

DACUM Competency Profile for Emergency Medical Technician I

Produced For

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Produced By

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* Expected entry-level tasks of new EMT I.

DACUM Competency Profile for Emergency Medical Technician I

Emergency Medical Technician I is one who provides basic life support services by assessing, treating, and transporting patient(s) to prevent further injury, illness, and/or loss of life.

Duties		Tasks			
A	Maintain Equipment	A-1 Perform daily mechanical inspection (e.g., serviceability, lights, tires, fluid levels)*	A-2 Conduct daily inventory of equipment & supplies (e.g., fire extinguisher, flares, safety gear, forms/documents)*	A-3 Perform function testing of equipment*	A-4 Initiate preventive maintenance of vehicle(s)
		A-5 Refuel vehicle*	A-6 Wash/Wax vehicle*		
B	Respond to Call	B-1 Process dispatch information	B-2 Review map(s) for useable response route	B-3 Prepare initial action plan	B-4 Identify & establish safe vehicle access & egress
		C	Establish Scene Control	C-1 Report on scene conditionals with dispatch*	C-2 Request additional (needed) resources (e.g., fire, police, utility, coroner)
C-5 Identify incident command structure*	C-6 Establish & maintain traffic/crowd control			C-7 Secure access to patient	
D	Conduct Primary Patient Assessment	D-1 Don protective gear*	D-2 Perform patient triage*	D-3 Assess airway*	D-4 Assess breathing*
		D-5 Assess circulation*	D-6 Determine chief complaint*	D-7 Determine mechanisms of injury*	D-8 Identify need for Advanced Life Support (ALS) assessment*
		D-9 Determine level of consciousness & mental status*	D-10 Determine c-spine injuries (if appropriate)*		
E	Conduct Secondary Patient Assessment	E-1 Perform head survey*	E-2 Perform neck survey*	E-3 Perform thorax survey*	E-4 Perform abdominal survey*
		E-5 Perform pelvic survey*	E-6 Perform back survey*	E-7 Perform survey of extremities*	E-8 Obtain vital signs*
		E-9 Record patient's medical history/medications/allergies*	E-10 Determine history of chief complaint*		

F

Identify Illnesses & Injuries

F-1 Recognize diabetic emergencies*	F-2 Identify signs & symptoms of cerebral vascular accident (CVA)*	F-3 Recognize cardiac emergencies	F-4 Identify signs & symptoms of seizure*
F-5 Recognize respiratory emergencies*	F-6 Recognize pediatric emergency (e.g., sudden infant death syndrome)*	F-7 Recognize psychiatric emergencies*	F-8 Recognize drowning & near-drowning emergency*
F-9 Recognize/Identify environmental emergencies*	F-10 Identify signs & symptoms of poisoning*	F-11 Identify signs & symptoms of drug/alcohol abuse*	F-12 Identify signs & symptoms of shock*
F-13 Recognize obstetrical/neonatal emergencies*	F-14 Recognize neurological emergencies*	F-15 Identify signs & symptoms of traumatic injuries*	F-16 Recognize burn emergencies*
F-17 Identify signs & symptoms of muscular/skeletal injuries*	F-18 Recognize soft tissue injuries*	F-19 Recognize acute abdominal emergencies*	F-20 Identify obvious signs of death*

G

Provide Treatment

G-1 Provide airway management*	G-2 Assist/Control breathing*	G-3 Perform cardiac compressions*	G-4 Control bleeding*
G-5 Perform spinal immobilization*	G-6 Administer O2 therapy	G-7 Immobilize extremities*	G-8 Maintain body temperature*
G-9 Assist in emergency child birth*	G-10 Restrain combative patient*	G-11 Perform wound irrigation*	G-12 Administer oral glucose agents*
G-13 Position patient for comfort & safety			

H

Assist in Advanced Life Support (ALS)

H-1 Assist in IV set-up*	H-2 Assist in advanced airway procedures (e.g., intubations, suction)*	H-3 Assist with EKG & defibrillation procedures*	H-4 Assist with preparation for invasive procedures*
H-5 Assist with application of MAST suit	H-6 Maintain basic life support (BLS) procedures during ALS interventions*		

