



Medical Directive

Directive Number	<u>18-08</u>
Publish Date	<u>13 September 2018</u>
Effective Date	<u>01 October 2018</u>
Subject	<u>New Clinical Operating Guidelines v10.01.18</u>
Update to Clinical Operating Guidelines v 03.08.17	

Credentialed System Responder	Action
Credentialed EMT	Action
Credentialed EMT-Intermediate	Action
Credentialed EMT-Paramedic	Action
Credentialed EMD	Action

Clinical Operating Guidelines Version 10.01.18 will become the Official Approved COGs for the City of Austin / Travis County EMS System. We are releasing the document at this time to allow all System providers/responders time to review the information, print the document as desired and become accustomed to the new format style. The new COG document may be found at:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/page/clinical-operating-guidelines>

These new COGs will not become effective until October 01, 2018. Unless otherwise provided for by an additional Medical Directive concerning their use. System providers must not implement these COGs until then.

- a. On October 01, 2018 providers/responders will begin a transition time and, will be able to utilize the current COG v03.08.17 or the new COG v10.01.18 for patient care. This transition time also provides the time System Organizations need to acquire/deploy the Medications and Equipment to appropriately implement the new Clinical Guidelines.
- b. The phone/tablet APP will be updated on October 01, 2018. COG v03.08.17 will be removed and COG v10.01.18 will be the only version published to the APP. The following documents will be published to the APP:
 1. Clinical Guidelines
 2. Drug Formulary
 3. Transport Grid CR-13
 4. Web Page link to the OMD Web Page
- c. On January 01, 2019, COG v03.08.17 is discontinued and, will no longer be approved to use for patient care.
- d. Provider/responders currently System Credentialed at the EMT-P (ALS) level are authorized to practice at the PL5 level on 10.01.18.
- e. Provider levels PL4 and PL6 are currently unused levels. System Credentialing processes provided for in OMDR-09 will be initiated in 2019 to develop providers/responders to fill those Credential levels. This to also include initial Credentialing requirements and maintenance of Credentials for all Credentialing levels PL1 – PL6.

- f. **In preparation for implementation of these new COGs, each currently Credentialed Provider/Responder at all credentialing levels should review their respective Scope of Practice found in OMDR-03 attached to this Medical Directive. This will serve as a guide to assist you with the PL1 – PL6 credential transition.**

As an additional update to this Medical Directive the following hospitals have advised us of upgrades to their services. These have been included in this COG release and CR-13 has been updated to reflect these upgrades effective for transport on 10.01.18.

1. Seton Medical Center Hays is in pursuit of a Level 2 Trauma Certification and are now eligible to receive Trauma Alert patients.
2. Cedar Park Regional Medical Center has met the OMD criteria to become a Resuscitation Center and, is now eligible to receive Resuscitation Alert patients.

Included in this Medical Directive is a summary of the changes and revisions to the COGs.

Thanks for all you do. Questions relating specifically to the COGs can be sent to cogs@austintexas.gov

