

SCOPE OF PRACTICE



PARAMEDIC

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INTRODUCTION

This scope of practice defines the working role of the paramedic in East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust (EEAST). It outlines the general work role and defines the specific responsibilities associated with the job. The scope of practice also defines the boundaries of practice within which the paramedic must always operate. Where you believe you have additional evidenced competencies to extend your scope beyond this document (these must be approved by EEAST), please contact your Clinical General Manager.

The paramedic will attend cases of sudden illness or injury and respond to urgent, special and planned patient transfer requests. The aim is to allow the paramedic to provide high quality and effective clinical and personal care and the assessment, treatment and transportation of patients, selecting and applying appropriate equipment and skills in line with the scope of practice and associated course of study.

The University of East Anglia (UEA) Certificate in Emergency Medical Care course handbook, Health Professions Council Scope of Practice (HPC SoP), EEAST clinical guidelines and Skills for Health Urgent, Emergency and Unscheduled Care Competencies (SFH) are also referenced and must also be viewed for completeness. These are separate documents and **always** supersede this document. The term paramedic applies to staff that hold current non-restricted registration as a paramedic with Health Professions Council and are employed by EEAST on a paramedic contract.

This document should be read in its entirety, including the clinical skills matrix.

INTRODUCTION

The current development pathway for paramedics in EEAST is the UEA course Certificate in Emergency Medical Care (Cert EMC), which comprises:

- Module 1: Introduction to Practice
- Module 2: Clinical Theory I
- Module 3: Clinical Theory II
- Module 4: Clinical Theory III
- Module 5: Clinical Theory IV
- Module 6: Work-based learning & reflective practice I
- Module 7: Paramedic skills phase
- Module 8: Work-based learning & reflective practice II

Each significant area of work in this document is referenced to two key (sets of) documents:
HPC = Health Professions Council Standards of Proficiency
SFH = Skills for Health Urgent, Emergency and Unscheduled Care Competencies

This document was authored by the clinical career framework task and finish group and ownership rests with the Clinical Directorate. The review period for this document is twelve months and is the responsibility of the Training and Education Group. This scope is to be reviewed next in February 2012 or as soon as is practicable after this date, unless significant changes warrant an earlier alteration.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

Paramedics must:

- Practice within the legal and ethical boundaries of their work role.
- Practice in a non-discriminatory manner.
- Maintain confidentiality, assess capacity and obtain informed consent.
- Exercise a duty of care and manage own time and activities.
- Know and understand the professional and personal scope of their practice and when to seek assistance/guidance from more clinically qualified practitioners.
- Maintain their level of knowledge and ensure their fitness to practice and reflect on their performance and use reflection skills to improve their practice.
- Undertake development in order to maintain skills and knowledge in line with developments and changes in the role.
- Demonstrate understanding of local child protection and vulnerable adult procedures.

HPC	SIH
1a.1	M&LB8
1a.2	HSC234
1a.3	CHS7&HCS_D5
1a.4	HT4
1a.5	
1a.6	CHS99
1a.8	HSC33/HSC43
1a.9	HSC23/M&LA2/GE N12
	HSC35/OP11

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

- Follow the national and local requirements necessary to protect staff, patients and the public from the risks of healthcare associated infections.
- Adhere to all relevant EEAST policies and procedures.
- Deliver quality patient care that is safe, effective and maximises patient experience.
- Undertake their role with regards to all relevant legislation (including but not exclusively The Health and Safety at Work, 1974; The Data Protection Act, 1998).
- Ensure, within their scope of practice, a safe environment, management of risk and security of EEAST equipment and data.
- Ensure incidents and near misses are reported in accordance with EEAST policies.
- Ensure that all patients, internal and external stakeholders and members of the public are treated with respect and dignity at all times.
- Ensure personal fitness for work, including preparation and appropriate dress.

HPC	SIH
3a.3	IPC13/PCS-6
	CA401
3a.2	ENTOWRV1
3a.3	CHEM17/SS14/ ENTOHS13/ENTO HSS4
3a.3	ENTOWRV/ENTO HSS7 ENTOHS7
2c.1	ENTOHS1
1a.1	HSC234/M&LB11
1a.6	GEN7/GEN2

WORK RELATIONSHIPS

Paramedics must:

Work safe and effectively as an independent practitioner and as part of a multi-disciplinary team.

Work safely and effectively with other ambulance and emergency services staff.

Supervise and mentor other ambulance staff where appropriate.

Use appropriate set referral pathways.

Demonstrate the need for effective communication throughout the pathway of care for the patient (with service users and where appropriate with their relatives and carers).

Use a variety of communication methods including written, verbal and non-verbal in the delivery of their role.

