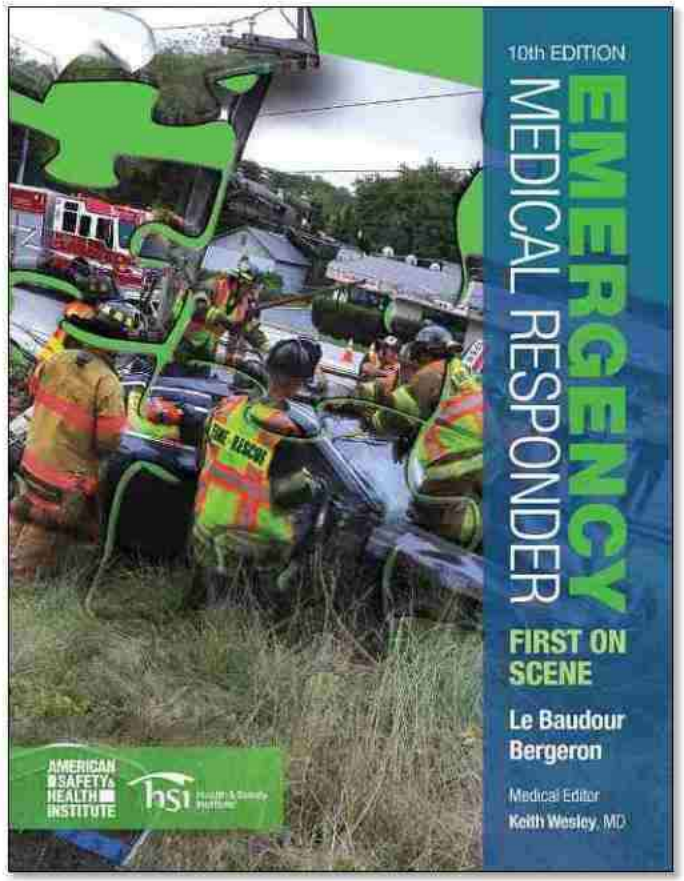
Emergency Medical Responder

First on Scene

TENTH EDITION



CHAPTER 1

Introduction to EMS Systems

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Objectives

1. Define the following terms:
   a. Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT)
   b. Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)
   c. Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT)
   d. Emergency care
   e. Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD)
   f. Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)

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Objectives

1. Define the following terms:
   g. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system
   h. Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
   i. Medical direction
   j. Medical Director
   k. National EMS Education Standards
   l. Off-line medical direction
   m. On-line medical direction

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Objectives

1. Define the following terms:
   n. Paramedic
   o. Protocols
   p. Public health system
   q. Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP)
   r. Research

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Objectives

1. Define the following terms:
   s. Scope of practice
   t. Scope of Practice Model
   u. Specialty hospital
   v. Standing order

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Objectives

2. Explain the role of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and its relationship to EMS.
3. Explain the role that the National EMS Education Standards and the National Scope of Practice Model play in shaping EMS around the country.
4. Differentiate the various EMS models in practice around the United States.

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Objectives

5. Differentiate the various components of an EMS system and describe the function of each.
6. Explain the role that state EMS offices, medical oversight, and local credentialing play in an EMS system.
7. Differentiate the four levels of EMS provider.

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Objectives

8. Explain the various methods used to access the EMS system.
9. Explain the various types of medical direction and how the Emergency Medical Responder might interact with each.

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Objectives

10. Differentiate the roles and responsibilities of the Emergency Medical Responder from other EMS providers.
11. Describe the characteristics of professionalism as they relate to the EMS provider.

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Objectives

12. Explain the role of the Emergency Medical Responder with regards to Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI).
13. Explain how state/region specific statutes and regulations affect how an Emergency Medical Responder might function.

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14. Explain the role of public health systems and their relationship to EMS, disease surveillance, and injury prevention.
15. Explain the role that Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT) play and how they integrate with EMS systems.

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Objectives

16. Explain the role that research plays in EMS and the ways that an Emergency Medical Responder might identify and support research.
17. Participate in simple research activities facilitated by the instructor.
18. Value the importance of accepting and upholding the responsibilities of an Emergency Medical Responder.

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Objectives

19. Support the rationale for always maintaining a high degree of professionalism when performing the duties of an Emergency Medical Responder.
20. Value the importance of providing the best possible care for all patients regardless of cultural, gender, age, or socioeconomic status.

