

JA

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EMS121EM3

## Chapter 1 Notes

Quality Improvement - A process of continuous self-review with the purpose of identifying and correcting aspects of the system that require improvement.

Ways to work towards quality care:

- Preparing carefully written documentation; be sure reports are filled out legibly
- Becoming involved in the quality process
- Obtaining Feedback from patients and hospital staff
- Maintaining your equipment; check and maintain all equipment regularly
- Continue your education

Medical Director - A physician who assumes ultimate responsibility for the patient-care aspects of the EMS system

Medical Direction - Oversight of the patient-care aspects of an EMS system by the medical director

Off-Line Medical Direction - consists of standing orders issued by the medical director that allows EMTs to give certain medications or perform certain procedures without speaking to the medical director or another physician

On-Line Medical Direction - consists of orders from the on-duty physician given directly to an EMT in the field by radio or telephone

Protocols - Lists of steps, such as assessments and interventions, to be taken in different situations; are developed by the medical director of an EMS system.

Designated Agent - An EMT or other person authorized by a Medical director to give medications and provide emergency care. Transfer of such authorization is an extension of the medical directors license.

Standing Orders - A policy or protocol issued by a medical director that authorizes EMTs and others to perform particular skills in certain situations,

EMS Role in Public Health:

- Injury prevention for geriatric patients
- injury prevention for youth
- public vaccination programs
- disease surveillance

Patient Outcomes - long-term survival of patients

Evidence based - description of medical techniques and practices

Evidence Based Decision Making Process