CHAPTER 1

Introduction to Emergency Medical Care

HANDOUT 1-2: Evaluating Content Mastery   Student’s Name

EVALUATION

CHAPTER 1 QUIZ

Write the letter of the best answer in the space provided.

______ 1. Most states require refresher training for EMT-Bs every:

A. 1 to 2 years.  
B. 5 to 7 years.  
C. 2 to 3 years.  
D. 4 to 5 years.

______ 2. An EMT at a basic level is operating as a designated agent of the:

A. EMT-Intermediate.  
B. ER nurse.  
C. Medical Director.  
D. Shift commander.

______ 3. Which of the following is NOT a role or responsibility for an EMT?

A. Transfer of care  
B. Personal safety  
C. Lifting and moving  
D. Providing medical direction

______ 4. The first concern of an EMT must be:

A. patient safety.  
B. crew control.  
C. vehicle safety.  
D. personal safety.

______ 5. A policy set by an EMS Medical Director that allows EMTs to administer glucose to patients in certain circumstances without speaking to the
physician is an example of a(n):  
A. direct order.  
B. on-line order.  
C. standing order.  
D. QI order.

_____ 6. An order from an EMS system’s on-duty physician given by radio or phone is an example of:  
A. off-line medical control.  
B. on-line medical direction.  
C. designated direction.  
D. standing orders.

_____ 7. The level of EMS training in which the emphasis is on activating the EMS system and controlling immediate life-threatening emergencies is:  
A. First Responder.  
B. EMT-B.  
C. EMT-I.  
D. EMT-P.

_____ 8. A good personal trait for an EMT is someone who:  
A. speaks his/her mind.  
B. is insincere.  
C. is nonjudgmental.  
D. always follows others.

_____ 9. Lists of steps, such as assessment and interventions, to be taken in different situations by EMS personnel are known as:  
A. protocols.  
B. care directives.  
C. enhanced QA.  
D. EMDs.

_____ 10. Which of the following is a way for an EMT to have a role in the quality improvement (QI) process?  
A. Have someone else check equipment.  
B. Read patient’s hospital chart.  
C. Continue his/her education.
D. Submit run reports quickly even if incomplete.

11. Which is an example of EMS being involved in public health?
   A. Responding to a mass-casualty incident
   B. Public vaccination programs
   C. Providing free blood pressure checks at the station
   D. Running calls with the fire department

12. What is one outcome of medical research for EMS?
   A. Evidence-based treatments
   B. New EMS shift designs
   C. Better EMS documentation
   D. Improved ambulance design
REINFORCEMENT

IN THE FIELD

*Review the following real-life situation. Then answer the questions that follow.*

You and an EMT partner are assigned to EMS Unit 5 one morning in September. At 10:35 A.M.,
the emergency dispatcher directs you to an accident on Pumpkin Hollow Road. A woman driving
her car along that road called 911 on her cell phone to report that the car ahead of her had
swerved to avoid a dog, gone off the road, plunged into a ditch, and hit a tree.

Your unit pulls up at the scene six minutes later. As you don your personal protective equipment,
you note that a county sheriff’s car is already on scene. A deputy is kneeling beside a male in his
early 20s who is lying on the ground. Even from the top of the ditch, you can see that the young
man’s shirt and pants are blood soaked. The deputy is applying direct pressure to the patient’s
right wrist. As you approach, the deputy tells you that after the crash, the patient, who had been
wearing a seat belt, did not believe himself injured. However, before the deputy arrived, the pa-
tient attempted to get out of the car. In doing so, he sliced his wrist on jagged metal. Your partner
takes over holding direct pressure to the wound. Meanwhile, you introduce yourself to the patient
as you begin your assessment of his condition. The patient seems anxious and restless, and as
you assess him, you talk to him, explaining what you are doing, and try to calm him.

Because of the circumstances of the accident, you are especially alert during the assessment to
the possibility that the patient may have received internal and/or spinal injuries. In fact, you de-
termine that the patient is showing signs and symptoms of internal bleeding and shock (hypoper-
fusion). Shock is a life-threatening condition, so you decide that he needs immediate transport to
the hospital, some 20 minutes away.
You have provided the patient with high-flow oxygen. Now, as you prepare him for transport, you ask the police officer to call in a request for a rendezvous with paramedics of the Advanced Life Support (ALS) unit. When he has done so, he joins you and your partner in moving the patient, now immobilized to a long spineboard, to the ambulance. You remain with the patient, holding direct pressure on the wrist wound, while your partner drives. You also monitor the patient’s airway, breathing, and circulation and reassess his vital signs.

