

Paramedic Refresher + Transition Course

Monday-Thursday Lecture (32 hours) – (18.1 hours of the 32 are considered Transitional)

Friday ACLS Refresher (8 hours)

Saturday PALS Refresher (8 hours)

TOTAL = 48 hours

<http://www.scdhec.gov/health/ems/Transition-Refresher-Course-EMT-Paramedic-to-Paramedic-Outline.pdf>

Completion of program will satisfy the NREMT requirements for 48 hours Paramedic Refresher Course.

Cost \$700 Includes ACLS/PALS/Transition Manual + Handouts

Paramedic Refresher / Transition Course will document a candidate's training to the National Registry including issuance of a Certificate of Course Completion to each candidate that contain the following information:

- NREMT Candidate's Name
- EMT-Paramedic to Paramedic Transition Course Completion Date
- The name of the sponsoring agency (Training Institution or IST Program)
- Signature of the sponsoring agency (Director, Training Officer, etc.)

The following statement:

"Name of Candidate" has completed a state-approved EMT-Paramedic to Paramedic transition course.

Essential Paramedic Refresher Materials: 13.9 Hours

Medical Emergencies – 3 hours 1 Transition / 2 Refresher

Assess and provide care to a patient experiencing an allergic reaction

Assess a patient with possible overdose

Assess and provide care to a near-drowning patient (includes CPAP demo) - Transitional

Trauma – 5 hours - TRANSITION

Perform a rapid trauma assessment – Transitional Material
Assess a patient with a head injury – Transitional Material
Assess and provide care to a patient with suspected spinal injury – Transitional Material
Provide care to a patient with a chest injury – Transitional Material
Provide care to a patient with an open abdominal injury
Provide care to a patient with shock/hypoperfusion – Transitional Material

Flexible Core Content

Airway, Breathing and Cardiology – 8 hours – 3 Hours Transition / 5 Refresher

Assess and provide care for respiratory distress in an adult patient
Use oxygen delivery system components
Perform techniques to assure a patent airway
Assess and provide care to a patient experiencing non-traumatic chest pain/discomfort

Medical Emergencies – 5 hours 3.1 Transitional / 2.0 Refresher

Assess and provide care to a patient with an altered mental status
Assess and provide care to a patient with a history of diabetes
Assess and provide care to a patient experiencing a seizure
Assess and provide care to a patient exposed to heat or cold
Assess and provide care to a patient experiencing a behavioral problem
Assess and provide care to a patient with suspected communicable disease

Trauma – 1 hour - TRANSITION

Provide care to a patient with a painful, swollen, deformed extremity – Transitional Content
Assess and provide care to a patient with burn injury – PHTLS Update

Obstetrics and Pediatrics – 8 hours 4 Transition / 4 Refresher

Assess and provide care to an infant or child with suspected abuse or neglect
Assess and provide care to an infant or child with a fever
Assess and provide care for the obstetric patient
Provide care to the newborn
Provide care to the mother immediately following delivery of a newborn

Operational Tasks – 2 hours 1 / 1 Refresher/Transition

Use body mechanics when lifting and moving a patient
Communicate with a patient while providing care – Transitional material

ACLS and PALS Refresher

Mandatory Core Content – **Covered in 8 Hour ACLS Refresher (FRIDAY)**

Airway, Breathing and Cardiology – 8 hours
Provide ventilatory support for a patient
Attempt to resuscitate a patient in cardiac arrest
Provide care to a patient experiencing cardiovascular compromise
Provide post resuscitation care to a cardiac arrest patient

Obstetrics and Pediatrics – 8 hours – **Covered in 8 Hour PALS Refresher (SATURDAY)**
Assess and provide care to an infant or child with cardiac arrest
Assess and provide care to an infant or child with respiratory distress
Assess and provide care to an infant or child with shock/hypoperfusion
Assess and provide care to an infant or child with trauma

Paramedic Transition Course Material Detail: 18.1 Hours

Section Titles (Divisions) In Italics: Gap Analysis of NSC to 2009 Educational Standards -
Material that should be emphasized with suggested time limits.

EMS Systems (Essential content 15min.)

-Provide detailed discussion on patient safety issues, decreasing medical errors, & required affective/behavioral characteristics.

Research (Essential content 5min.)

-Information on evidence based decision making

Workforce Safety & Wellness (Supplemental content 10min.)

-Emphasize the difference between BSI & PPE, Discuss bariatric issues, neonatal isolettes & medical restraint.

-The 1998 EMT-P NSC mentioned CISM. The new standards does not use that term instead focusing more on stress management issues.

Documentation (Essential content 15 min.)

-The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) did not exist when the 1998 EMT-P NSC was authorized.

-Provide a detailed discussion of medical/legal and ethics for HIPPA overview.

Preparatory Essential content 90 min / Supplemental content 30 min.

EMS System Communication (No Transitional material)

Therapeutic Communications (Essential content 15min.)

Provide detailed discussion about cultural competence issues.

Medical/Legal Issues (Essential content 60min.)

