

Objectives - EMS Rotation

RCPSC Emergency Medicine Residency Program

Department of Emergency Medicine

University of Alberta

The following Rotation Objectives outline the roles and responsibilities for emergency medicine residents during their EMS rotation.

Ride-alongs

Residents may participate in ride-alongs in Alberta Health Service EMS vehicles. This document should be reviewed by both the resident and EMS personnel prior to the ride-along experience.

Emergency medicine residents are physicians undergoing advanced training in the specialty of emergency medicine. Ride-alongs provide the resident physician with an opportunity to obtain field experience in pre-hospital patient care. In exchange, the resident physician may serve as a medical expert and educator for pre-hospital personnel regarding disease pathophysiology, diagnosis, and treatment.

Resident physicians are permitted to assist with the provision of patient care during their ride-along experience, but they are not expected to be the primary medical care provider on any patient encounter. Standing EMS protocols should be used unless the resident feels that the patient may incur harm from an incorrect treatment or management plan. As usual, online medical consultation should be sought for any deviation from protocol.

CanMEDs EMS Rotation Objectives

Medical Expert

The learner should:

- List several advantages and disadvantages of various modes of patient transport, including ground, rotary wing and fixed wing.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the organizational models for EMS
- Demonstrate knowledge of the components of an EMS system
- Understand the role of a medical director
- Understand concepts of direct (online) and indirect (offline) medical control
- Understand EMS communication systems
- Understand the principles of initial management and stabilization of the acutely ill and injured
- Understand the principles of disaster management

Communicator

The learner should:

- Effectively and respectfully communicate with patients and families
- Effectively and respectfully communicate with physicians, nurses, paramedics and emergency dispatch personnel

Collaborator

The learner should strive to:

- Develop effective leadership and teamwork skills
- Effectively interact with other members of the EMS team
- Effectively interact with in-hospital healthcare personnel
- Appreciate the level of training and skills of prehospital personnel

Leader

The learner should strive to:

- Understand the unique role that prehospital transport plays in our provincial healthcare system
- Interact effectively with in-hospital and out-of-hospital healthcare team members to provide quality patient care
- Understand the role of prehospital dispatch systems in AHS

Health Advocate

The learner should strive to:

- Be an effective patient advocate
- Understand and respect patient wishes for resuscitation and life support measures
- Demonstrate a consistent interest in the safety of EMS personnel

Scholar

The learner should:

- Develop proficiency in critical appraisal of prehospital care literature
- Demonstrate an appreciation for the importance of continuing education in prehospital care

Professional

The learner should:

- Demonstrate integrity and honesty
- Demonstrate compassion and respect in all patient encounters
- Learn and apply ethical principles appropriately
- Be aware of personal limitations and seek assistance when appropriate