HPC	SH
1b.1/1b.2	HSC24/MH92/ HSC3102
1b.1	M&LD1/CHS104
1b.1	M&LD5A/LLJKL11- 12 LLJKL15- 19/CJHD8
1b.1	MH15/CHS99/CHS 177
1b.4	HSC31/MH92/GEN 21-22 GEN92
1b.3	HSC41/GEN96/CH 5127

IDENTIFICATION OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE NEEDS

Paramedics must:

Gather appropriate information.

Select and use appropriate assessment and re-assessment techniques.

Undertake or arrange investigations as appropriate.

Analyse and critically evaluate the information collected.

Use research, reasoning and problem-solving skills to determine appropriate actions.

Draw on appropriate knowledge and skills in order to make professional judgements.

Formulate specific and appropriate management plans including the setting of timescales.

Conduct appropriate diagnostic or monitoring procedures, treatment, therapy or other actions safely and skilfully.

Maintain records appropriately.

HPC	SH
2a.1	CMA1
2a.2	CHS119/PSL5
2a.3	CMA87/CHS96/CH S19
2a.4	AG1/MH24
2b.1	CHS41/EUSC05
2b.2	CHS40/EUSC05
2b.3	CHS40/EUSC07-9
2b.4	EUSC01- 5/EUSC07-9
2b.5	CFA209

EQUIPMENT AND RESOURCES

Paramedics must:

- Undertake daily serviceability checks on:
 - Vehicles (as per driver training instruction);
 - Clinical equipment;
 - Communication equipment;
 - Uniform and personal protective equipment.
- Maintain a clean work environment.
- Use communication / data equipment to input, store, retrieve and transmit information.
- Ensure the safe and legal storage of all equipment, medicines and medical gases as directed.
- Use equipment and resources in a way which minimises waste and impact upon the environment.
- Be able to store and dispose of hazardous substances such as clinical waste and sharps in line with current legislation, policies and procedures.

HPC	SIH
2a.2	E2.3.1/HCS_A3/HCS_A4/GEN/GEN11
3a.3	hm_E1.2/hm_E1.4.2
1b.3	HSC21/HSC317/HSC41
3a.3	CHDHC1
3a.3	GEN3
3a.3	HSC246/HSC22/DEC5

EQUIPMENT AND RESOURCES

HPC	SIH
2b.4	HSC243
	E2.3.1
2b.4	MAL/EM/LES/ HSC243/HSC246
	HCS_A3/HCS_A4
3a.3	HSC22/DEC/ GEN3

- Identify equipment shortages and restock as required.
- Drive a range of ambulance vehicles in accordance with road traffic law and EEAST policies and procedures, in a manner that is sympathetic to the patient's condition that prevents excessive wear and tear and promotes safety (as per driver training instruction).
- Use equipment in line with manufacturer's guidelines and EEAST policies and procedures to transfer and transport patients safely and in a manner which minimizes any negative impact on the patient's condition.
- Ensure reporting of faulty equipment.
- Ensure that all incidents or near misses are raised through the appropriate reporting processes in accordance with EEAST policy.

ASSESSMENT

Paramedics must:

- Carry out global overview, including comprehensive scene assessment.
- Perform primary survey and establish time criticality and the need for additional or specialist resources (e.g. HART, air ambulance).
- Perform secondary survey, including relevant and comprehensive history taking.
- Prioritise individuals for further assessment, treatment and care and prioritise interventions.
- Carry out appropriate and relevant physical assessment.
- Carry out appropriate and relevant respiratory assessment.
- Carry out appropriate and relevant cardiovascular assessment.
- Carry out appropriate and relevant neurological assessment.
- Carry out appropriate and relevant musculoskeletal assessment.
- Formulate working and differential diagnoses.

HPC	SIH
2a.1	EUSC02
2a.1/2a.2	CHS35
2a.1-3	EUSC05/ GTC3H14
2b.2-3	EUSC07-8/EC03
2a.2-3	CHS19/CHS119
2a.2	HCS_RESP2
2a.2	HCS_RESP5 HCS_CARD4
2a.2	EUSC34/EC11D
2a.2	CHS12
2b.1-3	CHS39-40

ASSESSMENT

Evaluate the potential for traumatic injuries.

Assess a wide range of patients, including paediatric, obstetric, older and vulnerable adults.

HPC	SIH
2a.4	EC11D
2b.3	CHS38/MCN24/ HSC325 EC11/MEC11J OP1 OP10/MI14/CHS3 3-34

DELIVERY OF CARE

Paramedics must:

Develop and agree treatment pathways.

Give healthcare and treatment advice and information in a range of settings to a range of people.

Manage patient falls.

Manage patient pain effectively using a wide range of techniques and pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions.

Use a range of treatment techniques and adjuncts (see skills matrix).