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Objectives

21. Model a desire for Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) both personally and professionally.
22. Value the importance of quality research and its connection to good patient care.

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Topics

The EMS System

The Emergency Medical Responder

The Role of the Public Health System

Disaster Assistance

The Role of Research in EMS

Advances in Technology

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THE EMS SYSTEM

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The EMS System

- Timeline of formal system for responding to emergencies
- American Civil War "corpsmen" trained to provide care for immediate life threats (bleeding).

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TABLE 1.1 | EMS Time Line

1790s	Napoleon's chief physician, Dominique Jean Larrey, develops a system designed to triage and transport the injured soldiers from the battlefield to established aid stations.
1805–1815	Dominique Jean Larrey formed the Ambulance Volante (flying ambulance). It consisted of a covered horse-drawn cart designed to bring medical care closer to the injured on the battlefields of Europe.
1861–1865	Clara Barton coordinates the care of sick and injured soldiers during the American Civil War.
1869	New York City Health Department Ambulance Service begins operation out of what was then known as the Free Hospital of New York, now Bellevue Hospital.
1915	First recorded air medical transport occurs during the retreat of the Serbian army from Albania.
1928	The concept of "on-scene care" is first initiated, when Julian Stanley Wise started the Roanoke Life Saving and First Aid Crew in Roanoke, Virginia.
1950–1973	The first use of helicopters to evacuate injured soldiers and deliver them to waiting field hospitals occurs in the Korean and Vietnam wars.
1966	The report entitled "Accidental Death and Disability: The Neglected Disease of Modern Society," commonly referred to as the "White Paper," is published. The study concludes that many of the deaths occurring every day were unnecessary and could be prevented through better prehospital treatments. The report resulted in Congress's passing the National Highway Safety Act.

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TABLE 1.1 | EMS Time Line	
1973	Congress passes the Emergency Medical Services Act, which provides funding for a series of projects related to trauma care.
1988	The National Highway Transportation and Safety Administration (NHTSA) defines elements necessary for all EMS systems.
1990	The Trauma Care Systems and Development Act encourages development of improved trauma systems.
1995	An update to the EMT Basic and First Responder National Standard Curricula is released.
1996	The EMS Agenda for the Future outlines the most important directions for the future of EMS development.
1998	A recent update to the EMT Paramedic National Standard Curricula is released.
1999	The most recent update to the EMT Intermediate National Standard Curricula is released.
2000	NHTSA publishes the EMS Education Agenda for the Future—A Systems Approach.
2005	NHTSA publishes the National EMS Core Content.
2007	NHTSA publishes the National EMS Scope of Practice Model, redefining the four levels of EMS certification and licensure.
2009	NHTSA publishes the new EMS Education Standards.

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The EMS System

- Injured transported by horse-drawn carriage
  - § First formal ambulance system in United States
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system
  - § Chain of human resources and services linked together to provide continuous emergency care

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Figure 1.1 Examples of early ambulances used to transport ill and injured patients. (© *AP Images*)



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The EMS System

- NHTSA components of EMS system
  - § Regulation and policy
  - § Resource management
  - § Human resources and training
  - § Transportation
  - § Facilities
  - § Communications

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The EMS System

- NHTSA components of EMS system
  - § Public information and education
  - § Medical direction
  - § Trauma systems
  - § Evaluation

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The EMS System

- Scope of practice model
  - § National model defining scope of care for all levels of EMS training
- National EMS education standards
  - § Education and training standards developed by NHTSA for all levels of EMS training

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TABLE 1.2 | Levels of EMS Education

Emergency Medical Responder (EMR). This level of EMS education and training is designed specifically for the person who is often first to arrive at the scene. Many police officers, firefighters, industrial workers, and other public service providers are trained as Emergency Medical Responders. This training emphasizes scene safety and how to provide immediate care for life-threatening injuries and illnesses as well as how to assist ambulance personnel when they arrive.

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). In most areas of the United States, an EMT is considered the minimum level of education and certification for ambulance personnel. The training emphasizes assessment, care, and transportation of the ill or injured patient. The EMT may also assist with the administration of certain common medications. (This was previously called the *EMT-Basic* level of training.)

Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT). An Advanced EMT is a basic-level EMT who has received additional education and training in specific areas, allowing a minimal level of advanced life support. Some of the additional skills an Advanced EMT may be able to perform are starting IV (intravenous) lines, inserting certain advanced airways, and administering certain medications. (This was previously called the *EMT-Intermediate* level of training.)

