

Program Document No.: 6000.12	Subject: Essential Competencies	Type: Policy
Effective Date: March 1, 1997	Revision Date 08: September 8, 2004	
Approval Date: April 16, 2002	Revision Date 09: February 25, 2005	
Review Date: November	Revision Date 10: November 24, 2005	
Replaces: 6000.11	Revision Date 11: April 20, 2006	
Signature of Program Director:	Signature of Program Document Coordinator:	

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To define the scope of practice for Paramedics and EMD's registered with Emergency Health Services (EHS), Nova Scotia.

2.0 Guiding Philosophy

- 2.1 To ensure safe optimal patient care.

3.0 Definitions

- 3.1 **Essential Competencies:** These are profiles which define the work of paramedic practitioners. The competency levels are cumulative, in that each level includes and exceeds the competencies of the previous level. The current levels in Nova Scotia are Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD), Primary Care Paramedic (PCP), Intermediate Care Paramedic (ICP), Advanced Care Paramedic (ACP) and Critical Care Paramedic (CCP).

4.0 Policy

- 4.1 Paramedics registered with the Province of Nova Scotia must be able to perform the Essential Competencies which correspond with the level of certification (PCP, ICP, ACP, CCP and EMD).
- 4.2 The Essential Competencies define the scope of practice for paramedics registered with the Province of Nova Scotia as PCP, ICP, ACP, CCP or EMD.

5.0 Appendices

- 5.1 Appendix A: Essential Competencies PCP
 5.2 Appendix B: Essential Competencies ICP
 5.3 Appendix C: Essential Competencies ACP
 5.4 Appendix D: Essential Competencies CCP
 5.5 Appendix E: Essential Competencies EMD

6.0 Reports

None

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7.0 References

7.1 2001 National Occupational Competency Profiles (NOCP's) / Paramedic Association of Canada (2000).

8.0 Outcome Measurement

None

9.0 Revisions

9.1 Revision Number: 12

9.2 Sections and sub-sections changed:

- Appendix A - Section 5.0 Subsection 5.1.c changed from a "Y" to an "N" (Suction beyond oropharynx)
- Appendix A - Section 5.0 Subsection 5.5.d changed from a "Y" to an "N" (Conduct peripheral intravenous IV cannulation)