

April 08, 2015

The Louisiana Scope of Practice Matrix was approved by the EMS Certification Commission, as the new Scope of Practice, via a unanimous vote at today's Commission meeting.

Louisiana EMS Scope of Practice Matrix

Trauma / Injury Management				
Skill / Procedure	EMR	EMT	A-EMT	Paramedic
Cervical Spinal Immobilization (C-Collar)	√*	√	√	√
Cervical Spinal Immobilization (Manual)	√	√	√	√
Eye Irrigation (Flush with water or saline)	√	√	√	√
Rigid Splints	√	√	√	√
Soft Splints	√	√	√	√
Soft tissue management	√	√	√	√
Spinal Immobilization (Long-Spine Board)	√*	√	√	√
Spinal Immobilization (Manual)	√	√	√	√
Tourniquet Application	√	√	√	√
Wound Care - Pressure Bandage (Inclusive of hemostatic bandage)	√	√	√	√
Helmet removal	√	√	√	√
PASG	√	√	√	√
Rapid extrication procedures	√	√	√	√
Spinal Immobilization (Seated / KED)	√	√	√	√
Traction Splints (Femur Fracture)	√	√	√	√
Wound Care - Occlusive Dressing	√	√	√	√
Morgan Lens Eye Irrigation	√	√	√	√
Airway Management				
Skill / Procedure	EMR	EMT	A-EMT	Paramedic
BVM	√	√	√	√
Manual removal of obstructed airway	√	√	√	√
Mouth-to-barrier devices	√	√	√	√
Nasal cannula	√	√	√	√
Nasopharyngeal Airway Insertion	√	√	√	√

Non-rebreather mask	√	√	√	√
Open and Maintain the airway	√	√	√	√
Oral Suctioning	√	√	√	√
Oropharyngeal Airway Insertion	√	√	√	√
Ventilation with a flow-restricted oxygen-powered device	√	√	√	√
Capnography Application and Monitoring	√*	√	√	√
Carbon monoxide Monitoring	√*	√	√	√
Pulse Oximetry	√*	√	√	√
Dual lumen airway		√	√	√
Endotracheal Suctioning		√	√	√
Extraglottic airways		√	√	√
Partial rebreather mask		√	√	√
Positive pressure ventilation devices (manually triggered or automatic ventilators)		√	√	√
Tracheostomy Maintenance		√	√	√
Venturi mask		√	√	√
Administration of nebulized bronchodilators		√*	√	√
Automatic-Transport Ventilator		√*	√	√
CPAP administration and management		√*	√	√
Laryngoscopy for removal of airway obstruction			√	√
Tracheostomy tube replacement			√	√
BiPAP administration and management				√
Endotracheal Intubation				√
Nasogastric Tube Insertion				√
Needle Decompression				√
Orogastic Tube Insertion				√
Percutaneous/Needle Cricothyrotomy				√
Positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP)				√
Surgical Cricothyrotomy				√
Transport Ventilator (Manual adjustments)				√
Medication Assisted Intubation				√*

Pharmaceuticals

Skill / Procedure	EMR	EMT	A-EMT	Paramedic
Aspirin (PO)	√	√	√	√
Epinephrine (Auto-Injector)	√	√	√	√

Glucagon (Auto-Injector)	√	√	√	√
MDI (Patient Assist)	√	√	√	√
Naloxone (Auto-injector)	√	√	√	√
Naloxone (IN)	√	√	√	√
Oral Glucose	√	√	√	√
Sublingual NTG (Patient Assist)	√	√	√	√
Bronchodilators		√*	√	√
Benzodiazepines			√	√
Dextrose in water			√	√
Diphenhydramine			√	√
Epinephrine 1:1,000 (subcutaneous or intramuscular)			√	√
Glucagon			√	√
Lidocaine for pain relief after intraosseous needle insertions			√	√
Nalbuphine			√	√
Naloxone			√	√
Narcotics or other analgesics for pain relief			√	√
Nitrous oxide			√	√
Normal Saline			√	√
Ondansetron (PO, Adults)			√	√
Medication Administration with evidence of written protocol and education				√*

Medication Administration Routes (for medications in the approved scope of practice)

