




EMC 340 Intro to Clinical Medicine

The Paramedic Health Professional


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Outcomes for this Lecture:

At the successful completion of this lecture, the learner will :

- Analyze and explore the emerging roles and responsibilities of paramedics educated in the National Standard Curriculum (NSC 7-1).
- Evaluate the role that ethics has in the clinical decision making (NSC 1-5).
- Describe the relationship between the paramedic professional and other allied health practitioners



Outcomes, continued

- Explain how the new paramedic curriculum and the newly emerging permit practice supports paramedic status as a profession.
- Discuss examples of expanded paramedic practice



A Profession

- Highest and level high of training in a particular field
- Ability to make independent judgments
- Objective advocate for the patient
- Accountability and peer review
- Theoretical basis for practice
- Ethical standards
- Community involvement
- Credentialing process



Course Goals

- New National Standard Curriculum
- Material important for the health professional student
- Knowledge and skills necessary for expanded curriculum
- New expanded dimensions of paramedic practice




The Paramedic Profession

- Ethical behavior
- Professionalism
- Requires honesty
- Sexual harassment or prejudiced behavior are not tolerated and are unprofessional.




Educational Principles

- Criterion based education and evaluation
- Community centered outcomes
- Respectful
- Practical and ethical dimensions of knowledge



National Standard Curriculum

- A major step in the development of a health care profession status
- Art and science of prehospital medicine
- Scope and breadth exceeds technician
- Considerable overlay with other health professionals
 - Physicians
 - Physician Assistant
 - Nursing
- Research
 - Paramedics are now designing and publishing research



National Standard Curriculum

- Lifelong Learning
- Professional Code of Ethics
 - Essential part of any profession
 - Patients' interests placed above financial interest



Expanded Scope of Practice

- Critical Care
- Industrial
- Occupational Medicine
- Home health
- Tactical EMS
- Sports medicine
- Primary-care



Critical Care

- Helicopter, fixed wing, or ground ambulance
- Interfacility transports
- Critically ill patients requiring
 - Ventilator management
 - Advanced airway procedures
 - Advanced pharmacology
 - Specialized monitoring
 - Intravascular devices





Industrial Paramedic

- Locations
 - Factories
 - Oil rigs
 - Fishing vessels
- Roles
 - Safety
 - Screening procedures
 - Health maintenance
 - Vaccinations
 - Sick calls
 - ALS patient care





Primary Care


- Goals
 - To keep non-emergent patients out of the ED
 - To limit costs
 - To improve patient satisfaction





Primary Care Paramedics

- Roles
 - Emergency Department
 - Ambulatory Care Office
 - House calls
 - Episodic Care
 - Laceration Repair
 - Wound Dressings
 - Foley Catheterization



Model of PC Paramedics

- Red River, New Mexico
- Emergency Department Paramedics

Other Expanded Scopes

- [Tactical EMS](#)
 - Highly specialized operational training
 - Potentially prolonged care
- Health Educator
 - In the community
 - In middle and high schools



Summary

We have:

- explored the changing scope of practice of the paramedic, education, and the national standard curriculum.
- discussed the principles of professionalism.
- considered the expectations of EMC 340.
- prepared the learner to meet new and challenging demands, including the expanded scope of paramedic practice.
