

South Dakota **EMS Program**



Basic Life Support **SCOPE of PRACTICE**

Emergency Medical Responder
Emergency Medical Technician



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<https://EMS.sd.gov>

Table of Contents

Introduction Page 2

Defined Scope of Practice

- Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) Page 3
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Page 5
- All BLS Levels Page 8

Revisions/Additions

11/20/2018

Added: "Pulse Oximetry" for EMR Level

Added: "Capnography – End Tidal CO₂ Monitoring" for EMT Level

Added: "Hemorrhage Control Products" for EMR and EMT Levels

Added: Wording "or alternative" to Mark I Kit for EMR and EMT Levels

07/01/2022

Added: Intramuscular (IM) Medication Administration Route for the EMT Level

Added: Epinephrine 1:1,000 Draw & Inject (from a single dose vial for Anaphylaxis) in Medication List for the EMT Level

INTRODUCTION

This booklet contains the defined Scope of Practice for Basic Life Support (BLS) personnel in South Dakota.

To work at any level of Basic Life Support (Emergency Medical Responder or Emergency Medical Technician) in South Dakota, the individual must be certified by the South Dakota Department of Health – EMS Program.

A South Dakota Licensed Physician Medical Director may limit the Scope of Practice, skills, mediations for any level of BLS (EMR or EMT) personnel, however, the Physician Medical Director may not expand the Scope of Practice.

All changes/additions to any of the defined Scope of Practice or skills must be approved in advance and in writing by the South Dakota Department of Health – EMS Program.

The two Basic Life Support (BLS) certification levels are as follows:

- Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

The defined Scope of Practice for each BLS provider level is part of a sequence that starts with the Scope of an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR). Then, the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) level is built upon the knowledge, skills, and competencies of the lower level (EMR).

The EMT must meet all the competencies of an EMR as well as those specific to the entry-level Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).

EMR Scope of Practice
Airway / Ventilation / Oxygenation
Airway - Mouth-to-Mouth
Airway - Mouth-to-Barrier
Airway - Mouth-to-Mask
Airway - Mouth-to-Nose
Airway - Mouth-to-Stoma
Airway - Nasopharyngeal
Airway - Oropharyngeal
Airway Obstruction - Manual
Head-Tilt / Chin-Lift
Chest Seal
Jaw-Thrust
Jaw-Thrust - Modified
Bag Valve Mask (BVM)
Manual Airway Maneuvers
Oxygen Therapy - Nasal Cannula
Oxygen Therapy - Non-Rebreather Mask
Oxygen Therapy - Simple Face Mask & Partial NRB
Pulse Oximetry
Suctioning - Upper Airway (soft & rigid)
Assessment Skills / Miscellaneous
Perform Patient Assessments
Obtain Vital Signs Manually or Electronically
Obtain Temperature
Assisted Delivery (Childbirth)
Eye Irrigation (Non-Invasive)
Cardiovascular / Circulation
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
Use of mechanical CPR Assist Devices
Defibrillation - AED
Hemorrhage Control Products
Hemorrhage Control - Direct Pressure
Hemorrhage Control - Pressure Point
Hemorrhage Control - Tourniquet

EMR Scope of Practice Continued

Trauma Care
Spinal immobilization - Cervical Collar
Spinal Immobilization - Long Board
Spinal Immobilization - Manual Stabilization
Spinal Immobilization - Seated Patient (KED, etc.)
Splinting - Manual
Splinting - Rigid
Splinting - Soft
Splinting - Vacuum
Emergency Moves for Endangered Patient
Rapid Extrication of Patient
May Assist Patient with Patient Prescription
Oral Glucose (Insta-Glucose)
Medication Administration Routes
Auto-Injector or Nasal Spray
Oral (PO)
Buccal (Cheek or Gum)
Medication List
Epinephrine 0.15mg Auto Injector (Epi-Pen Jr)
Epinephrine 0.3mg Auto Injector (Epi-Pen)
MARK I Kit (or alternative): Use of unit dose commercially pre-filled containers or auto injectors for the administration of life saving medications intended for self, peer, or patient rescue after exposure to nerve agents(s)
Naloxone Hydrochloride (Narcan) Auto Injector or Nasal Spray Route
Oral Glucose (Insta-Glucose)
Oxygen