I

Provide Transportation

I-1 Clean up scene*	I-2 Prepare patient for transport*	I-3 Determine mode of transportation*	I-4 Provide safe transport to appropriate facility*
I-5 Reassess vital signs & condition of patient enroute*	I-6 Notify receiving hospital of patient transport*	I-7 Complete turnover report to accepting hospital*	

J

Document Incident & Patient Information

J-1 Complete patient care report*	J-2 Complete billing form	J-3 Fill out daily log	J-4 Complete multi-casualty documentation
J-5 Procure Do Not Attempt Resuscitation (DNAR) form if applicable*	J-6 Complete Against Medical Advise (AMA) report of patient refusal if applicable*	J-7 Complete exposure report	J-8 Complete child/elder abuse forms*
J-9 Complete incident *unusual occurrence) forms (e.g., accident, hazardous, crime report)	J-10 Complete California Fire Incident Reporting System (CFIRS) report	J-11 Procure patient's advanced directive forms if applicable*	

K

Perform Post-Incident Management Tasks

K-1 Dispose of infectious waste(s)	K-2 Clean & disinfect used gear (e.g., gurneys, trauma box, airway bag)*	K-3 Clean & disinfect vehicle	K-4 Clean & disinfect exposed personnel*
K-5 Restock equipment & supplies	K-6 Inspect (walk around) exterior & interior of vehicle	K-7 Notify dispatch of availability	K-8 Complete & submit appropriate incident documentation
K-9 Initiate exposure tracking procedure (e.g., blood borne pathogens, air borne pathogens, hazardous materials)*	K-10 Participate in critical-incident stress debriefing	K-11 Participate in post-incident analysis	

L

Maintain/ Participate in Professional Development

L-1 Maintain EMT certification	L-2 Maintain CPR certification*	L-3 Maintain medical examination certificate*	L-4 Maintain ambulance driver certificate*
L-5 Keep informed of policy/protocol updates (e.g., OSHA, hospital, EMS agencies)	L-6 Maintain professional library	L-7 Identify career goals	L-8 Train new EMTs
L-9 Participate in on-the-job training	L-10 Prepare & make public presentations		

* Expected entry-level tasks of new EMT I.

Future Trends/Concerns

- Agency cutbacks (financial)
- Continuity in statewide certification
- EMT optional skills
- Equipment updates/improvements
- Health-care reform
- Liability
- Licensing versus certification
- Patient confidentiality
- Protocols/Scope of practice
- Public versus private providers

General Knowledge and Skills

- (Safe) Driving skills
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Carrying/lifting skills
- Charting
- Communication skills (verbal/written)
- Computer skills
- CPR
- Cultural awareness/diversity
- Environmental
- Equipment
- Hazardous materials
- Human psychology
- Interpersonal skills
- Keyboarding skills
- Law enforcement protocol
- Map reading
- Mathematical skills
- Mechanical aptitude skills
- Medical terminology
- OSHA requirements
- Penmanship skills
- Preventive maintenance
- Problem-solving skills
- Safety practices
- Standard operating procedures
- Stress management skills
- Survival skills

Tools, Equipment, Supplies, and Materials

- Airway equipment
- Bandaging supplies
- Blankets
- Bullet-proof vest
- Burn supplies
- Clipboard
- Cones/flares
- Department of Transportation handbook

- Drinking water
- Drivers license
- Emergency vehicle
- Extracation equipment
- Fire extinguisher
- First aid box
- Flashlight
- Guerney
- Maps

- O2
- OB kit
- Pediatric equipment
- Pen/pencil
- Proof of insurance
- Protective gear
- Protocol books
- Radio/pager
- Restraints
- Stuffed animals
- Suction equipment
- Trauma equipment
- Uniform/gloves

Worker Traits/Behavior

- Compassionate
- Courteous
- Follows instructions
- Good personal hygiene
- Hard-worker
- Honest
- Innovative
- Integrity
- Patient
- Physically fit
- Professional
- Respectful
- Responsible
- Self-motivated
- Takes initiative
- Team player

