



Update from the Office of EMS

Volume XIV, Issue III

From the State EMS Medical Director

I know that everyone is anxious because the updated treatment protocols have not been released. Dr. Williamson wanted to look at certain parts of the protocols and we have been having ongoing meetings to have these released as soon as possible. Dr. Williamson is comfortable with our last review and we will take the protocols back to a special called State Emergency Medical Control Committee (SEMCC) meeting on August 27, 2013. If the SEMCC approves the protocols, they will go to the State Committee of Public Health most likely in September. The Office of EMS will then release the protocols to the services to begin protocol update training with the goal of going live with the new protocols on January 1, 2014. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns.

William E. Crawford, M.D.
State EMS Medical Director

Licensure and Education Information

- There is no longer an inactive status for Alabama licensed EMSP.
- All EMS students must be licensed by the State of Alabama at the previous level.
- Please remember the requirements as stated in the EMS Rules document under **420-2-1-.11 Licensed Provider Service Staffing** License Provider Services shall not allow EMSP to respond to a medical emergency with the intent to treat or transport a patient unless the EMSP are clean and appropriately dressed and wearing photo identification with the level of license, license number, and name of EMSP visible. The photo identification shall be displayed at all times unless extenuating circumstances prevent the photo identification from being available.

2014 License Renewal Requirements

- A current completed application
- A New/Current photo
- National Registry card (if applicable)
- Alabama Full Protocol Certificate (Skills and Scenarios) Current Edition
- Alabama Protocol Update certificate
- A copy of your TYPED (appropriate) CPR card
- Walk-ins WILL NOT be processed during the license renewal period. Applications are processed on a first come-first served basis.

Ambulance Driver Qualifications

The requirements for all ambulance drivers are: a valid drivers' license, a current EVOC from an approved EMS course, a current approved CPR course, and a certificate of completion of an approved Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) course, or be a previously licensed EMSP. All EMSPs who drive an ambulance must maintain an initial approved EVOC course and a refresher every two (2) years. Alabama EVOC is still a requirement; you MUST have a current EVOC certificate in your personnel file.





Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) Course

The following are approved EMR Courses:

- EMS approved courses offered through your regional office, or
- A course approved by the Alabama Fire College which should include the Emergency Care Provider Course.

Transition Courses

The National Registry website indicates that all EMSPs need to complete a transition course to re-certify. The OEMS has determined that Alabama EMSPs will **NOT** have to take a transition course. The National Registry renewal application will ask “have you transitioned?” All EMSPs should respond “yes” to this question. This transition is in name only and all EMSPs should disregard any request to submit transition paperwork to the National Registry.

Training Officers Register Your Agency (the employer) on the NREMT Website!

Online re-certification allows:

- Certified EMS providers to document their continuing education using the NREMT website
- You to monitor the progress of their continuing education
- You to enter continuing education documentation for all providers at your agency
- Electronic verification of continuing education and skills.

Persons authorized to serve as a Training Officer by their employer (service) should register their agency on the NREMT website by following [these simple instructions](#). User guides for the online re-certification process can also be found [online](#).

Please note:

- Audits and verifications of agencies and Training Officers will be performed
- There is no fee to register your agency online, this program is a service provided by the NREMT.
- There are no additional fees to Nationally Certified providers who use the online system to document their continuing education. Current re-certification application fees using continuing education are: First Responder=\$10; EMT-Basic/Intermediate=\$15; EMT-Paramedic=\$20.

National Registry Continuing Education

Individuals who have utilized the Mark King initiative may use continuing education that has been acquired during this initial extended certification period. After this initial certification period, the National Registry will only accept continuing education gained within the 24-month certification period. Training officers may use a training mechanism available on the National Registry's website (www.nremt.org).

Protocol Verification

Protocol verification is a combination of physical skills and scenario competency testing. Listed below are the specific skills that each level should be evaluated on by a Medical Director or Training Officer, during their licensure period to determine proficiency.