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COG Change/Update	Affected Document (s)	Eff. Date/Reference
Patient Care COGs: reformatted all documents, where possible combined Adult/Pediatric into single COG, combined other similar COGs into single COGs, and added on scene references/checklists to COG document.	All Patient Care COG documents and removed all reference numbers. Added new: 1. Sepsis and Septic Shock 2. Hypertension, Acute & Symptomatic	10/01/18 – MD 18-08
Clinical Standards combined several documents into COGs for on scene references concerning Death/Termination of Resuscitation/Crime Scene. Also updated documents for PL1 – PL6 Credentialing Levels.	Removed or Consolidated CS-5, 6, 8, 9, 14, 33, 34 Updated CS-16, 37, 20, 36, 29, 21, 25, 30, 32 Added new CS-05 (Patient Safety) reused number above	10/01/18 – MD 18-08
Clinical Procedures combined several documents into COGs for on scene reference. Also updated documents for PL1 – PL6 Credentialing Levels.	Removed or Consolidated CP-01, 5, 13, 14, 17, 20, 24, 29, 30, 32, 33, 36, 37, 39, 41, 46, 50, 52, 59, 61, 63, 65, 68 Added new CP-20 (Pedi Pit Crew) reused number above	10/01/18 – MD 18-08
Clinical References combined all documents into COGs or Drug Formulary as appropriate for on scene references. Except CR-13 updated Stroke last known well to \leq 24 hours, Updated for Seton Hayes for Level 2 Trauma Center and Cedar Park Regional Medical Center for Resuscitation Alerts.	Removed or Consolidated CR-01, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 17, 18, 22, 23, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37 Updated CR-13 (Transport Grid)	10/01/18 – MD 18-08
Drug Formulary reformatted all documents, and where possible combined Adult/Pediatric into single Formulary.	Removed all reference numbers, Consolidated all Adult & Pedi medications and removed Terbutaline and Enalapril Added TXA & Ketorolac	10/01/18 – MD 18-08
Appendix Updated references cited in documents.	Appendix A-3 & A-7	10/01/18 – MD 18-08
Updated OMDR section for New Credentialing process, New CIRC Process and New FRO MEL for PL4 Credential Level. And updated documents to accommodate PL1 – PL6 as needed.	Removed OMDR-13 Updated OMDR-01, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 16, 10, 11, 12, 20,19 Added OMDR-06 (CIRC) OMDR-23 (PL4 MEL)	10/01/18 – MD 18-08
Revised all Tables of Content	Chapters 1 - 16	10/01/18 – MD 18-08

Authorized Skills per Credential Level

Every credentialed provider that delivers medical care within the System must be able to perform skills consistent with the expectations of their system credential. Each Credential level builds on all previous Credential levels (i.e., AEMT is responsible for all System Responder, EMT & AEMT skills). The following defines the approved skills by credential level for Providers in the ATCEMS System. Providers/Responders **must not** practice outside their System Credentialed Scope of Practice.

Each successive level may perform any interventions endorsed for the levels below it.

Endorsement of a skill or medication for a particular credential level does not imply mandatory carriage of that medication or piece of equipment. For example, a tactical medic may be credentialed at the PL6 level but may not be carrying appropriate equipment for manual defibrillation or cardioversion. Likewise, FROs may have personnel credentialed at certain levels but do not carry the capability for every treatment available at that level.

Certain procedures require other procedures to be available. For example, intubation shall not be performed without the ability to monitor SpO₂ and EtCO₂. The specific Clinical Operating Guideline governs that particular procedure. An organization may have personnel credentialed to the PL5 level but if cardiac monitoring is not available, cardioversion and manual defibrillation may not be performed. Each organization may decide what treatments and procedures they will provide and support.

Maintenance of Credentialing (MOC) shall take place every 2 years and is comprised of a written exam, skills test, simulation (s) and portfolio. The PL6 level must additionally maintain Critical Care Paramedic or Flight Paramedic certification, which has its own Continuing Education and testing requirements.

The following skills/interventions are authorized by Credential Level in our System:

Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) Credentials

- Pre-arrival instructions as defined by MPD/OMD
- Determination of response codes by MPD/OMD
- Post-dispatch instructions
- Determination of obvious death by MPD/OMD

PL1 Credentialed First Responder

Minimum DSHS Certification: Emergency Care Attendant

Approved Interventions for Credential Level PL1

- Patient Assessment
- Spinal Motion Restriction
- CPR/AED application
- Oropharyngeal airway
- Oropharyngeal suctioning
- Nasopharyngeal airway
- Pulse Oximetry
- External Patient Cooling (Ice Pack/Bag)
- Kendrick Traction Device (KTD)
- Bimanual Trachea Manipulation
- Blood Glucose Assessment
- Ice Pack/Bag (wound/injury/bite/sting)
- Wound Packing (Junctional/Extremity)
- Bandaging/Splinting
- Emergency Childbirth
- Bag-valve Mask Device
- Tourniquet (application/loosen)
- Pelvic Binder (Sam Sling)
- Determination of obvious death
- Impedance Threshold Device (ITD)