Paramedic. Paramedics are trained to perform what is commonly referred to as advanced life support care, such as inserting advanced airways and starting IV lines. They also administer a large list of medications, interpret electrocardiograms, monitor cardiac rhythms, and perform cardiac defibrillation. (This was previously called the *EMT-Paramedic* level of training.)

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The EMS System

- Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
  - § Member of EMS system trained in first aid care who helps EMTs at emergency scene

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The EMS System

- EMS Models
  - § Fire-based
    - Services and infrastructure operated by local fire department or consortium
  - § Third-service
    - Operated by non-fire government or privately owned ambulance services
  - § Hospital-based
    - Operated by large hospital or group of hospitals

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The EMS System

- Scope of Practice
  - § Identifies duties and skills EMS provider is legally allowed to perform
  - § Defined by state and/or regional statutes and regulations
  - § Defines related licensing, credentialing, and certification

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The EMS System

- Activating the EMS System
  - § 911 call to emergency dispatcher who sends responders
  - § Caller may need to dial seven-digit number for ambulance, fire, police, or rescue personnel.
  - § Enhanced 911

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1.1.1 A person becomes injured in a vehicle collision.



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1.1.2 A witness to the incident calls 911.



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The EMS System

- Activating the EMS System
  - § 911 calls automatically directed to public safety answering point (PSAP)
  - § Emergency Medical Dispatchers (EMDs) receive special training and provide prearrival instructions to callers.

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1.1.3 The Emergency Medical Dispatcher sends the appropriate resources.



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1.1.4 Emergency Medical Responders arrive to assist the patient.



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The EMS System

- Activating the EMS System
  - § Resources dispatched
  - § EMS personnel provide care at scene and during transport.
  - § Deliver patient to medical facility

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1.1.5 EMTs continue care and transport the patient to the hospital.



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1.1.6 Once at the hospital, care is transferred to the emergency department personnel.



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The EMS System

- In-Hospital Care System
  - § Most patients taken to hospital emergency department
  - § Patient transferred to appropriate in-hospital resources
  - § Specialty hospital

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The EMS System

- Medical Direction
  - § EMS Medical Director
    - Assumes responsibility for direction and oversight of all patient care
  - § EMRs act as designated agents of Medical Director.

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The EMS System

- Medical Direction
  - § Off-line medical direction
    - Standing orders or protocols
  - § On-line medical direction
    - Direct contact through phone or radio

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Think About It

- The EMS System
  - § Has evolved over time
  - § Includes ten key components
- Scope of Practice Model
- NHTSA developed the National EMS Education Standards to which EMS training is taught.

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THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDER

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The Emergency Medical Responder

- EMRs are trained to:
  - § Access and assess the patient
  - § Provide emergency care
  - § Move patients without causing further injury

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1.2.1 Emergency Medical Responders working as part of a search-and-rescue team.



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1.2.2 Emergency Medical Responders serving as lifeguards at a recreational area.



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1.2.3 Many law enforcement personnel receive Emergency Medical Responder training.



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1.2.4 Emergency Medical Responders also serve on industrial Medical Emergency Response Teams.



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1.2.5 Emergency Medical Responders are often used to support large events such as NASCAR.



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1.2.6 Emergency Medical Responders also serve on specialized response teams such as hazmat and rescue teams.



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The Emergency Medical Responder

- Roles and Responsibilities
  - § Primary concern is personal safety.
  - § Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
    - Disposable protective gloves
    - Barrier devices
    - Protective eye wear
    - Special face masks
    - Gowns or aprons

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The Emergency Medical Responder

- Patient-related duties
  - § Size-up scene
  - § Determine chief complaint
  - § Lift, move, or reposition patient
  - § Transfer patient and patient information
  - § Protect patient's privacy
  - § Maintain confidentiality
  - § Be patient's advocate

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1.3.1 One of the duties of an Emergency Medical Responder is to safely gain access to the patient.



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1.3.2 The Emergency Medical Responders must act quickly to find out what is wrong with the patient.



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1.3.3 Emergency Medical Responders must learn to safely lift and move patients when necessary.



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1.3.4 The Emergency Medical Responder will often assist EMTs and other transport personnel at the scene of an emergency.