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) did not exist when the 1998 EMT-P National Standard Curriculum was authored; increased depth of discussion regarding advance directives; the term "end-of-life" was not previously used; there is an increased emphasis on end of life issues; increased depth and breadth on ethics. Provided a detailed discussion on all the above topics.

Anatomy & Physiology (Essential content 60min.)

The current recommendation calls for more comprehensive coverage of A&P than provided in the previous 1998 EMT-P National Standard Curriculum. Programs should evaluate their current A&P program to see how much upgrade they need to reach a comprehensive and complex understanding, especially in the cardiovascular, respiratory, and neurological systems.

Medical Terminology (No transitional material)

Although not detailed, this content is new to this level.

Physiology (Content integrated into appropriate sections)

The current recommendation calls for more comprehensive coverage of pathophysiology than provided in the previous 1998 EMT-P National Standard Curriculum. Programs should evaluate their current pathophysiology program to see how much upgrade they need to reach a comprehensive and complex understanding, especially in the cardiovascular, respiratory, and neurological systems.

Life Span Development (No transitional material)

Public Health (Supplemental content 10min)

Consistent with the EMS Agenda for the Future, there is a greater emphasis on public health issues

Pharmacology (Essential material 75 min. / Supplemental material 5 min.)

Principles of Pharmacology (Essential material 30 min.)

Programs should evaluate their current pharmacology program to see how much upgrade they need to reach a comprehensive and complex understanding.

Medication Administration (Supplemental content 5min.)

Programs should evaluate their current pharmacology program to see how much upgrade they need to reach a comprehensive and complex understanding

Emergency Medications (Essential content 45 min.)

In the 1998 EMT-P National Standard Curriculum, there was no list of medications; the list in the IGs represents medications commonly used in numerous EMS systems and is a minimum list that all paramedics should know. Programs are encouraged to add to the list, but should not delete. This list may become dated quickly.

Airway Management, Respiration, and Artificial Ventilation
Essential content 90 min.

Anatomy & Physiology (Essential content 30 min.)

Confusion exists about the differences between oxygenation, ventilation, and respiration. The Education Standards were organized to attempt to highlight the differences between the concepts. There is a greater emphasis on ventilation and respirations and the importance of artificial ventilation. Research suggests that EMS can make a difference in this area.

Airway Management (Essential material 15 min.)

See note in A&P above.

Provide a detailed discussion of techniques of assuring a patent airway & consider age-related variations in pediatric & geriatric patients.

Respiration (Essential material 15min.)

See note in A&P above.

Provide a detailed discussion of the anatomy & physiology of the respiratory system, pathophysiology of respiration, assessment & management of inadequate respiration & age-related variations in pediatric & geriatric populations.

Artificial Ventilation (Essential content 30 min.)

See note in A&P above.

Provide a detailed discussion in management of adequate & inadequate ventilation. Review of ventilation devices , & age-related variations.

Patient Assessment Essential content 60 min.

Scene Size Up (Essential content 5 min.)

Re-emphasis on scene safety

Primary Assessment (Essential content 10 min.)

Emphasize new terminology. Provide a detailed discussion of Primary Assessment

History-Taking (Essential content 10 min.)

Emphasize new terminology and detailed discussion of geriatric content.

Secondary Assessment (Essential content 10 min)

Emphasize new terminology. Provide a detailed discussion of Secondary Assessment.

Monitoring Devices (Essential content 25min.)

Includes capnography, chemistry analysis, arterial blood gas interpretation.

Reassessment (No additional time suggested)

New terminology that more closely mimics other health care professionals; more thorough than in the previous curriculum

Medicine Essential content 225 min. / Supplemental content 55 min.

Medical Overview (Essential content 30 min.)

Re-use of the new assessment terminology; emphasis on pathophysiologic basis; updated destination decisions for some medical conditions such as stroke and acute coronary syndrome

Neurology (Essential content 15min.)

The term "demyelinating" was not used in the 1998 EMT-P National Standard Curriculum; more detailed information on stroke assessment and management

Abdominal & Gastrointestinal Disorders (Essential content 15 min.)

In the 1998 EMT-P National Standard Curriculum, the topic was gastroenterology; new section on mesenteric ischemia, rectal foreign body obstructions and rectal abscess

Immunology (Essential content 20 min.)

The term anaphylactoid is used here; that term was not used in the 1998 EMT-P National Standard Curriculum; transplant related problems and collagen vascular disease added

Infectious Diseases (Essential content 15 min.)

This section should include updated infectious disease information, for Example methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, hepatitis, and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome update; should include a discussion on cleaning and sterilizing equipment and decontaminating the ambulance

Endocrine Disorders (Essential content 10 min.)

Added long term effects of diabetes and how the disease impacts other conditions.

Provide a detailed discussion on diabetes.

Psychiatric (Essential content 15min.)

Includes new material on excited delirium; other psychiatric conditions are re-categorized with an increase in depth and breadth.

Emphasize new material on excited delirium.

Cardiovascular (Essential content 45 min.)

Increased emphasis on anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology; acute coronary syndrome, 12-lead interpretation; updated information on heart failure

Toxicology (Supplemental content 15 min.)

