



Office of Emergency Medical  
Services and Trauma

INDEX	R-P11A-PMDC
EFFECTIVE	7/1/2011
LAST REVIEW	7/1/2011
PAGES	4
LEVEL	PMDC

**Scope of Practice for: Paramedic ONLY**

Emergency Medical Personnel are permitted to perform only those skills listed under their licensure level, and only once they have been trained on those skills, and credentialed to perform those skills by the agency Medical Director. Emergency Medical Personnel are permitted to administer only medications listed under their licensure level, and only once they are trained in the pharmacology of that medication, and credentialed to administer that medication by the EMS agency Medical Director.

**NOTE: If a skill is listed on this document, then the Paramedic is permitted to perform the skill. Interpretive guidelines serve to clarify and/or modify the skill listed. Gaps in numbering/lettering (i.e. going from 1 to 3) on a skill group mean that the unlisted skill is not permitted at the Paramedic level.**

Airway and Breathing Skills		Interpretive Guidelines
1.	Supplemental oxygen therapy	
	a. Oxygen delivery devices	PMDC This would include any type of cannula or mask designed for the delivery of supplemental oxygen.
	b. Humidified oxygen	PMDC
2.	Basic airway management	
	a. Manual maneuvers to open and control the airway	PMDC This would include procedures such as: head-tilt, chin-lift; tongue-jaw lift; modified chin lift; jaw thrust; Sellick's maneuver.
	b. Manual maneuvers to remove an airway obstruction	PMDC
	c. Insertion of airway adjuncts intended to go into the oropharynx	PMDC
	d. Insertion of airway adjuncts intended to go into the nasopharynx	PMDC
3.	Ventilation management	
	a. mouth to barrier devices	PMDC
	b. bag-valve-mask	PMDC
	c. manually triggered ventilators	PMDC
	d. automatic transport ventilators	PMDC
	e. chronic-use home ventilators	PMDC

Airway and Breathing Skills		Interpretive Guidelines
4.	Suctioning	
	a. Upper airway suctioning	PMDC
	b. Tracheobronchial suctioning	PMDC
5.	Advanced airway management	
	a. CPAP/BiPAP administration and management	PMDC
	b. BIAD (Blind Insertion Airway Device) Insertion	PMDC <i>This would also permit the removal of a BIAD under medically appropriate circumstances for the specified levels.</i>
	c. Endotracheal intubation	PMDC <i>This includes nasal and oral endotracheal intubation. This would also allow the CT or Paramedic to extubate the patient for medically necessary reasons. This would include the use of PEEP and EtCO2/Capnography as necessary.</i>
	d. Airway obstruction removal by direct laryngoscopy	PMDC
	e. Percutaneous Cricothyrotomy	PMDC* <i>This would include retrograde intubation techniques. Paramedics are not permitted to make a surgical incision of the cricothyroid membrane; paramedics may perform skin incision with a surgical blade for the purpose of the percutaneous cricothyrotomy.</i>
	f. Gastric decompression	PMDC
	g. Pleural decompression via needle thoracostomy	PMDC
	h. Chest tube monitoring	PMDC

Assessment Skills		Interpretive Guidelines
1.	Basic assessment skills	
	a. Perform simple patient assessments	PMDC
	b. Perform comprehensive patient assessments	PMDC
	c. Obtaining vital signs manually	PMDC <i>Includes the use of a manual BP cuff.</i>
2.	Advanced assessment skills	
	a. Obtaining vital signs with electronic devices	PMDC <i>This would include the use of non-Invasive blood pressure monitoring devices, as well as pulse oximetry measurement and blood glucose monitoring.</i>
	b. Blood Chemistry Analysis	PMDC

Pharmacological Intervention Skills		Interpretive Guidelines
1.	Fundamental pharmacological skills	
	a. Use of unit dose commercially pre-filled containers or auto-injectors for the administration of life saving medications intended for self, peer, or patient rescue in hazardous materials situations	PMDC
	b. Assist patients in taking their own prescribed medications as approved by medical direction	PMDC
	c. Administration of over-the-counter medications with appropriate medical direction	PMDC <i>Includes oral glucose for hypoglycemia and aspirin for chest pain of suspected ischemic origin.</i>