Approved Medications for Credential Level PL1

- Oxygen administration (all routes)
- Oral glucose administration PO
- Epinephrine Auto-injector IM
- Aspirin PO
- Naloxone administration (intranasal IN)
- Epinephrine IM 1mg/mL (0.3 mg draw and inject x1)

Authorized Skills per Credential Level

PL2 EMT

Minimum DSHS Certification: EMT

All above listed requirements/skills/interventions/medications/patient assist medications

Additional Approved Interventions for Credential Level PL2

- Adult BIAD (in Cardiac Arrest only)
- 12 Lead, 3 lead, 4 lead ECG placement/acquisition (not interpretation)
- Patient Assist Vagus Nerve Stimulator x3
- Call and obtain TOR time for DNR and Obvious DOS
- Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) device
- Monitor medication lock (Saline lock or Heplock)
- Small Volume Nebulizer
- End-tidal CO₂ assessment

Additional Approved Medications for Credential Level PL2

- Nitroglycerine SL & Topical (spray/tablets/paste)
- Patient assist with their MDI
- Albuterol Neb. (continuous as needed)
- Ipratropium Bromide Neb.(continuous as needed)
- Nebulized Normal Saline

Upon decision (and after an appropriate Medication Cross Check) by a Credentialed PL3, PL4, PL5, PL6 Provider/Responder to administer PO, SL, Topical, or Nebulized Medications per Guideline; a PL2 Credentialed Provider/Responder is approved to facilitate the physical delivery of these medications. A PL2 Provider/Responder may also assemble “prefilled syringe” medications during cardiac arrest as requested by PL4, PL5, or PL6. A Medication Cross Check must still occur prior to injection by a PL4, PL5, or PL6.

PL3 ILS Technician

Minimum DSHS Certification: AEMT

All above listed requirements/skills/interventions/medications/patient assist medications

Additional Approved Interventions for Credential Level PL3

- Peripheral intravenous access (IV)
- BIAD (non-cardiac arrest)
- Intranasal Medication Route (IN)
- Intramuscular Injection Medication Route
- Intraosseous access (IO) (cardiac arrest) or Critical patient in which initial IV attempt has failed or is not possible
- Tracheal suctioning

Additional Approved Medications for Credential Level PL3

- Acetaminophen PO
- Naloxone (all routes)
- Ibuprofen PO
- Ondansetron (all routes)
- Lidocaine for eye irrigation only
- Epinephrine 1mg/10mL (cardiac arrest)
- Dextrose solutions IV
- Glucagon IM
- Ketorolac IM **OLMC or if on-scene PL5 directs**
- Diphenhydramine (all routes)
- Non-medicated intravenous solutions

Authorized Skills per Credential Level

PL4: Paramedic Technician Minimum DSHS Certification: Paramedic

All above listed requirements/skills/interventions/medications/patient assist medications
PL4 providers may perform procedures and administer medications at the PL5 level if done
under DIRECT oversight by PL5 credentialed provider

Additional Approved Interventions for Credential Level PL4 Independent of Oversight by PL5

- External jugular vein cannulation
- Manual defibrillation
- Gastric tube insertion
- FBAO with direct laryngoscopy
- Alternate vascular access (indwelling catheter)
- Modified Valsalva
- ECG monitoring and interpretation

Additional Approved Medications for Credential Level PL4 Independent of Oversight by PL5

- Epinephrine (additional doses, nebulized)
- Tranexamic acid
- Hydroxocobalamin
- Atropine sulfate (cardiac arrest & Organophosphate)
- Magnesium sulfate
- Calcium chloride (cardiac arrest)
- Sodium bicarbonate (cardiac arrest)
- Pralidoxime
- Amiodarone (cardiac arrest)
- Methylprednisolone
- Lidocaine (cardiac arrest)

PL5 Paramedic Clinician Minimum DSHS Certification: Paramedic

All above listed requirements/skills/interventions/medications/patient assist medications
PL4 providers may perform procedures and administer medications at the PL5 level if done
under DIRECT oversight by PL5 credentialed provider