Skill / Procedure	EMR	EMT	A-EMT	Paramedic
Auto-Injector Devices	√	√	√	√
Intranasal Medication Administration	√	√	√	√
MDI (Patient Assist)	√	√	√	√
Sublingual NTG (Patient Assist)	√	√	√	√
Oral Medication Administration	√*	√	√	√
OTC Medications (Patient Assist)	√*	√	√	√
Maintenance of pre-established non-medicated IV fluids (D5W, LR, NS)		√*	√	√
Intramuscular Medication Administration			√	√
Intraosseous Medication Administration			√	√
Intravenous Medication Administration			√	√
Subcutaneous Medication Administration			√	√
Sublingual Medication Administration			√	√

Intravenous Pump Medication Administration				√
Rectal Medication Administration				√
Vascular Access				
Skill / Procedure	EMR	EMT	A-EMT	Paramedic
Blood Glucose Analysis	√*	√*	√	√
Blood Sample Collection for Analysis			√	√
Intraosseous Access			√	√
Peripheral Venous Access (Excluding external jugular)			√	√
Central Line Maintenance				√
Peripheral Venous Access (Including external jugular)				√
Umbilical Venous Access				√*
Cardiac Arrest Management				
Skill / Procedure	EMR	EMT	A-EMT	Paramedic
CPR - Manual	√	√	√	√
Defibrillation - AED	√	√	√	√
Application of Cardiac Rhythm Monitor	√*	√*	√	√
CPR - External Automated Device	√*	√*	√	√
Interpretation of Cardiac Rhythm Strips			√	√
Defibrillation - Manual			√*	√
Interpretation of 12-Lead EKG				√
Synchronized Cardioversion				√
Transcutaneous Pacing				√
Other Skills / Procedures				
Skill / Procedure	EMR	EMT	A-EMT	Paramedic
Body substance isolation precautions	√	√	√	√
Nerve agent antidote auto-injector kit	√	√	√	√
Patient Care Report (PCR) documentation	√	√	√	√
Taking and recording of vital signs	√	√	√	√
Trauma Triage	√	√	√	√
Emergency Childbirth	√*	√	√	√
Taser barb removal	√*	√	√	√
Urinary Catheter maintenance and troubleshooting		√	√	√

Blood chemistry analysis				√
Maintenance of blood administration				√
Thrombolytic therapy initiation and monitoring				√
Arterial Line Monitoring				√*
Thoracostomy (Tube, Needle, Finger)				√*
PICC Line – Access and Use				√*
CVP Line Monitoring				√*
Digital nerve block				√*
ICP Monitoring				√*
Pericardiocentesis				√*
Extremity wound closure (Suturing / Stapling)				√*
Swan-Ganz Catheter Monitoring				√*
Transvenous Pacing – Maintenance and Troubleshooting				√*
Urinary Catheter Insertion				√*
Use of access ports				√*

Community Wellness / Health Promotion / Prevention / Mobile Integrated Healthcare

Skill / Procedure	EMR	EMT	A- EMT	Paramedic
Determination of alternate transport location		√*	√*	√*
Fall prevention assessment		√*	√*	√*
Injury risk assessment / home safety assessment		√*	√*	√*
Treat and release protocol implementation		√*	√*	√*
Care plan follow-up				√*
Comprehensive physical exam				√*
Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) assessment (advanced)				√*
Hospital discharge follow-up				√*
Immunizations / vaccinations				√*
Medication compliance monitoring				√*
Mental health assessment (advanced)				√*
Oral health assessment (advanced)				√*
Social evaluation (advanced)				√*
Physician extension under direct tele-medicine supervision in accordance with LRS 37:1271				√*

Notes on Scope of Practice

EMS Practitioners must be licensed by the Louisiana Bureau of EMS and affiliated with a medical director.

All skills/procedures/interventions must be included in agency specific protocols approved by a medical director.

V* Procedures with a "V*" are approved as *optional* modules. Agencies utilizing these skills must maintain documentation demonstrating all individuals authorized by the agency's medical director to perform these skill(s)/procedure(s) have attended an agency specific training module. Agency documentation of competency validation is required every 24 months.

Employers and/or agency specific medical directors may limit, but not expand the scope of practice.

A licensed Louisiana EMS Practitioner +B2:F166 may be licensed/credentialed/certified by other recognized credentialing boards. It is the responsibility of both the employee and the employer to clearly delineate if/when the individual is functioning as an EMS Practitioner or under a separate license/credential.