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The Emergency Medical Responder

- Traits
  - § Keep emergency care skills sharp and current.
  - § Attend continuing education and regularly practice skills.
  - § Keep uniform neat and clean.
  - § Approach patient with respect.
  - § Be willing to deal with people.

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The Emergency Medical Responder

- Traits
  - § Be respectful and accepting of patient's rights.
  - § Be honest and realistic but tactful.
  - § Be professional and compassionate.
  - § Maintain focus on patient.
  - § Resolve stressful calls with communication.

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Figure 1.2 Frequent training promotes a high standard of care for your patients.



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The Emergency Medical Responder

- Equipment, Tools, and Supplies
  - § Blood pressure cuff, stethoscope, oxygen-delivery systems, suctioning equipment
  - § Specialized kits for trauma and medical emergencies and childbirth

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The Emergency Medical Responder

- Continuous Quality Improvement
  - § Continuous improvement in quality of product or service being delivered.
  - § EMS product is patient care.
  - § Every component within a system can be improved.
  - § Submit accurate, complete patient care reports.

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Think About It

- EMRs have received training and work in a variety of fields.
- EMRs are key to providing initial care at the scene of an emergency.
- EMRs are also responsible for personal safety, professional traits, and participation in continuous quality improvement (CQI).

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THE ROLE OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM

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The Role of the Public Health System

- Ensure quality of life by:
  - § Monitoring health of population
  - § Providing health care
  - § Educating community about disease and injury prevention
  - § Advancing population-based health programs and policies

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Think About It

- The public health system works to ensure health care quality.
- How can the public health system be improved?
- What is the role of the EMR in the overall public health system?

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DISASTER ASSISTANCE

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Disaster Assistance

- Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT)
  - § Specialized teams designed to provide medical care following disaster
  - § Deployed on moment's notice if disaster strikes in United States

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Think About It

- DMATs are important to lessening the devastation of a national disaster.
- DMAT members are highly experienced and trained EMRs who integrate with local EMS systems.
- After Hurricane Katrina, what did the EMS system and DMATs do well?
  - § What could they improve?

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THE ROLE OF RESEARCH IN EMS

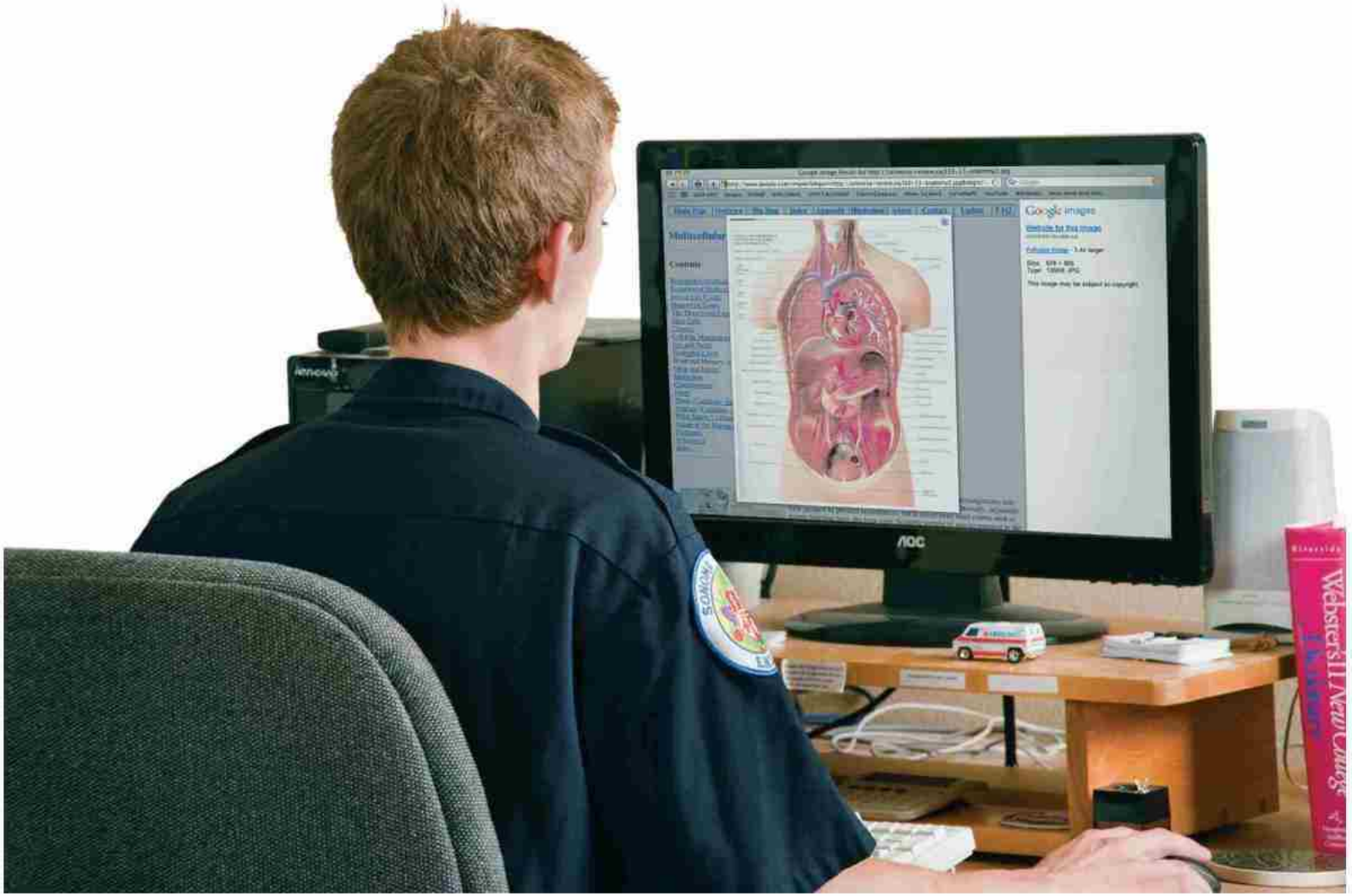
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The Role of Research in EMS