Additional Approved Interventions for Credential Level PL5

- Pleural decompression
- Therapeutic hypothermia
- Termination of resuscitation
- Nasotracheal intubation
- Fiberoptic bronchoscopy/intubation
- Needle cricothyrotomy (Pediatric)
- Maintenance of blood transfusion
- Maintenance of medication infusion that does not require titration (**except dextrose solution**)
- Manual cardioversion, pacing and double sequential defibrillation
- Flex guide Endotracheal Tube Introducer (a.k.a. gum-elastic bougie)
- Orotracheal Intubation
- Video laryngoscopy
- Beck Airway Airflow Monitor (BAAM)
- Surgical cricothyrotomy
- Umbilical vein cannulation

Additional Approved Medications for Credential Level PL5

- Cetacaine (Hurricane topical anesthetic spray)
- Adenosine
- Vecuronium Bromide
- Epinephrine infusion & IN
 - Xylocaine Gel
 - Ketamine
- Neo-synephrine (nasal vasoconstrictor)
- Norepinephrine (Levophed)
- Diltiazem
- Calcium Chloride
- Sodium Bicarbonate (IV, Neb., Infusion)
- Fentanyl citrate
- Midazolam
- Haloperidol

Authorized Skills per Credential Level

PL6: Extended Scope Paramedic Minimum DSHS Certification: Paramedic or Paramedic/RN

All above listed requirements/skills/interventions/medications/patient assist medications

Additional Approved Interventions for Credential Level PL6

- Rapid sequence intubation
- Chemically facilitated extrication
- Emergency escharotomy
- Fresh whole blood transfusion
- Central venous pressure monitoring
- Intracranial pressure monitoring
- Maintenance of Patient Controlled Analgesia (PCA) pump
- Maintenance of IV infusions requiring titration
- Field amputation
- Simple thoracostomy
- Transvenous cardiac pacing (maintenance)
- Arterial blood pressure monitoring
- iSTAT blood testing
- Fracture/dislocation reduction
- Ventilator maintenance

Additional Approved Medications for Credential Level PL6

- Succinylcholine
- Rocuronium
- Albumin
- Labetalol
- Abciximab
- Tirofiban
- Eptifibatide
- Milrinone
- Inamrinone
- Tissue Plasminogen Activator
- Phenobarbitol
- Pentobarbitol
- Levitiracetam
- Oxytocin
- Pyridoxine
- Amoxicillin
- Amoxicillin/clav
- Cephalexin
- Ciprofloxacin/dexamethasone
- Triamcinolone
- Benzonatate
- Cetirizine
- Fexofenadine
- Loratadine
- Pantoprazole
- Lansoprazole
- Ranitidine
- Insulin
- Meloxicam
- Hyoscyamine
- Dicyclomine
- Nicardipine
- Nitroprusside
- Propofol
- Metoprolol
- Hydralazine
- Heparin
- Dobutamine
- Dopamine
- Tenecteplase
- Streptokinase
- Morphine
- Hydromorphone
- Fosphenytoin
- Pyridoxine
- N-Acetyl Cysteine
- Ceftriaxone
- Ertapenem
- Trimethoprim/Sulfamethoxazole
- Clindamycin
- Ciprofloxacin
- Moxifloxacin
- Levofloxacin
- Zolpidem
- Modafinil
- Potassium Chloride
- Prochlorperazine
- Promethazine
- Octreotide
- All OTC medications
- Prednisone
- Nitroglycerine infusion

Authorized Skills per Credential Level

PL7: Paramedic Practitioner

Minimum Licensure: Paramedic/PA or Paramedic/APRN

All above listed requirements/skills/interventions/medications/patient assist medications

Additional Approved Interventions for Credential Level PL7

- Perimortem cesarean section
- Central venous line placement
- Thoracostomy tube placement
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Additional Approved Medications for Credential Level PL7

- Any deemed necessary by the provider
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PL8: Office of the Medical Director

All above listed requirements/skills/interventions/medications/patient assist medications

Additional Approved Interventions for Practitioner

- Any deemed necessary by the physician

Additional Approved Medications for Practitioner

- Any deemed necessary by the physician