EMT Scope of Practice
Airway / Ventilation / Oxygenation
Airway - Mouth-to-Mouth
Airway - Mouth-to-Barrier
Airway - Mouth-to-Mask
Airway - Mouth-to-Nose
Airway - Mouth-to-Stoma
Airway - Nasopharyngeal
Airway - Oropharyngeal
Airway - Supraglottic Airway Device
Airway Obstruction - Manual
Head-Tilt / Chin-Lift
Jaw-Thrust
Jaw-Thrust - Modified
Bag Valve Mask (BVM)
CPAP
Capnography – End Tidal CO2 Monitoring
Chest Seal
Cricoid Pressure (Sellick)
Manual Airway Maneuvers
Oxygen Therapy - Tracheal Tube
Oxygen Therapy - Nasal Cannula
Oxygen Therapy - Non-Rebreather Mask
Oxygen Therapy - Simple Face Mask & Partial NRB
Oxygen Therapy - Venturi Mask
Oxygen Therapy - Humidified
Pulse Oximetry
Suctioning - Upper Airway (soft & rigid)
Ventilators - Automated Transport Ventilator
Assessment Skills / Miscellaneous
Perform Patient Assessments
Obtain Vital Signs Manually or Electronically
Pulse Oximetry
Obtain Temperature
Obtain & Measure Blood Glucose
Assisted Delivery (Childbirth)
Eye Irrigation (Non-Invasive)
Patient Physical Restraint Application

EMT Scope of Practice Continued
Cardiovascular / Circulation
12, 15, or 18 Lead EKG transmission (Mission LifeLine)
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
Use of mechanical CPR Assist Devices
Defibrillation - AED
Hemorrhage Control Products
Hemorrhage Control - Direct Pressure
Hemorrhage Control - Pressure Point
Hemorrhage Control - Tourniquet
Trauma Care
Spinal immobilization - Cervical Collar
Spinal Immobilization - Long Board
Spinal Immobilization - Manual Stabilization
Spinal Immobilization - Seated Patient (KED, etc.)
Spine Motion Restriction
Splinting - Manual
Splinting - Pelvic Wrap / PASG (Only used for Splinting)
Splinting - Rigid
Splinting - Soft
Splinting - Traction
Splinting - Vacuum
Emergency Moves for Endangered Patient
Rapid Extrication of Patient
May Assist Patient with Patient Prescription
Inhaler
Nitroglycerin
Medication Administration Routes
Aerosolized
Auto-Injector or Nasal Spray
Buccal (Cheek or Gum)
Oral (PO)
Sublingual (SL)
Intramuscular (IM)

EMT Scope of Practice Continued

Medication List

Activated Charcoal (EZ-Char, Actidose, Liqui-Char)

Aspirin (ASA)

Epinephrine 0.15mg Auto Injector (Epi-Pen Jr)

Epinephrine 0.3mg Auto Injector (Epi-Pen)

Epinephrine 1:1,000 Draw & Inject (from single dose vial for Anaphylaxis)

MARK I Kit (or alternative): Use of unit dose commercially pre-filled containers or auto injectors for the administration of life saving medications intended for self, peer, or patient rescue after exposure to nerve agents(s)

Naloxone Hydrochloride (Narcan) Auto Injector or Nasal Spray Route

Oral Glucose (Insta-Glucose)

Oxygen

Scope of Practice - All BLS Levels

A South Dakota licensed Physician Medical Director may limit the Scope of Practice or skills for any level of Basic Life Support (BLS) provider, however, the Medical Director may not expand the provider's Scope of Practice.

Provider Level Key	
R	Emergency Medical Responder
E	Emergency Medical Technician
 	NOT AUTHORIZED

NOTE: If a provider code (the single letter code from the table above) is listed for a skill, then that level of EMS Provider is permitted to perform the skill. An * indicates a modification or additional information to the skill for that provider level.