Paramedic

- Blind Insertion Airway Devices
- Cardioversion
- Chest Decompression
- Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)
- ECG (12-Lead)
- Endotracheal Intubation
- External Pacing
- Hemostatic Agents
- Intraosseous Therapy

Intermediate

- Blind Insertion Airway Devices
- Cardioversion
- CPAP
- ECG (12-Lead)
- Endotracheal Intubation
- Hemostatic Agents
- Intraosseous Therapy

Advanced EMT

- Blind Insertion Airway Devices
- CPAP
- Hemostatic Agents
- Intraosseous Therapy
- Cardiac Arrest Management

EMT

- Cardiac Arrest Management
- Spinal Immobilization (seated patient)
- Spinal Immobilization (supine patient)
- Bleeding Control/Shock Management
- Long Bone Immobilization
- Joint Immobilization

J. Gary Mackey
Deputy Director
Individual Licensure Coordinator





Provider Service News

The Office of EMS (OEMS) just completed Provider Service license renewals in the North, BREMSS, and West regions. A total of 165 renewals were processed. Six of these services received a 60-day probationary license due to non-compliance in submitting electronic patient care reports (ePCR). During this probationary license period, OEMS staff will closely monitor ePCR submissions from these services. Be advised, if your agency is having technical issues with submitting reports, OEMS has Information Technology (IT) staff available to help.

Hugh Hollon
Provider Service Licensure Coordinator

Culture of Excellence

Anniston EMS	Riverside Fire & Rescue
Care Ambulance Dallas	RPS St. Clair
Care Ambulance Houston	Slocomb EMS
Care Ambulance Lowndes	Tallapoosa EMS
Care Ambulance Perry	Tarrant Fire & Rescue
Coffee County EMS	Valley EMS
Cullman Fire Rescue	West Jefferson Fire & Rescue
Dothan Ambulance	Westover Fire Department
Emergency Medical Transport	
Enterprise Rescue	
Hartford Fire Rescue	
Irondale Fire & Rescue	
Odenville Fire & Rescue	
Oxford EMS	



Quick Summer Safety Tips for Kids

Nicole Jones, MD

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Pediatric Emergency Medicine

Children's Hospital, Birmingham, AL

1. Water Safety

- Never leave children alone near the pool
- Infants and toddlers never more than an arms length away
- Older children still require constant adult supervision
- Install a fence at least four feet tall around all sides of the pool
- Children ages one to four may be at lower risk of drowning if they have swim lessons
- Swim lessons do not make children “drown proof”

2. Bike Safety

- Helmets prevent up to 88% of bike brain injuries
- Ensure that helmets are properly fitted and worn on every bike ride
- Set limits on where children can ride based on safety
- Teach children safe riding skills and behaviors

3. All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)

- Only drive ATVs off road
- Do not drive ATVs at night
- Always use a helmet with safety visors and face shields
- No driving by children who are not licensed to drive a vehicle

4. Skateboard, Scooter, In-line Skating

- Always use safety gear: helmet, wrist guard, elbow and knee pads
- Never ride in traffic
- Use skate parks or designated paths





General Information

Do You Have Questions for OEMS Staff?

This is another reminder to those of you calling our office (334) 206-5383:

Complaints, Investigations—Call Mark Jackson

Service Inspections or Service Licenses—Call Hugh Hollon or Kem Thomas

Individual Training, Testing, or Individual Licenses—Call Gary Mackey or Stephanie Smith

EMS for Children, Grants, Contracts, Website, Facebook, and Twitter—Call Katherine Dixon Hert

Requests for Information from Regional Offices

The Office of EMS would like to request that you comply with any request for information from your regional office. Some Directors are still having issues receiving information and data as requested by the State office. We would greatly appreciate your cooperation and compliance.

Facebook and Twitter

Alabama Office of EMS and Alabama EMSC are now on Facebook and Twitter. Please Like our pages and follow us on Twitter. Alabama Trauma Registry has recently joined Facebook so go like the ATR page too.

Newsletter Reminder

The newsletter is free to anyone as long as they have internet access to our web page (www.adph.org/ems). The newsletters can be found on the Newsletter page which is linked to the home page. All Alabama licensed EMSPs who have a **VALID** email address will receive notice when the newsletter has been published. Our licensure database is used to store your last submitted valid email address, but cannot accommodate unlicensed people. They will have to visit our website to view or download the newsletter.

If you are not getting our newsletter announcements via email, it is because your email address was illegible or in an incorrect format or you have changed it and not updated your information with our office. You can email any changes via emsinquiry@adph.state.al.us or call office staff at (334) 206-5383.