



North Carolina College of Emergency Physicians
**Standards for the Selection and Performance
Of
EMS Medical Directors**



I. Qualifications for a Medical Director of an EMS System

A. The medical director of an EMS system will:

- 1) Hold current license to practice medicine or osteopathy in North Carolina.
- 2) Have endorsement indicating a working relationship with the local physician community (i.e. Hospital staff, local medical society, or emergency physicians group).
- 3) Preferably hold board certification or be board prepared in Emergency Medicine. When this is not feasible, the medical director must at least hold board certification or be board prepared in a clinical specialty that represents the broad patient base the EMS System serves. Board certification must be obtained within 5 years after successful completion of residency training.
- 4) Maintain BC/BP as mentioned in A-3 above with a board, approved by the American Board of Medical Specialties or the American Osteopathic Association.
- 5) Maintain an active clinical practice.
- 6) Have education or experience in out-of-hospital emergency care.
- 7) Have participated, or possess equivalent experience, in the resuscitation of adult and pediatric patients that suffer acute illness or traumatic injury.
- 8) Possess knowledge of federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding EMS
- 9) Maintain appropriate medical liability coverage.
- 10) Maintain involvement in local, regional, state, or national EMS organizations.
- 11) Be exempt from item A-3 above if the medical director was appointed prior to January 1, 2002. Those directors who do not meet the qualifications in item A-3 must maintain current certification in a standardized adult trauma resuscitation course, a standardized adult cardiac resuscitation course, and a standardized pediatric acute resuscitation course.

B. Requirements that must be maintained.

- 1) Completion of the North Carolina College of Emergency Physician's Medical Director's Course within the first year of appointment.
- 2) In subsequent years, maintain a minimum of 8 hours of Category I continuing medical education (CME) based on EMS related content, annually.

II. Qualifications for a Medical Director of a Model EMS System

A. The medical director of a model EMS system will:

- 1) Maintain all requirements listed in Section I-A of this document.
- 2) Complete the North Carolina College of Emergency Physician's Medical Director's Course within the first year of appointment.
- 3) In subsequent years, maintain a minimum of 20 hours of Category I continuing medical education (CME) based on EMS related content annually.

- 4) Maintain an active presence and level of participation in an EMS practice setting with credentialed EMS personnel.
- 5) Maintain significant activity with state and regional initiatives, such as attending state/regional EMS conferences, participation in the NCCEP EMS Committee, or equivalent.

III. Qualifications for a Medical Director of an EMS Specialty Care Transport Program

A. The medical director of an EMS Specialty Care Transport Program will:

- 1) Maintain all requirements listed in Section II of this document.
- 2) Possess knowledge of federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding EMS specialty care transport programs.
- 3) Maintain involvement in local, regional, state, or national specialty care transport programs.
- 4) Maintain a knowledge and understanding of aircraft capabilities, safety issues, weather minimums, and FAA rules if providing medical direction for an air medical service.
- 5) Maintain a knowledge and understanding of the effects and stresses of altitude on the patient, crew, and equipment if providing medical direction for an air medical service.
- 6) Assist local EMS agencies in disaster planning and appropriate use of specialty care transport services.

IV. Qualifications for an EMS Education Medical Advisor

A. The educational medical advisor will:

- 1) Maintain all requirements listed in Section I of this document.
- 2) Possess familiarity with the design and operation of EMS systems.
- 3) Have experience in EMS education and methodology.
- 4) Maintain dialogue with medical directors regarding protocols and other educational concerns.

V. Qualifications for EMS Assistant Medical Director

A. The EMS Assistant Medical Director will:

- 1) Hold a current license to practice medicine or osteopathy, or be credentialed by the North Carolina Office of EMS as an EMS Physician Assistant or EMS Nurse Practitioner.
- 2) Work under the direction of the EMS system medical director, the model EMS system medical director, or the EMS specialty care transport program medical director.
- 3) Complete the North Carolina College of Emergency Physician's Medical Director's Course within the first year of appointment.
- 4) In subsequent years, maintain a minimum of 8 hours of Category I continuing medical education (CME) based on EMS related content, annually.

VI. Grounds for termination

- A. Any medical director, assistant medical director, or educational medical advisor may be terminated if the requirements in this document are not fulfilled and maintained.