Includes section on over-the-counter medication toxicology

Respiratory (Essential content 30 min.)

More in-depth evaluation of a patient with respiratory problems

Hematology (Essential content 30 min.)

Reorganized with Genitourinary/Renal (Supplemental content 10 min.)

More detailed discussion of this organ system; urinary catheter management (not insertion)

Gynecology (Supplemental content 15 min.)

Includes brief discussion of sexually transmitted diseases and pelvic inflammatory disease

Non-Traumatic Musculoskeletal Disorders (Supplemental Content 5 min.)

Added section on disorders of the spine, joint abnormalities, muscles abnormalities, and overuse syndromes

Diseases of the Eyes, Ears, Nose, & Throat (Supplemental Content 10 min)
New section emphasizing major eye, ear, nose, and throat disease

Shock & Resuscitation

Contents integrated throughout Trauma & Medical sections
Reorganized for emphasis, more pathophysiology

Trauma Essential content 120 min. / Supplemental content 125 min.

Programs should evaluate their current trauma program to see how much upgrade they need to reach a comprehensive and complex understanding .

Trauma Overview (Essential content 15min.)

Discussion on the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Field Triage Decision Scheme: The National Trauma Triage Protocol and trauma scoring

Bleeding (Supplemental content 30 min.)

More detailed discussion

Chest Trauma (Essential content 45 min.)

More detailed discussion-- Programs should evaluate their current trauma program to see how much upgrade they need to reach a comprehensive and complex understanding.

Abdominal & Genitourinary Trauma (Supplemental content 15 min.)

More detailed discussion--- Programs should evaluate their current trauma program to see how much upgrade they need to reach a comprehensive and complex understanding.

Orthopedic Trauma (Essential content 5 min.)

More detailed discussion--- Programs should evaluate their current trauma program to see how much upgrade they need to reach a comprehensive and complex understanding.

Soft Tissue Trauma (No transitional material)

However, more detailed discussion--- Programs should evaluate their current trauma program to see how much upgrade they need to reach a comprehensive and complex understanding.

Head, Face, Neck, & Spine Trauma (Essential material 30 min.)

More detail about neck eye, oral and brain injuries; emphasizes the harm of over ventilation in most situations

Nervous System Trauma (Supplemental content 45 min.)

More detail on brain anatomy; emphasizes the harm of hyperventilation; references the Brain Trauma Foundation; increased emphasis on neurological assessment

Special Considerations in Trauma (Supplemental content 30 min.)

All section new or increased emphasis

Environmental Trauma (Environmental Emergencies) (No additional time)

All material at this level represents the same depth and breadth as at the EMT level

Multi-System Trauma (Essential content 30 min.)

New material at this level; critical thinking skills emphasized, includes discussion of kinematics and blast injury

Special Patient Populations

Essential content 30 min. / Supplemental content 65 min.

Obstetrics (Supplemental content 10 min.)

Added section on hyperemesis gravidarum

Neonatal Care (Supplemental content 30 min.)

This section is much more detailed than in the previous version

Pediatrics (Essential Content 30 min.)

This section is much more detailed than in the previous version

Geriatrics (Supplemental content 15 min.)

Added section on Herpes zoster

Patients With Special Challenges (Supplemental content 10 min.)

Added section on bariatrics

EMS Operations Essential content 40 min. / Supplemental content 10 min.

Principles of Safely Operating a Ground Ambulance

(Essential content 10 min.)

All material at this level represents the same depth and breadth as at the EMT level

Incident Management (No transition material)

Can be done as a co-requisite or as pre-requisite

All material at this level represents the same depth and breadth as at the EMT level

Multiple Casualty Incidents (Essential content 10 min.)

All material at this level represents the same depth and breadth as at the EMT level

Air Medical (Supplemental 10 min.)

All material at this level represents the same depth and breadth as at the EMT level

Vehicle Extrication (No transitional material)

All material at this level represents the same depth and breadth as at the EMT level

Hazardous Materials Awareness (No transitional material)

Can be done as a co-requisite or as pre-requisite

All material at this level represents the same depth and breadth as at the EMT level

Mass Casualty Incidents Due to Terrorism & Disaster

(Essential content 20min.)

All material at this level represents the same depth and breadth as at the EMT level. All new content. Provide a detailed discussion of the risks & responsibilities of operating on the scene of a natural or man-made disaster.

Total Summary of proposed time for planning purposes:

Essential content = 13.1 hrs.

Supplemental = 5.0 hrs.

The following restraint technique has been determined to be harmful and is no longer permitted: forceful restraint in a prone position, with wrists & ankles tightly tied together ("hobbled") behind the back.

Skill Considerations - Additional content that may be included:

BiPAP, CPAP, PEEP - discussed in CHF and Drowning

ETCO2 monitoring - discussed in ACLS

NG / OG tube - discussed in King Airway Demonstration

Chest tube monitoring - discussed in Trauma Update

Access indwelling catheters and implanted central IV ports - discussed in Special Pop

Morgan lens – Eye Trauma

Administer physician-approved meds. – Medical Legal Discussion

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