Pharmacological Intervention Skills		Interpretive Guidelines
2.	Advanced pharmacological skills: venipuncture/vascular access	
a.	Obtaining peripheral venous blood specimens	<b>PMDC</b> <i>This is either through direct venipuncture or through an existing peripheral IV catheter.</i>
b.	Peripheral IV insertion and maintenance (includes removal as needed)	<b>PMDC</b> <i>This includes placement of an INT/Saline lock. Peripheral lines include external jugular veins, but does not include placement of umbilical catheters.</i>
c.	Intraosseus device insertion (includes removal as needed)	<b>PMDC</b> <i>This includes placement in both adult and pediatric patients. This also includes both manual and mechanically assisted devices as approved by the local EMS medical director.</i>
d.	Access indwelling catheters and implanted central IV ports for fluid and medication administration.	<b>PMDC</b>
e.	Central line monitoring	<b>PMDC</b>
3.	Administration of medications/fluids	
a.	Crystalloid IV solutions	<b>PMDC</b> <i>This includes hypotonic, isotonic, and hypertonic solutions as approved by medical direction. This also includes combination solutions (i.e. D5LR, D5NS, etc.).</i>
b.	Administration of hypertonic dextrose solutions for hypoglycemia	<b>PMDC</b> <i>Hypertonic dextrose solutions may be given IV/IO.</i>
c.	Administration of glucagon for hypoglycemia	<b>PMDC</b> <i>Glucagon may be administered via IM, SC, IV, IO or intranasal routes as approved by the local EMS medical director.</i>
d.	Administration of SL nitroglycerine to a patient experiencing chest pain of suspected ischemic origin	<b>PMDC</b>
e.	Parenteral administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis	<b>PMDC</b>
f.	Inhaled (nebulized) medications to patients with difficulty breathing and/or wheezing	<b>PMDC</b> <i>Inhaled (nebulized) means atomization of the medication through an oxygen/air delivery device with a medication chamber, or through use of a metered-dose inhaler.</i>
g.	Administration of a narcotic antagonist to a patient suspected of narcotic overdose	<b>PMDC</b> <i>Administration may be via IM, SC, IV, IO, or Intranasal routes as approved by the local EMS medical director.</i>
h.	Administration of nitrous oxide (50% nitrous oxide, 50% oxygen mix) for pain relief	<b>PMDC</b>
i.	Vaccine administration	<b>PMDC</b>
j.	Paralytic administration	<b>PMDC*</b> <i>Administration of paralytics for the purposes of RSI (Rapid Sequence Induction/Intubation) is not permitted unless the EMS Agency has met RSI requirements promulgated by the OEMST, and has received approval for RSI use from the OEMST. Paramedics are allowed to use paralytics to maintain the paralysis of an already intubated patient, if approved by medical direction.</i>
k.	Administration of other physician approved medications	<b>PMDC*</b> <i>Paramedics are allowed to give any medication via any enteral or parenteral route, as approved by medical direction (see RSI note above).</i>
l.	Maintain an infusion of blood or blood products	<b>PMDC</b>

Cardiac/Medical Skills		Interpretive Guidelines
1.	Fundamental cardiac skills	
a.	Manual external CPR	<b>PMDC</b>
b.	Use of an automated external defibrillator	<b>PMDC</b>

Cardiac/Medical Skills		Interpretive Guidelines
2.	Advanced cardiac skills	
	a. Use of mechanical CPR assist devices	PMDC
	b. ECG monitoring and interpretation	PMDC <i>This includes obtaining and interpreting 12-Lead ECGs.</i>
	c. Manual cardiac defibrillation	PMDC
	d. Emergency cardioversion, including vagal maneuvers	PMDC
	e. Transcutaneous cardiac pacing	PMDC
3.	Emergency childbirth management	
	a. Assist in the normal delivery of a newborn	PMDC
	b. Assist in the complicated delivery of a newborn	PMDC <i>This includes external fundal massage for post-partum bleeding, but does NOT include internal fundal massage.</i>
4.	Behavioral emergency skills	
	a. Manual and mechanical patient restraints for behavioral emergencies	PMDC <i>Includes soft disposable restraints and leather restraints, as approved by the local EMS medical director, and with appropriate patient monitoring.</i>
	b. Chemical restraint of combative patients	PMDC <i>See pharmacological skills.</i>

Trauma Care Skills		Interpretive Guidelines
1.	Managing injuries, including, but not limited to:	
	a. Manual cervical stabilization and cervical collar use	PMDC
	b. Manual stabilization of orthopedic trauma	PMDC
	c. Spinal motion restriction	PMDC <i>Includes the use of commercial spinal motion restriction devices such as the KED®.</i>
	d. Splinting	PMDC <i>This includes the use of traction splints.</i>
2.	Managing other traumatic injuries, including, but not limited to:	
	a. Fundamental bleeding control	PMDC <i>Includes direct pressure and bandaging.</i>
	b. Progressive bleeding control	PMDC <i>Includes the use of tourniquets and hemostatic agents as approved by the local EMS medical director.</i>
	c. Fundamental eye irrigation	PMDC
	d. Complex eye irrigation with the Morgan® lens	PMDC
	e. Fundamental management of soft-tissue injuries	PMDC
	f. Complex management of soft-tissue injuries	PMDC
3.	Movement/extrication of patients, including, but not limited to:	
	a. Emergency moves for endangered patients	PMDC
	b. Rapid extrication of patients	PMDC