- Research is systematic investigation to establish facts.
- Organizations gather and verify research that defines how EMS providers practice emergency care.

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Figure 1.3 Staying current with the latest research is an important aspect of being a good Emergency Medical Responder.



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Think About It

- How has research influenced emergency care?
- Why is it important for treatment guidelines, based on research, to be uniform across the nation?
- How can the application of research and its results be improved?

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ADVANCES IN TECHNOLOGY

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Advances in Technology

- GPS installation
  - § Allows easy navigation to location of emergency, reducing response time
  - § Ability to track location of emergency vehicles

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Figure 1.4 A typical device with GPS capability installed in an emergency vehicle.



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Think About It

- GPS is a form of advanced technology that has made EMS response more efficient.
- How can EMRs work effectively during a disaster when GPS is unavailable?

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SUMMARY

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Summary

- Four Levels of EMS Training
  - § Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
  - § Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
  - § Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT)
  - § Paramedic

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Summary

- EMS personnel dispatched to scene of emergency when dispatcher receives emergency call
- Every EMS system required to designate medical director
- Emergency Medical Responder's primary responsibility is personal safety.

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Summary

- EMR's Main Duties
  - § Scene safety
  - § Gaining access to patient
  - § Assessing patient
    - Providing emergency care

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Summary

- EMR's Main Duties
  - § Moving patients
    - Transferring care to more highly trained personnel
  - § Protecting patient's privacy
  - § Being patient's advocate

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Summary

- Emergency Medical Responders
  - § Have a duty to maintain skills
  - § Keep up-to-date with the latest trends and research
  - § Maintain a professional demeanor at all times

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Summary

- Emergency Medical Responders
  - § Important part in quality of system
  - § May participate in specific duties related to CQI process
  - § Have a duty to stay informed about latest research findings

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REVIEW QUESTIONS

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Review Questions

1. Describe the various EMS models.
2. Differentiate the four levels of EMS provider.
3. Differentiate between off-line medical direction and on-line medical direction.
4. Differentiate the various components of an EMS system and describe the function of each.

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Review Questions

5. Explain how state/region specific statutes and regulations affect how an Emergency Medical Responder might function.
6. Describe the characteristics of professionalism as they relate to the EMS provider.

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Review Questions

7. Explain the role of the Emergency Medical Responder with regards to continuous quality improvement (CQI).
8. Explain the role of public health systems and their relationship to EMS, disease surveillance, and injury prevention.

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Review Questions

9. Explain the role that Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT) play and how they integrate with EMS systems.
10. Explain the role that research plays in EMS and the ways that an Emergency Medical Responder might identify and support research.

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