Seven minutes later, you meet the paramedics of the ALS unit at the parking lot of a farm produce stand. You provide the paramedics with a concise report of the patient’s condition and your interventions. The paramedics assume care of the patient. They contact medical direction and report on their findings and expected time of arrival at the hospital as transport continues. Just a few minutes after 11:00 A.M., the ambulance reaches Memorial Hospital. The emergency room staff is briefed on the patient’s status and vital signs and on the care he has received. The hospital crew takes over, and wheels the young man off to surgery.

1. Which components of the EMS system were involved in this scenario?

2. What roles and responsibilities of an EMT-B were demonstrated in this scenario?
CHAPTER 1 REVIEW

*Write the word or words that best complete each sentence in the space provided.*

1. The modern Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system has been developed to provide what is known as ___________________ or _____________ - _______________ - _______________ care.

2. In 1966 the National Highway Safety Act charged the United States _________________ _______________ _______________ with developing EMS standards.

3. All transporting prehospital personnel should, at a minimum, be trained to the level of _______________ using a standardized curriculum taught by qualified instructors.

4. The type of specialty hospital in which surgery teams are available on a round-the-clock basis is the _______________ _______________.

5. The specially trained EMS personnel who obtain information about emergency situations from callers and who also provide instructions for emergency care to callers are _______________ _______________ _______________.

6. The _______________ _______________ system has the capability of automatically identifying the caller’s phone number and location.

7. A(n) _______________ _______________ is an EMT who has passed specific additional training programs and is authorized to provide some level of ALS (advanced life support).

8. The process of continuous self-review with the purpose of identifying aspects of the EMS system that require improvement is known as _______________

____________________._

9. Standing orders that allow EMTs to give certain medications or perform certain procedures
without speaking directly to a physician are examples of ________________ -
_______________ medical direction.

10. An EMT has responsibility for a patient until ________________ ________________
_______________ to hospital personnel has been properly completed.
LISTING EMT BASICS

*Complete the following lists.*

1. List five of the categories in which the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Technical Assistance Program sets standards for EMS systems.

   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

2. List three types of specialty hospitals.

   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

3. List two responsibilities of Emergency Medical Dispatchers.

   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

4. List the four general levels of EMS training and certification.

   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
5. List at least four roles and responsibilities of the EMT.

________________________________

________________________________

________________________________

________________________________

6. List three ways that an EMT can participate in public health.

________________________________

________________________________

________________________________

________________________________
HANDOUT 1-6: Reinforcing Content Mastery   Student’s Name

EMS BASICS TRUE OR FALSE

Indicate if the following statements are true or false by writing T or F in the space provided.

_____ 1. As an EMT, your authority to give medications and provide emergency care is an extension of the Medical Director’s license to practice medicine.

_____ 2. As an EMT, you will be one of the many persons and professions that come together to form an EMS system.

_____ 3. Legal and ethical issues that affect physicians and nurses are not the concern of EMTs.

_____ 4. Trauma centers are not yet considered “specialty” hospitals.

_____ 5. Certification as an EMT requires only that a person successfully complete the DOT EMT-Basic National Standard Training Program.

_____ 6. Keeping yourself safe is your second priority after patient safety when providing medical care.

_____ 7. The care an individual patient requires may range from simple emotional support to life-saving CPR.

_____ 8. You must never abandon care of the patient at the hospital until transfer to hospital personnel has been properly completed.

_____ 9. As an EMT, you should be able to lift and carry a minimum of 175 pounds.

_____ 10. Good personality traits are really not very important to the EMT.

_____ 11. Good quality continuing education can often take the place of an original EMT training course.

_____ 12. Many states use the National Registry examinations as their certification ex-
13. Quality improvement is designed and performed to ensure that the public receives the highest quality prehospital care.

14. The EMT has no direct role in the quality improvement process.

15. Striving for quality in the care you personally give to patients and as a collective part of an ambulance squad upholds the highest standards of the EMS system.

16. Medical research does not play an important role in patient outcomes.