



Paper No.

CGG-17-219

Report to: **CLINICAL GOVERNANCE GROUP**

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Report Title:	Scope of Practice – Pre Registration Ambulance Clinician
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Purpose of Report

Approval of Scope of Practice, Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician

Executive Summary

The Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician role is applicable to staff who are employed by EMAS but are awaiting Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) registration. The scope will cover the period from the completion of an approved HCPC Paramedic Programme/Award and registration with the HCPC. This period will be time limited for 12 weeks.

Impact:

Quality

- To recognise the pre-registration period and clearly define the clinical role and associated competencies of a Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician whilst awaiting HCPC registration
- To provide an opportunity for Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinicians to positively contribute to patient care within a defined scope of practice.

Financial Position

- To appropriately remunerate Pre Registration Ambulance Clinicians in accordance with their pre-registration scope of practice
- To enable a Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician to effectively use their skills within the operational setting, within their scope of practice.

<p>Operational Performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a clinical response in accordance with a defined scope of practice. To provide a defined period in which the pre-registration scope of practice is authorised.
<p>Workforce including Equality Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote inclusion and equality for staff, recognising pre-registration development
<p>Reputation of the Trust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a clear process and scope during the pre-registration period, promoting clarity in relation to deployment and clinical scope of practice.
<p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">

State in the box below the committees or groups which this report has already been presented to:

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Risk Management:

Details of any new risk(s) identified which may result from the recommended decision or action:	Risk Assessment		
	Consequence (A)	Likelihood (B)	Score (A x B)
Details of mitigation of identified risk(s):			

Recommendation(s)

<p>That the Clinical Governance Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> APPROVES the Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician Scope of Practice.
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This scope of practice only applies to **Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinicians** who have completed a Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) Approved Paramedic Programme but are awaiting HCPC registration. Only Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinicians who have successfully achieved pass grades in all University/Education Provider modules/courses on their Paramedic programme are eligible for this scope.

Upon confirmation of HCPC registration as a Paramedic, the staff member must work to the Newly Qualified Paramedic (NQP) scope of practice.

Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician Scope of Practice

Introduction

This scope of practice defines the working role of the Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician and should be read in conjunction with the Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician Job Description. It outlines the general work role and defines the specific responsibilities associated with the role.

This document also defines the boundaries of practice which the Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician must always operate within.

Important: Professional Reference Point

The Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician has been aligned to Descriptor F of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care (PHEM) Pre-Hospital Provider Competencies (The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, 2015). Any East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) competency in addition to the Level F skillset is clearly identified in this scope.

Descriptor F, Non registered health care professional

Work Role

The Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician may work with a Qualified Ambulance Technician, Paramedic (including Newly Qualified Paramedic – NQP) or Emergency Care Practitioner. When working with a Registered Paramedic the Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician will operate in a supportive role to the Registered Paramedic who is designated as the senior clinician and clinical lead.

The Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician will be able to respond to the full range of emergency, urgent and routine calls.

Before driving any EMAS Trust vehicle the Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician must have completed and passed the Futurequals Level 3 Certificate in Emergency Ambulance Driving and hold a C1 category on their driving licence.

Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician Skillset

The Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician must:

- Work within the skillset of Descriptor F (Pre-Hospital Provider Competencies, The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care)
- Work within the contemporary clinical guidelines provided by the Joint Royal Colleges Ambulance Liaison Committee (JRCALC), unless other stipulated by EMAS
- Adhere to EMAS policies and procedures

Additionally, EMAS approve the use of the following competencies:

- Manual defibrillation using a Lifepak 15
- Oxygen delivery via a mechanical ventilator, VR1
- Use of traction device (Kendrick traction splint)
- Management of a normal delivery in accordance with JRCALC Guidelines (Obstetrics)
- Management of the common complication of delivery in accordance with JRCALC Guidelines (Obstetrics)
- Knowledge of triage parameters for children of different ages in accordance with JRCALC Guidelines and the Paediatric Early Warning Score
- Assessment of mental capacity in accordance with the Mental Capacity Act
- Application of the current Mental Capacity Act
- Application of EMAS burns dressings
- Identification of obvious dislocation in musculoskeletal injuries
- Recognition and application of basic treatment for soft tissue injuries
- Use appropriate analgesia (self-administered entonox gas, oral paracetamol, oral ibuprofen in accordance with JRCALC Guidelines)
- Intermediate life support in cardiac arrest
- Recognition of peri-arrest (requesting Paramedical assistance)
- Recognition of palpitation/cardiac arrhythmia (seeking senior clinician advice)
- Recognition of a cardiac tamponade

Key Accountabilities

- Practice within the legal and ethical boundaries of their work role
- Practice in a non-discriminatory manner
- Maintain confidentiality and obtain informed consent
- Exercise a duty of care
- Know and understand the professional and personal scope of their practice and when to seek assistance or guidance from senior clinical staff.
- Maintain their level of knowledge and their fitness to practice
- Reflect on their performance and use reflection to improve their practice.
- Undertake development in order to maintain knowledge and skills in line with developments and changes to the role

Working Relationships

The Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician must:

- Work effectively as part of a multi-disciplinary team under the direction of other more senior clinical staff.
- Work effectively with other staff including Paramedics, Ambulance Technicians, Trainee Technicians, ECA's and Paramedics when responding to incidents.
- Work in collaboration with other Health Care Professionals to act in the best interests of patient care.
- Understand the need for effective communication throughout the care of the patient. This may be with service users, patients, relatives, carers and bystanders.

