

• Personal safety
• Safety of others
• Patient assessment
• Emergency care
• Safe lifting and moving
• Transport and transfer of care
• Record keeping and data collection
• Patient advocacy

Personal Safety and the Safety of Others
Remember
You cannot help the patient, other rescuers, or yourself if you are injured.

Scene safety
Personal safety
Driving safety
Patient safety

Roles and Responsibilities
Patient Assessment and Emergency Care
• Primary assessment
• Secondary assessment
• Beware of changing conditions

Roles and Responsibilities

Safe Lifting and Moving

• Safety in movement and equipment
• Proper body mechanics
Roles and Responsibilities

Transport and Transfer of Care

- Facility determination
- Transport code
- Drive safely
- Report to hospital staff

Roles and Responsibilities

Record Keeping, Data Collection, and Patient Advocacy
• Complete report
• Become a patient advocate
  – Be truthful
  – Protect privacy

Professional Attributes

Appearance

• Groomed
• Neat, clean appearance
• In uniform
• Prepared
**Physical Demands**

- Must be able to lift 125 pounds
- Good vision
- Communication skills
- Hearing

**Professional Attributes**

**Personal Traits**

- Calm and reassuring
- Leadership
- Good judgment
- Good moral character
- Stability and adaptability
- Ability to listen
- Resourcefulness
- Cooperativeness
Professional Attributes

Maintenance of Certification and Licensure

- Continuing education
- Skill competency
- Avoiding criminal or unethical behavior
- Submitting all fees

Medical Direction and Oversight
Quality Improvement

• Medical director
• Protocols
• Off-line medical direction
• On-line medical direction
• Standing orders
• Medical oversight
Issues in Patient Safety

High-Risk Activities

- Transfer of care
- Medical errors
- Carrying patients
- Ambulance crashes
- Lack of spine immobilization

Research and EMS Care
Evidence-Based Medicine

• Formulate a question
• Search medical literature
• Appraise the evidence for validity and reliability
• If the evidence supports it, change protocols

Public Health

• Health prevention and promotion
• Disease surveillance
• Injury prevention

Roles of EMS in Public Health
CASE STUDY

Primary Assessment

- 65-year-old male, Edgar Robinson
- Chief complaint: right wrist and right thigh pain
- Respiration: 24 per minute
- Pulse: 90 beats per minute
- Skin warm and dry

Follow-Up
CASE STUDY
Secondary Assessment

• S:
  – Abrasions to arms
  – Pain and deformity of right wrist
  – Deformity, swelling, abrasions, pain in right thigh
    • No feeling or movement of right toes
    • Pulses present in foot
  – Denies losing consciousness

CASE STUDY
Secondary Assessment

• A: Sulfa drugs
• M: Metoprolol
• P: HBP

CASE STUDY
Treatment and Reassessment

• O₂ via nonrebreather mask
• Traction splint right leg
• Wheeled stretcher
• Reassess patient every five minutes
• Transfer care without incident
Critical Thinking Scenario

• 78-year-old male patient who appears to be suffering a stroke
• Patient is unable to speak and appears agitated
• The patient’s niece requests transport to a small local hospital near his residence
• A designated stroke center is 20 minutes from your location

Critical Thinking Questions

1. What are your responsibilities while on this call?
2. How can you serve as the patient’s advocate?
3. How can you use medical direction in this situation?

Reinforce and Review

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