



Austin – Travis County Emergency Medical Services Department



Emergency Services, Emergency Communications, Community Education, Community Health
Changing the lives of the people we serve

Hiring Process BLS Skills and Scenarios

Psychomotor Skills Examination Description

The psychomotor examination will consist of two National Registry of EMTs Basic Life Support psychomotor skills. The success of passing the psychomotor skills testing is dependent on candidates reviewing and practicing the skills according to the current National Registry of EMT psychomotor skills evaluation sheets (included with this document). Candidates will be graded using these skills sheets. The skills to be tested are:

- BVM Ventilation of an Apneic Adult Patient
- Trauma Patient Assessment

You will be skills testing Trauma Assessment and BVM of the Apneic Patient per National Registry standards. You should be familiar with this procedure when you tested National Registry for your initial EMT certification.

We will be using National Registry Skills Testing sheets which you were provided in your packet. You can also download these directly from the National Registry website (https://www.nremt.org/nremt/about/psychomotor_exam_emt.asp). Please use the sheets provided and not ones you may have from previous testing as they might be outdated.

Trauma Assessment:

You will be provided with directions, a brief scenario and a trauma manikin marked with injuries and removable clothing.

Common errors include:

- Failing to expose the patient and examining for injuries. Verbalizing that you would but not doing it is not adequate.
- Failing to actually palpate the patient for injuries. Verbalizing "I would check the legs/back/whatever" is NOT sufficient.
- Failing to actually check the entire patient .

BVM of the Apneic Patient:

You will be provided with directions, a manikin that can be ventilated, a Bag Valve Mask/Ambubag, oxygen bottle and regulator, oropharyngeal airways and a manual and electric suction device (your choice). You will be expected to manage this patient as you would any unconscious patient; it is NOT just an “airway station”.

Common errors include:

- Failing to check a pulse at the start of the skill and failure to recheck a pulse after establishing a clear airway and ventilations. This, more than any other thing, has caused problems and unfortunately it is critical component.
- Failure to ventilate at an appropriate rate. This is another critical component and verbalizing “I would ventilate at X rate” while actually ventilating at something entirely different is not acceptable. We have to see you actually perform the skill, not just tell us about it.

The above common errors are not all-inclusive. These are considered the most common causes of failure of the skill. You are responsible for performing the skill according to the National Registry skills criteria.