Perform appropriate life support.

HPC	SiH
2b.3	CHS14/GJ12/CHS105/CHS38/CHS89/CHS124
1b.3	HSC419/GEN14/HCS_J6/EC13
3a.3	EC11J
2b.4/3a.1	B2.3.3/EC11C CHS22-23/ AHP/A/HP5/ BDS2/CHS12/CH7 GEN/POS16/POS17/CHRB/AGYA/RY/MR24
2b.4/3a.1	EUSC17-18/CHS88
2a/2b	CHS35-S36/ CHS123/EC17-20/HCS_CP11

DELIVERY OF CARE

HPC	SiH
2a.2/2b.4	CHS22-23
2b.4	CHDH87/CHS12/EC11D
3a.1	EUSC44/HCS_GI2 PHARM12-15/ CHS71-72/CHS78
2b.2/2b.4	EUSC17
2a.2/2b.3	EUSCS2
2b.4	CHS8
3a.1	HSC384/CHS48/ HSC239/CHS64 CHS1726/Hm_B2.1.2
1b.1-2	GEN28
2c.1-2	CH853
	EC23

Use a range of invasive procedures.

Treat a range of medical and traumatic emergencies

Use a range of pharmacological interventions.

Manage complications that occur as a result of intervention.

Assess the need for emotional, psychological and/or social support and/or rehabilitation.

Use appropriate moving and handling positions, procedures and equipment.

Recognise life extinct and support the bereaved.

Brief and prepare others and handover to other healthcare personnel.

Evaluate the delivery of care plans.

Transport to a range of locations

SKILLS MATRIX

This skills mapping matrix should be used in conjunction with the scope of practice document and course learning outcomes (separate document). It is important that a paramedic is able to demonstrate the elements contained within this document for safe and effective clinical practice. It is vital that the boundaries of independent use are recognised along with the need to escalate clinical concern in line with EEA/ST policies and procedures (to include 'red flag' conditions).

Under **NO** circumstances must an element not shown in this scope or skills matrix be undertaken by a paramedic independently or without the appropriate clinician being present. However if you believe you have additional evidenced competencies to extend your scope beyond this document (these must be approved by EEA/ST), please contact your Clinical General Manager.

Where there is a skill identified it should include the elements:

- Selection
- Indication/measurement
- Insertion or technique
- Securing/connection
- Safety, disposal and cleaning

This section should be read alongside EEA/ST policies and procedures, including EEA/ST Medicine Management Policy.

SKILLS MATRIX

Element	Taught	Assessed(A) or Familiarised (F)	Independent Use
Manual airway control head tilt - chin lift jaw thrust	✓	A	✓
Handheld suction	✓	A	✓
Mechanical suction hard lip catheter soft tip catheter	✓	A	✓
Nasopharyngeal airway	✓	A	✓
Oropharyngeal airway (adult)	✓	A	✓
Oropharyngeal airway (child)	✓	A	✓
LMA/iGel (adult) ventilation	✓	A	✓
LMA iGel (paediatric) ventilation	✓	A	✓
Adult intubation bougie/stylet – securing – confirmation - ventilation	✓	A	✓
Paediatric intubation bougie/stylet – securing – confirmation - ventilation	✓	A	✓
Needle cricothyroidotomy and jet insufflations (> 5yrs) preparation – securing – ventilation	✓	A	✓
Needle chest decompression (adult) site preparation – process – securing – safety and disposal	✓	A	✓
Needle chest decompression (paed) site preparation – process – securing - safety and disposal	✓	A	✓

Element	Taught	Assessed(A) or Familiarised (F)	Independent Use
External jugular vein cannulation site preparation – process – securing – safety and disposal	✓	A	✓
Intravenous cannulation site preparation – process – securing – safety and disposal	✓	A	✓
Intramuscular Injection Equipment – site preparation – process – securing - safety and disposal	✓	A	✓
Subcutaneous Injection	✓	A	✓
Intraosseous access (manual)	✓	A	✓
End tidal CO ₂ Equipment – connection – maintenance – reading	✓	F	✓
Mechanical ventilator	✓	A	✓
Peak expiratory flow measurement	✓	A	✓
12 lead recording	✓	A	✓
Use of ring magnet	✓	F	✓
BVM (adult)	✓	A	✓
BVM (paed)	✓	A	✓
Nebulising mask (adult)	✓	F	✓
Nebulising Mask (paed)	✓	F	✓
High concentration O ₂ mask (adult)	✓	F	✓
High concentration O ₂ mask (paed)	✓	F	✓

