

Transition Course Gap Analysis: EMT-P to Paramedic

Fisdap's Transition Course is designed to transition EMS providers from the National Standard Curriculum (NSC) to the National Education Standards (NES) as part of the EMS Education Agenda for the Future.

The content the Transition Course is based on the Gap Analysis created by the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO). Their job was to determine at a national level what the "gap" of knowledge was between the "old" National Standard Curriculum and the "new" National Education Standards. The key information outlined in the Gap Analysis is the content presented in the Transition Course, which also aligns with the 2010 American Heart Association Guidelines.

Please keep in mind that the course is meant to be universal for all EMS providers at a national level, and may or may not follow your state or local guidelines. However, it does meet the gap of knowledge that needs to be covered in order for EMS providers to transition.

Airway Management

Respiration and Oxygenation	Airway anatomy; airway assessment; techniques of assuring an open airway; age-related variation in airway anatomy; anatomy of the respiratory system; physiology of respiration; pathophysiology of respiration; assessment of respiratory status; respiratory management; supplemental oxygen therapy; age-related respiratory variation; assessment of ventilation status; oxygenation; ventilation management (adequate, inadequate, apneic); differentiating normal from positive pressure ventilation; age-related ventilation variation	Scott Tomek, MA, EMT-P
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Anatomy and Physiology

Anatomy & Physiology	Review--greater depth and breadth in cardiovascular, respiratory, and neurological systems	David Hildebrandt, RN, CFRN, NREMT-P
		Charles Lick, MD
		Scott Tomek, MA, EMT-P

EMS Operations

Air Medical	Risks, needs, advantages of air transport	Seth Witthuhn, RN, BSN, NREMT-P
Hazardous Materials Awareness	Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) First Responder Awareness Level	Jeff Lanenberg, EMT-P
Incident Management	Incident management system	
Mass Casualty Incidents Due to Terrorism and Disaster	Roles and responsibilities at the scene	
Principles of Safely Operating a Ground Ambulance	Safety issues during transport	

Medicine		
Cardiovascular	Anatomy; physiology; pathophysiology; assessment; management; acute coronary syndrome; hypertensive emergencies; cardiogenic shock; aspirin administration Acute coronary syndrome, 12-lead ECG interpretation, updated info on heart failure	David Hildebrandt, RN, CFRN, NREMT-P
		Mike Bowen, NREMT-P & Greg Sperl
Endocrine Disorders	Diabetes update	Steve Hagstrom, BA, NREMT-P
Infectious Disease	Updated information on methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV); cleaning and disinfecting ambulance equipment; decontaminating ambulance	Susan Long, MA, NREMT-P
Overview	New terminology, ACLS update, specialty care such as STEMI and stroke	Charles Lick, MD
Psychiatric	Excited delirium; medical/legal considerations; use of medical restraint	Paul Satterlee, MD

Pathophysiology		
Pathophysiology	Review--greater depth and breadth in cardiovascular, respiratory, and neurological systems	David Hildebrandt, RN, CFRN, NREMT-P

Patient Assessment		
Waveform Capnography	New terminology, history taking, monitoring devices including waveform capnography, chemistry analysis; arterial blood gas interpretation	Daryl Doering, MS, Paramedic, FF2
IV Pumps		Roger Skic, EMT-P, EMT-P
Venous Ports		
Chemistry Analysis		

Pharmacology		
Medication Administration	Medication review related to the state scope of practice; accessing indwelling catheters and implanted ports, intraosseous in all patients, intranasal and nasogastric administration of medications, thrombolytics	David Page, MS, NREMT-P

Preparatory		
Documentation	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)	Matthew Hill, BS, CCEMT-P
EMS Systems	Patient safety; high risk activities; how errors happen; preventing errors, including medication administration safety (—rights of drug administration)	David Page, MS, NREMT-P
		Judith Napier, RN, BSN, MSN
Medical/Legal/Ethics	Morals, ethics and ethical conflicts	Matthew Hill, BS, CCEMT-P

Shock and Resuscitation

Shock	General shock; reasons for shock; mechanism of shock	David Page, MS, NREMT-P
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Trauma

Head, Facial, Neck, and Spine	Use of Morgan® lens	David Page, MS, NREMT-P
Chest	Monitoring and management of a chest tube	Roger Skic, EMT-P
General	Increased emphasis on pathophysiology plus commotio cordis, cauda equine syndromes, high pressure injection, blast injuries; critical thinking skills in trauma	Scott Bentz, MD
		David Page, MS, NREMT-P
		Brad Wright, MS, NREMT-P
Overview	Become familiar with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Field Triage Decision Scheme: The National Trauma Triage Protocol Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Field Triage Decision Scheme: The National Trauma Triage Protocol and trauma scoring	David Page, MS, NREMT-P