

COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH CARE AGENCY		EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
Policy Title: Emergency Medical Technician Scope of Practice		Policy Number 300
APPROVED:		Date: January 3, 2023
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APPROVED:		Date: January 3, 2023
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- I. PURPOSE: To define the scope of practice of an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) practicing in Ventura County.
- II. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Section 1797.107, 1797.109, 1797.160, 1797.170, and California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Section 100063, and 100064.
- III. POLICY:
 - A. During training, while at the scene of an emergency and during transport of the sick or injured, or during interfacility transfer, a supervised EMT trainee or certified EMT is authorized to do any of the following:
 - 1. Evaluate the ill and injured
 - 2. Render basic life support, rescue and emergency medical care to patients.
 - 3. Obtain diagnostic signs to include, but not be limited to the assessment of temperature, blood pressure, pulse and respiration rates, pulse oximetry, level of consciousness, and pupil status.
 - 4. Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation, including the use of mechanical adjuncts to basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
 - 5. Administer oxygen
 - 6. Use the following adjunctive airway and breathing aids:
 - a. Oropharyngeal airway
 - b. Nasopharyngeal airway
 - c. Suction devices
 - d. Basic oxygen delivery devices for supplemental oxygen therapy, including but not limited to, humidifiers, partial rebreathers, and venturi masks; and

- e. Manual and mechanical ventilating devices designed for prehospital use, including continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) and bilevel positive airway pressure (BiPAP).
 - 7. Use various types of stretchers and spinal immobilization devices.
 - 8. Provide initial prehospital emergency care of trauma, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Bleeding control through the application of tourniquets;
 - b. Use of hemostatic dressings from a list approved by the California EMS Authority
 - c. Spinal motion restriction or immobilization;
 - d. Seated spinal motion restriction or immobilization;
 - e. Extremity splinting; and
 - f. Traction splinting.
 - 9. Administer oral glucose or sugar solutions.
 - 10. Extricate entrapped persons.
 - 11. Perform field triage.
 - 12. Transport patients.
 - 13. Apply mechanical patient restraint
 - 14. Set up for ALS procedures, under the direction of a Paramedic.
 - 15. Perform automated external defibrillation
 - 16. Assist patients with the administration of physician-prescribed devices including, but not limited to, patient-operated medication pumps, sublingual nitroglycerin, and self-administered emergency medications, including epinephrine devices.
- B. In addition to the activities outlined in the EMT Basic Scope of Practice, the VCEMS Medical Director may also establish policies and procedures to allow a certified EMT or a supervised EMT student who is part of the organized EMS System and in the prehospital setting and/or during interfacility transport to:
- 1. Monitor intravenous lines delivering glucose solutions or isotonic balanced salt solutions including Ringer's lactate for volume replacement. Monitor, maintain, and adjust if necessary, in order to maintain, a preset rate of flow and turn off the flow of intravenous fluid;
 - 2. Transfer a patient, who is deemed appropriate for transfer by the transferring physician, and who has nasogastric (NG) tubes, gastrostomy tubes, heparin locks, Foley catheters, tracheostomy tubes and/or indwelling vascular access lines, excluding arterial lines;
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3. Administer naloxone by intranasal and/or intramuscular routes for suspected narcotic overdose;
 4. Administer epinephrine by auto-injector for suspected anaphylaxis and/or severe asthma;
 5. Perform finger stick blood glucose testing, and;
 6. Administer over the counter medications, when approved by the VCEMS medical director, including but not limited to:
 - a. Aspirin
- C. During a mutual aid response into another jurisdiction, an EMT may utilize the scope of practice for which s/he is trained and authorized according to the policies and procedures established by VCEMS within the jurisdiction where the EMT is employed as part of the organized EMS system.