NOR-CAL EMS	05-0102	Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)-Scope of Practice
Nor-Cal EMS Policy & Procedure Manual		BLS/ALS Protocols
Effective Date: 10/01/2020		Next Revision: 10/01/2020
Approval: Jeffrey Kepple MD – MEDICAL DIRECTOR		SIGNATURE ON FILE

Authority

Health and Safety Code Division 2.5, California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9.

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2, § 100063 and 100064.

Purpose

To establish the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) scope of practice in the NOR-CAL EMS region.

Policy

1. The scope of practice of an EMT acting under an agency in the NOR-CAL EMS region shall not exceed those activities specified in this policy.
2. During a mutual aid response into another jurisdiction, an EMT may utilize the scope of practice for which she/he is trained and authorized according to the policies, procedures and protocols established by NOR-CAL EMS where the EMT is employed as part of an organized EMS system.
3. Basic Scope of Practice:

   A. During training, while at the scene of an emergency, during transport of the sick or injured, or during interfacility transfer (IFT), a certified EMT or supervised EMT student that has been authorized by the NOR-CAL EMS approved prehospital service provider to utilize the scope of practice and have received adequate training is authorized to do any of the following:

      a. Evaluate the ill and injured.
      b. Render basic life support, rescue, and emergency medical care to patients.
      c. Obtain diagnostic signs to include, but not be limited to, temperature, blood pressure, pulse and respiration rates, pulse oximetry, level of consciousness and pupil status.
      d. Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), including the use of mechanical adjuncts to basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (as approved by NOR-CAL EMS).
      e. Administer oxygen.

   B. Use the following adjunctive airway and breathing aids:

      a. Oropharyngeal airway.
      b. Nasopharyngeal airway.
      c. Suction devices.
      d. Basic oxygen delivery devices for supplemental oxygen therapy including, but not limited to, humidifiers, partial rebreathers, and venturi masks.
      e. Manual and mechanical ventilating devices designed for prehospital use including continuous positive airway pressure.

   C. Use various stretchers and spinal motion restriction/immobilization devices.
   D. Provide initial prehospital emergency care to patients, including, but not limited to:

      a. Bleeding control through the application of NOR-CAL EMS approved commercial tourniquet devices.
      b. Use of NOR-CAL EMS approved hemostatic dressings.
      c. Spinal motion restriction or immobilization.
      d. Seated spinal motion restriction or immobilization.
      e. Extremity splinting.
      f. Traction splinting.

   E. Administer oral glucose or sugar solutions.
   F. Extricate entrapped persons.
   G. Perform field triage.
   H. Transport patients.
   I. Apply mechanical patient restraint.
   J. Set up for ALS procedures, under the direction of an AEMT or Paramedic.
   K. Perform automated external defibrillation.

L. Assist patients with the administration of physician-prescribed devices including, but not limited to, patient-operated medication pumps, sublingual nitroglycerin; and self-administered emergency medications, including epinephrine devices.
M. Administration of aspirin, acetaminophen, ibuprofen, and diphenhydramine in accordance with NOR-CAL EMS policies/protocols.
N. Performance of finger stick blood glucose testing in accordance with the NOR-CAL EMS policies/protocols.
O. Administration of IN naloxone in accordance with NOR-CAL EMS policies/protocols.
P. Administration of epinephrine by auto-injector for suspected anaphylaxis and/or severe asthma in accordance with NOR-CAL EMS policies/protocols.
Q. Transferring a patient, who is deemed appropriate for transfer by the transferring physician, and who has nasogastric (NG) tubes, gastrostomy tubes, heparin locks, foley catheters, tracheostomy tubes and/or indwelling vascular access lines, excluding arterial lines.
R. Administration of Nerve agent auto-injector (atropine and pralidoxime chloride by auto-injector) in accordance with NOR-CAL EMS policies/protocols.

4. Optional Skills:

A. A certified EMT may use any or all of the optional skills listed in this section of the policy, under the following conditions:

a. The individual is part of the organized EMS system, functioning under the oversight of a NOR-CAL EMS approved BLS provider.
b. The individual has been authorized by the NOR-CAL EMS provider agency to use the optional skills.
c. The individual has received adequate training on the optional skills that they have been authorized to use. Training records for the providers must be documented with Nor-Cal EMS.

B. Authorized optional skills items include the following:

a. Use of an i-gel airway device in accordance with NOR-CAL EMS policies/protocols.
b. Epinephrine draw and injection.