

Emergency Medical Responder: A Skills Approach

Fifth Canadian Edition



FIFTH CANADIAN EDITION

EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDER

A SKILLS APPROACH

MEETS PARAMEDIC ASSOCIATION OF CANADA'S
NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL COMPETENCY PROFILE



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Chapter 29

EMS Operations

Objectives (1 of 2)

- Discuss the medical and non-medical equipment needed to respond to a call.
- List the phases of an EMS response.
- Discuss ways of driving an emergency vehicle safely, including how to use seat belts, lights, and sirens properly.
- Describe how to stay safe in traffic while on foot, including wearing protective equipment, parking and exiting a vehicle, and channelling traffic away from a scene.



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Objectives (2 of 2)

- Discuss safety tips for travelling in the patient compartment of an ambulance, including how to brace oneself, secure a patient, secure equipment, and perform CPR.
- Explain the rationale for having the unit prepared to respond.

EMS Equipment



Figure 29-1 A basic EMR jump kit.

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Six General Phases of a Response

- Preparation
- Dispatch
- En route to the scene
- Arrival at the scene
- Transfer of care
- Post-run activities

Preparation (Phase 1)

- Airway and breathing
- Bleeding control and bandaging
- Patient assessment
- Miscellaneous
- Optional equipment

Dispatch (Phase 2)



Figure 29-3 Dispatch is the formal beginning of an EMS response.

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Phases 3 & 4

En route to the scene (Phase 3)

- Know the exact location
- Brainstorm potential treatments
- Review pediatric figures (if required)

Arrival on-scene (Phase 4)

- Approach cautiously
- Park in a safe place
- Leave yourself a safe exit

Phases 5 & 6

Transfer of care (Phase 5)

- Package the patient
- Give concise and accurate patient hand-off report

Post-run (Phase 6)

- Clean/disinfect all equipment
- Restock
- Report availability to dispatch

Driving Tips (1 of 2)

- Learn all local and provincial guidelines for driving an emergency vehicle
- When possible, travel in pairs
- Back up slowly and carefully
- Know your territory

Driving Tips (2 of 2)

- Exercise caution when in congested or rush hour traffic
- Plan for sudden stops
- Practice special caution on hills and curves

Driving Reminders

- **Seat belts** – always wear them
- **Lights and sirens** – always, day or night, during and only during an emergency
- **Hearing protection** – windows closed, ear plugs or muffs, move siren speakers to front grill

Driving Guidelines

- Do not exceed posted speed limit, except in critical situations
- Start and stop smoothly
- Drive at a steady rate of speed
- Avoid rough dirt roads

Look Out for Your Own Safety

- Park for maximum safety
- Exit a vehicle safely
- Wear protective equipment
- Channel traffic away from scene

Safety in Patient Compartment

- Keep a wide base of support
- Keep both feet planted firmly on ground
- When walking, hold on to a stable object with both hands
- Even when sitting, hook feet under stretcher
- Practise bracing
- Secure patient
- Secure equipment