

Post Licensure Paramedic Skills (PLS): Advanced Transport Ventilators

Only EMS agencies approved by the Office of EMS and Trauma for this PLS and only Paramedics trained, approved and credentialed by the approved agency may utilize this post licensure skill.

Approval includes:

1. EMS Agency application: **EMS Agency – Apply for Post Licensure Paramedic Skill(s)**
2. Education Request submitted for the agency for each post licensure skill requested.

Protocol (At minimum must be included):

- Must be signed and dated by Medical Director
- Must include statement that only Paramedics trained, approved, and credentialed by agency and MD in this post licensure skill can utilize protocol
- Indications and Contraindications
- Vent setup and patient transfer of ventilators
- Patient evaluation after connection and throughout transport
- Troubleshooting alarms and vent failure guidance
- Ventilator associated pharmacology information, including: analgesia, sedation, and paralysis (only non-depolarizing paralytics can be administered by EMS personnel).
 - This protocol may direct medic to separate protocol. If separate, this protocol must be uploaded

Education Request must include:

Documents that must be uploaded in the education request: Curriculum (PowerPoints, handouts, etc.), Outline, Agenda, Skills Verification checklist, any tests being administered.

- Respiratory A&P Review
- Pulmonary Disease Review:
 - Bronchial Asthma
 - Chronic Bronchitis, Emphysema
 - Pneumonia
 - Pulmonary Edema
 - Spontaneous Pneumothorax
 - Respiratory Distress Syndrome
 - Pulmonary Thromboembolism
 - Traumatic Injuries
 - ARDS
- Lung Exam & Lung Sounds
- Pharmacology associated with ventilator usage:
 - General Airway Pharmacology/Agency Specific Pharmacology/any other Pharmacology that the medic may be directed to use by transferring facility to include dosing, adverse effects, contraindications, etc.
 - The following must be addressed: analgesia, sedation, and paralysis medications (only non-depolarizing paralytics can be administered by EMS personnel).
- Acid Base Review & Interpretation (Optional)
- Indications for Use
- Contraindications
- Advanced Transport Ventilator Operations:
 - All Modes and Settings- For mechanical ventilator/ventilation
 - Modes of delivery (A/CMV, SIMV, SPONT)
 - All ventilator settings and functions for mechanical ventilation
 - Ex: Tidal volume, P_{trig}, P_{support}, etc.
- Alarm types and Troubleshooting Alarms
- Vent Set up, Patient transfer, and evaluation procedure (Agency specific)
- Capnography
- Documentation:
 - Agency Specific requirements
 - Data that must be recorded (must be NEMSIS data elements)
- Clinical Scenarios and Skills verification checklist

For PLS renewals:

- An agency application must be submitted, and MD sign off.
- Submission of Education request for agency:
 - Two (2) Education Request must be submitted if the initial education and the continued competency verification will be different for the Paramedic:
 - An Education Request for education for Paramedics acquiring initial PLS designation.
 - An Education Request for Paramedics who are already PLS designated for annual competency education.
 - This can be agency specific but must include at minimum, hands on skills verification.