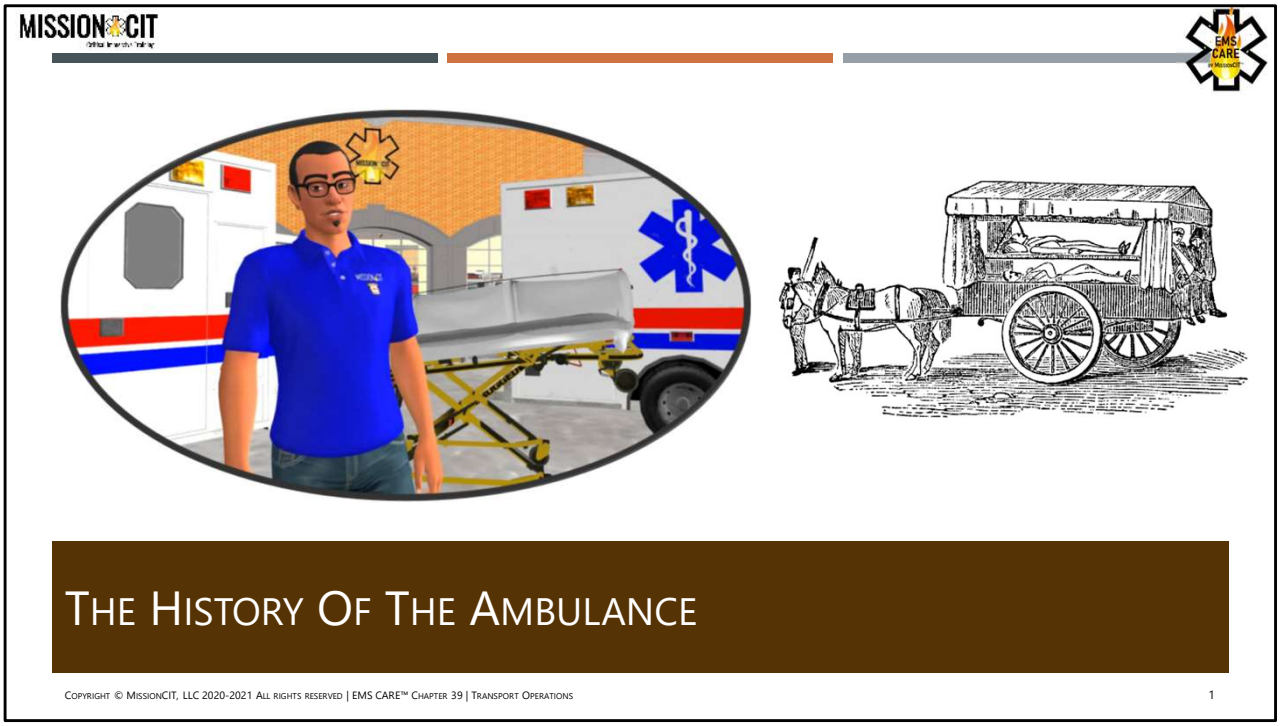


Thank you Missah.

Modern EMS is a highly developed system, from the way calls for aid are received and dispatched, to the advanced medical care provided on scene by the EMS crew. This is followed by rapid transport either by ground or air ambulance to an appropriate hospital, equipped to care for the sick or injured individual.

Ambulances, now are a common sight the world over, with flashing lights and blaring sirens – rushing to render aid to the sick and injured. However, it has not always

been this way.

Where and when did they get their start? How did we reach such a sophisticated system for caring for our sick and injured? Let's find out in this lesson on the history of the ambulance.

The History Of The Ambulance | During Ancient Times

- Types of ambulances during ancient times
  - ✓ Hammocks
  - ✓ Chariots
  - ✓ Wagon with hammocks – 900 A.D.
  - ✓ Innovative horse litter – 1100 A.D.



Modern Day Hammock Ambulance



City Ambulance circa 1890

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Throughout history, men devised methods to transport the ill and injured. Hammocks were readily available and used for centuries.