Identification of basic health and social needs

The Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician must:

- Undertake immediate scene survey and a dynamic risk assessment in order to establish the presence of hazards
- When working with a senior clinician such as a Registered Paramedic always ensure they are informed of any changes to the patient's condition
- When working with another Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician or Ambulance Technician, request additional advice or support from a senior clinician. This may be via the Clinical Assessment Team as and when required.
- Undertake an adult and/or child safeguarding referral in accordance with the relevant EMAS policies.

Equipment and Resources

The Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician must:

- Undertake daily serviceability checks on:
 - vehicles
 - all clinical equipment including those used by more senior clinicians
 - communication equipment
- Use communication / data equipment to input, store, retrieve and transmit information
- Ensure the safe and legal storage of all equipment and medical gases
- Use equipment and resources in a way which minimises waste and impact upon the environment
- In accordance with Trust policies and procedures, ensure that own personal practices in infection prevention and control meet the requirements of the hygiene code and health & safety at work; this will include cleaning of ambulance vehicles and equipment, maintaining cleanliness of vehicles and equipment, own personal hygiene and promotion of good infection prevention and control standards for the protection of self, colleagues and patients from healthcare acquired infections
- Ensure vehicles and equipment meet agreed serviceability, ensuring that they are kept in a state of cleanliness and any defects are recorded and reported for action to be taken
- Be able to store and dispose of hazardous substances such as clinical waste and sharps in line with Trust policy and procedures.
- Identify equipment shortage and restock as required.

- Drive a range of ambulance vehicles in accordance with road traffic law and Trust policy and procedures in order to promote patients condition and prevent deterioration and to, minimise vehicle wear and tear
- Use equipment in line with manufacturers guidelines and Trust procedures to transfer and transport patients safely and in a manner which minimises any negative impact upon their condition and promotes improvement in their condition
- Be able to apply immobilisation devices in patients presenting with suspected traumatic injuries or in cases where use the use of these devices will benefit patient care

Supporting and providing patient care

The Pre-Registration Paramedic must:

- Be competent in resuscitation practice (intermediate life support)
 - Be able to use simple adjuncts in order to maintain a patient's airway. This will include the use of a bag-valve-mask and oropharyngeal airway (OPA), Nasopharyngeal airway (NPA) and Supraglottic Airway Devices (SAD) [iGel]
 - Undertake laryngoscopy to enable clearance of foreign bodies only
 - Be able to use both an automated external defibrillation (AED) and a manual external defibrillation device as part of the resuscitation effort in cardiac arrest
 - Support and assist senior clinical staff in the preparation and use of patient care equipment and techniques.
 - Support senior clinical staff in the preparation and administration of drugs in line with Trust policy and procedure
 - Be able to obtain a patient history and perform a primary and secondary patient assessment
 - Assessment and documentation of a patient's capacity to consent to treatment.
 - Be able to recognise a range of clinical conditions and injuries
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- Administer the appropriate treatment including the use of the following drugs(as per JRCALC Guidelines) :
 - Oxygen
 - Entonox
 - Aspirin
 - Hypostop.
 - Glucagon IM
 - Adrenaline 1:1000 IM
 - Naloxone IM and IN
 - Salbutamol
 - GTN
 - Paracetamol
 - Ibuprofen
 - Ipratropium Bromide
 - Be able to record the following observations and recognise and act upon abnormal measurements:
 - Manual and automated blood pressure
 - SPO2 measurements
 - ETCO2 measurements
 - Temperature
 - Blood glucose

- Be able to undertake cardiac monitoring and a 12 lead Electrocardiograph (ECG) and be able to recognise abnormalities and a range of rhythms including Ventricular Fibrillation (VF), ventricular tachycardia (VT), Pulseless Electrical Activity (PEA), Asystole,
- Be able to perform a FAST test in order to identify stroke and access the local stroke pathway
- Be able to recognise patients who are suitable to be managed using alternatives to the Emergency Department by using EMAS clinical guidelines such as the Paramedic Pathfinder tool
- Follow the use of EMAS clinical guidance and the Paramedic Pathfinder tool and refer suitable patients through to alternative care providers, following a clinician to clinician handover. This can be undertaken without the involvement of the Clinical Assessment Team
- Be able to recognise death and manage the bereavement with relatives
- Be able to recognise time critical patients and where appropriate when working with an ECA, Ambulance Technician/Trainee Technician recognise when to seek senior clinical advice via the Clinical Assessment Team
- Be able to use triage systems such as the Paramedic Pathfinder and National Early Warning Scoring to identify urgency and mode of transport
- Seek the assistance of the Clinical Assessment Team if they require additional clinical support

Boundaries of Practice

The Pre-Registration Paramedic must:

- Make use of the EMAS Pathfinder triage Tool, NEW scoring and undertake a 'clinician to clinician' handover when undertaking a referral to an ED alternative, i.e. GP, UCC, MIU, etc.
- Seek guidance from a senior clinician or the Clinical Assessment Team if a patient refuses treatment or transport to hospital and does not have capacity to do so
- Undertake resuscitation attempts in alignment with the Diagnosis of Death Procedure in patients presenting in cardiac arrest.
- **The Paramedic or Registered Nurse will always be the clinical lead when working with a Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician.**
- Whilst within their pre-registration period and until evidence of their registration is available, a Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician will work with the following restrictions as detailed below:
 - Only drugs listed on this document may be administered prior to HCPC registration
 - Intubation is not allowed prior to HCPC registration
 - No intravenous drug administration is permitted
 - Cannulation is not allowed unless under the direct supervision of a Registered Paramedic

Acknowledgement of Scope

Name:

I have received, read and understood the Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician Scope of Practice

Signature:..... Date:.....

Original Copy, Recruitment File

Copy to Pre-Registration Ambulance Clinician