Airway / Ventilation / Oxygenation		
Airway - Mouth-to-Mouth	R	E
Airway - Mouth-to-Barrier	R	E
Airway - Mouth-to-Mask	R	E
Airway - Mouth-to-Nose	R	E
Airway - Mouth-to-Stoma	R	E
Airway - Nasopharyngeal	R	E
Airway - Oropharyngeal	R	E
Airway - Supraglottic Airway Device		E
Airway Obstruction - Manual	R	E
Head-Tilt / Chin-Lift	R	E
Jaw-Thrust	R	E
Jaw-Thrust - Modified	R	E
Bag Valve Mask (BVM)	R	E
CPAP		E
Capnography – End Tidal CO2 Monitoring		E
Chest Seal		E
Cricoid Pressure (Sellick)		E
Manual Airway Maneuvers	R	E
Oxygen Therapy - Tracheal Tube	R	E
Oxygen Therapy - Nasal Cannula	R	E
Oxygen Therapy - Non-Rebreather Mask	R	E
Oxygen Therapy - Simple Face Mask & Partial NRB	R	E
Oxygen Therapy - Venturi Mask		E
Oxygen Therapy - Humidified		E
Pulse Oximetry	R	E
Suctioning – Upper Airway (soft & rigid)	R	E
Ventilators – Automated Transport Ventilator		E

Scope of Practice - All BLS Levels Continued

Assessment Skills / Miscellaneous		
Perform Patient Assessments	R	E
Obtain Vital Signs Manually or Electronically	R	E
Pulse Oximetry	R	E
Obtain Temperature	R	E
Obtain & Measure Blood Glucose	R	E
Assisted Delivery (Childbirth)	R	E
Eye Irrigation	R	E
Patient Physical Restraint Application	R	E
Cardiovascular / Circulation		
12, 15, or 18 Lead EKG transmission (Mission LifeLine)	R	E
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)	R	E
Use of mechanical CPR Assist Devices	R	E
Defibrillation - AED	R	E
Hemorrhage Control Products	R	E
Hemorrhage Control - Direct Pressure	R	E
Hemorrhage Control - Pressure Point	R	E
Hemorrhage Control - Tourniquet	R	E
Trauma Care		
Spinal immobilization - Cervical Collar	R	E
Spinal Immobilization - Long Board	R	E
Spinal Immobilization - Manual Stabilization	R	E
Spinal Immobilization - Seated Patient (KED, etc.)	R	E
Splinting - Manual	R	E
Splinting - Pelvic Wrap / PASG (only for splinting)	R	E
Splinting - Rigid	R	E
Splinting - Soft	R	E
Splinting - Traction	R	E
Splinting - Vacuum	R	E
Eye Irrigation - Non-Invasive	R	E
Emergency Moves for Endangered Patient	R	E
Rapid Extrication of Patient	R	E
May Assist Patient with Patient Prescription		
Inhaler	R	E
Nitroglycerin	R	E
Oral Glucose	R	E

Scope of Practice - All BLS Levels Continued

Medication Administration Routes		
Aerosolized		E
Auto-Injector or Nasal Spray	R	E
Buccal		E
Oral (PO)	R	E
Sublingual (SL)		E
Intramuscular (IM)		E
Medication List		
Activated Charcoal (EZ-Char, Actidose, Liqui-Char)		E
Aspirin (ASA)		E
Epinephrine 0.15mg Auto Injector (Epi-Pen Jr)	R	E
Epinephrine 0.3mg Auto Injector (Epi-Pen)	R	E
Epinephrine 1:1,000 Draw & Inject (from single dose vial for Anaphylaxis)		E
MARK I Kit (or alternative): Use of unit dose commercially pre-filled containers or auto-injector for the administration of life saving medications intended for self, peer, or patient rescue after exposure to nerve agent(s)	R	E
Naloxone Hydrochloride (Narcan) Auto Injector or Nasal Spray Route	R	E
Nitroglycerin (Nitrostat, Tridil) * May assist patient with own medication		E*
Oral Glucose (Insta-Glucose)	R	E
Oxygen	R	E