During the time of the Romans and Greeks, chariots served as ambulances.

In 900 A.D., attendants used a wagon with hammocks in it which lacked effective brakes.

In 1100 A.D., the Normans arrived in England with the innovative horse litter. These units consisted of two horses with special harnesses that suspended a bed

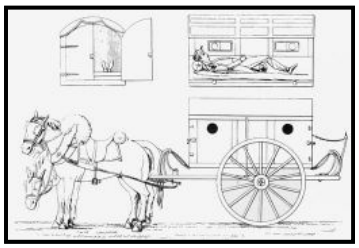
between them.

The History Of The Ambulance | Birth Of The Modern Ambulance

- Flying ambulances
  - ✓ Designed by Dominique Jean Larrey
  - ✓ In the late 1700's
  - ✓ First lightweight, two-wheeled wagon



Dominique Jean Larrey



Larrey's Flying Ambulance

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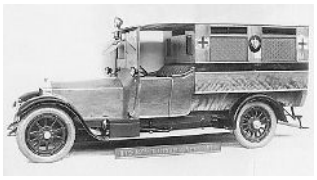
Credit for the modern ambulance goes to Dr. Dominique Jean Larrey, a French surgeon in Napolean Bonaparte's Grand Armée. While working close to the battlefields, he saw first-hand the need for rapid application of medical care in the late 1700's.

To address this Dr. Larrey set about developing a new lightweight two-wheeled wagon, which could move rapidly across the battlefield to quickly remove soldiers and deliver them to the field hospital, or bring the surgeons to the battlefield to provide immediate care. These wagons became known as "flying ambulances"

because they stayed with the "flying artillery" on the battlefield.

The History Of The Ambulance | Motorized Ambulance

- The first motorized ambulance – 1899
  - ✓ Top speed of sixteen miles per hour
  - ✓ Ambulances had two horsepower electrical engines – Travel twenty to thirty miles
- Rapid advancements – 1950s to 1960s
  - ✓ Basic patient care while being transported to a hospital



World War I Troop Ambulance



1948 1973
Cadillac Miller Meteor Ambulances

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Eventually, the first motorized ambulance appeared in 1899; it was made in Chicago. The ambulance had a top speed of sixteen miles per hour.

These ambulances had two horsepower electrical engines, with the capability of traveling as far as twenty to thirty miles. The doctor in the back of the vehicle could communicate with the driver by a speaking tube. These came equipped with electric lights, both inside and outside, with a ten candlepower intensity.

Rapid advancements took place in the late 1950s to 1960s, allowing for basic patient care by an attendant while being transported to a hospital.

Gradually physicians came to realize that treatment at the scene could make a difference between life and death, which led to the development of the modern ambulance.

Types and Components Of An Ambulance

- Components of the modern ambulance
  - ✓ A driver's compartment
  - ✓ A patient compartment
  - ✓ Equipment and supplies
  - ✓ Two-way radio communication
  - ✓ Design and construction that ensure maximum safety and comfort



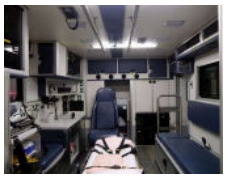
Type I



Type II



Type III



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Broadly speaking, we as EMS personnel, utilize an ambulance as a vehicle for treating and transporting patients who need emergency medical care to a hospital.

There are three types of ambulances in the United States:
Type One Ambulances are a small truck with a modular compartment.
Type Two Ambulances are a van body with a raised roof, and
Type Three Ambulances are a van chassis with a modular

compartment.

The key components of the modern ambulance are a driver's compartment and a patient compartment big enough for two EMTs, with two supine patients. Plus the equipment and supplies to provide emergency medical care at the scene, and during transport, and a two-way radio communication. The design and construction of the ambulance are such that it must ensure maximum safety, and comfort of the patient.

With this, we come to the end of this lesson. And Missah will take you through the next.