Element	Taught	Assessed(A) or Familiarised (F)	Independent Use
Medium concentration flow O ₂ mask (adult)	✓	F	✓
20% concentration O ₂ mask (adult)	✓	F	✓
Medium concentration flow O ₂ mask (paed)	✓	F	✓
O ₂ via nasal cannulae	✓	F	✓
T-piece nebulising	✓	F	✓
Nebuliser via BVM	✓	F	✓
Dressings/bandages	✓	F	✓
Triangular bandages	✓	F	✓
Burns dressings	✓	F	✓
Ascherman chest seal	✓	F	✓
Mafomity cord clamps	✓	F	✓
Cervical Collar	✓	A	✓
Kendrick Extinction Device (KED)	✓	A	✓
Traction splint (adult)	✓	A	✓
Traction splint (paed)	✓	A	✓
'SAM' pelvic splint	✓	F	✓
Orthopaedic stretcher (adult)	✓	A	✓
Orthopaedic stretcher (paed)	✓	A	✓
Long board (adult)	✓	A	✓
Long Board (paed)	✓	A	✓
Manual log roll	✓	F	✓
Box splint (adult)	✓	F	✓
Box splint (paed)	✓	F	✓
Fracture Straps	✓	F	✓

Element	Taught	Assessed(A) or Familiarised (F)	Independent Use
Maternity pack	✓	F	✓
Manger Elk	✓	F	✓
Small handling aids	✓	A	✓
Carry chair	✓	A	✓
Male urinal	✓	F	✓
Female urinal	✓	F	✓
Vomit bowl	✓	F	✓
Liquid soidifier	✓	F	✓
Escape hood	✓	F	✓
FFP3 reusable mask	✓	F	✓
Disposable face mask	✓	F	✓
Body bag	✓	F	✓
Apron	✓	F	✓
Gown	✓	F	✓
Stretcher	✓	A	✓
Tail lift	✓	F	✓
Mobile Data Terminal (MDT)	✓	F	✓
Digital radio	✓	F	✓

Element	Taught	Assessed(A) or Familiarised (F)	Independent Use
Adult choking (manual)	✓	A	✓
Adult choking (laryngoscopy)	✓	A	✓
Paed choking (manual)	✓	A	✓
Paed choking (laryngoscopy)	✓	A	✓
Neonate BLS	✓	A	✓
Neonate ALS equipment - process	✓	A	✓
Paed BLS	✓	A	✓
Paed ALS equipment - process	✓	A	✓
Adult BLS	✓	A	✓
Adult ALS equipment - process	✓	A	✓
Manual defibrillation (adult) machine function - energy adjustment - delivering shock - safety	✓	A	✓
Manual defibrillation (paed) machine function - energy adjustment - delivering shock - safety	✓	A	✓
AED (adult)	✓	A	✓
AED (paed)	✓	F	✓
Failed airway cascade	✓	A	✓
Cricoid pressure	✓	F	✓
Crash helmet removal	✓	F	✓
Extrication trauma (rapid/ time critical)	✓	A	✓

Element	Taught	Assessed(A) or Familiarised (F)	Independent Use
Respiratory assessment, including Respiratory rate, rhythm, depth and relevance Peak expiratory flow	✓	A	✓
Cardiovascular assessment, including Pulse rate, rhythm, nature and relevance Capillary refill Pulse oximetry 12 lead ECG	✓	A	✓
Manual and automatic blood pressure			
Neurological assessment, including Glasgow Coma Scale, AVPU and pupillary assessment	✓	A	✓
Musculoskeletal assessment	✓	A	✓
Endocrine assessment, including Capillary blood glucose	✓	A	✓
Gastrointestinal assessment	✓	A	✓
Temperature assessment, including, Temporal and tympanic	✓	F	✓
Medicine administration (see medicines section)	✓	A	✓

MEDICINES

The following is a list of current medicines that can be administered by paramedics in EEAST (please note that some of these medicines require PGD signature and submission). This list must be read in conjunction with the EEAST Medicine Management Policy and clinical updates for completeness. Any change to this list via policy alteration or clinical update, supersedes this document.

Adrenaline 1:1000	Clopidogrel	Glucose 10%	Morphine Sulphate
Adrenaline 1:10000	Diazemuls	GTN	Naloxone
Amiodarone	Eritonox	Heparin Sodium	Normal saline
Aspirin	Furosemide	Hydrocortisone injection	Oxygen
Atropine	Glucagon	Ipratropium Bromide	Paracetamol Liquid
Benzylopenicillin	Glucogel/Hyostop	Metoclopramide	Rectal Diazepam
Chlorphenamine	Glucose 5%	Morphine Oral Solution	Salbutamol

CHANGES TO DOCUMENT

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<input type="checkbox"/> ECA scope	<input type="checkbox"/> Paramedic scope	<input type="checkbox"/> Specialist roles scope
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