



SPEMS SKILLS PROFICIENCY CRITERIA

Emergency Care Attendant (ECA)



The following skills are required at the ECA Level:

1. AED
2. IM Injection (If Epinephrine is carried by the EMS service)

The following criteria will be used for all SPEMS Protocol required skills proficiency evaluations at the Emergency Care Attendant (ECA) Level.

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

1. Checks patient's responsiveness
2. Assess for breathing and carotid pulse (no more than 10 seconds)
3. Immediately begins chest compressions
4. Performs 2 minutes of high quality CPR
 - If witnessed arrest, defibrillation should occur as soon as possible but CPR should continue until AED is properly applied
 - Rate between 100 and 120
 - Correct depth (at least 2" but not greater than 2.4")
 - Compression to ventilation ratio of 30:2
 - Adequate volume for each breath (visible rise in chest)
 - Minimal interruption of less than 10 seconds throughout
5. Turns on power to AED
6. Follows prompts and correctly attaches AED to patient
7. Stops CPR and ensures all personnel are clear of patient during rhythm analysis
8. Ensures all personnel are clear of the patient
9. Delivers shock(s) as directed by voice prompts
10. Immediately resumes CPR

Intramuscular (IM) Injection

If IM Epinephrine is carried

1. Verifies proper indication for Epinephrine
 - Severe allergic reaction
 - Systolic BP < 90mmHg; or online physician's order
2. Inquiries about potential allergies
3. Selects and prepares proper equipment
 - Epinephrine medication
 - Appropriate syringe and needle
 - Sharps container
 - Alcohol swabs
4. Checks medication for
 - Clarity
 - Expiration date
5. Assembles syringe and needle
6. Draws up appropriate medication
 - If from vial:
 - Removes protective cap and clean medication top
 - Injects appropriate air volume into vial
 - Withdraws appropriate amount of medication
 - Replaces needle with proper IM needle
 - Dispels air
 - If from ampule:
 - Holding ampule upright, taps ampule to dislodge any trapped solution from neck
 - Uses protective device for breaking of ampule neck (gauze pad, alcohol prep, etc.)
 - Withdraws appropriate amount of medication
 - Dispels air
7. Selects and cleanses appropriate injection site
 - Deltoid
 - Dorsal gluteal
 - Vastus lateralis
 - Rectus femoris
8. Stretches skin, informs patient of stick
9. Inserts needle at a 90° angle with fast motion
10. Aspirates syringe while observing for blood return before injecting medication
11. Administers correct dosage at proper rate
12. Removes needle and disposes of syringe and needle appropriately
13. Applies direct pressure to injection site
14. Covers injection site as needed
15. Monitors patient for desired and adverse effects