

**Yale-New Haven Sponsor Hospital Program  
Paramedic Continuing Medical Education  
Policy and Procedures  
April 1, 2016 - March 31, 2018**

Continuing medical education is a crucial part of the professional development and continued competency of any health care professional. YNHSHP maintains this policy and procedure as part of a comprehensive continuous quality improvement program.

The National Registry of EMT's National Continued Competency Program (NCCP) has been revised to promote life-long learning and ensure continued competency. The new requirement takes effect on April 1, 2016. Just as in past years, The NREMT's two year CME format is being utilized by YNHSHP, to ensure that those paramedics who hold NREMT certification can maintain it with ease, and to encourage non-registered paramedics to pursue registration. The two year cycle will include any CME hours accrued from April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2018 in order to align with the standard cycle set forth by the NREMT.

**Continuing Education Requirements: Attendance at a minimum of 60 hours of CME is required during this 2016-2018 CME cycle. These 60 hours are divided into three areas: National Component, Local Component and Individual Component.**

**National Component**

**30 hours** of *National Component* is required in the areas outlined below:

**Airway, Respiration and Ventilation**

**Ventilation – 2 hours**

**Capnography – 1 hour**

**Advanced Airway Management in the perfusing patient – 1 hour**

**Cardiovascular**

**Post-Resuscitation Care – 2 hours**

**Ventricular Assist Devices – 0.5 hours**

**Stroke – 1.5 hours**

**Cardiac Arrest – 2 hours**

**Congestive Heart Failure – 0.5 hours**

**Pediatric Cardiac Arrest – 2.5 hours**

**ACS – 1 hour**

**Trauma**

**CNS injury – 2 hours**

**Tourniquets – 0.5 hours**

**Field Triage – 1 hour**

**Fluid Resuscitation – 0.5 hours**

### Medical

Special Healthcare Needs (trachs/dialysis shunts) – 2 hours  
OB Emergency – 1 hour  
Communicable Diseases – 1 hour  
Medication Delivery – 1 hour  
Pain Management – 1 hour  
Psychiatric Emergencies – 1 hour

### Operations

At Risk Populations (pediatric and geriatric) – 1 hour  
Pediatric Transport – 0.5 hour  
Culture of Safety – 0.5 hour  
Affective Characteristics – 1 hour  
Crew Resource Management – 1 hour  
Role of Research – 1 hour

Up to 10 hours of CME credit can be obtained through Distributive Education (DE); defined as CECBEMS Designation F3 – video review, directed studies and the like.

### Local Component

**15 hours** of *Local Component* is required covering, but not limited to the following topics:

**Changes in local protocols**  
**Items identified in the quality assurance system**  
**National EMS Information Systems (NEMSIS)**

Up to 10 hours of CME credit can be obtained through Distributive Education (DE); defined as CECBEMS Designation F3 – video review, directed studies and the like.

### Individual Component

**15 hours** of *Individual Component* are required. These individual requirements consist of any EMS – related education and can take the form of CECBEMS approved Distributed Education (online, EMS conferences, directed study, etc.)

Up to 15 hours of CME credit can be obtained through Distributive Education (DE); defined as CECBEMS Designation F3 – video review, directed studies and the like.

### Notes:

*Hour for hour credit can be applied for the standardized courses (ABLS, ACLS, AMLS, EMPACT, EPC, ITLS, PHTLS, PALS, PEPP, EPC, ATLS, and Wilderness EMS Training); in the National, Local or Individual Component – once per two year cycle and in only one component.*

*Credits for college courses that directly relate to your role as an EMS professional (anatomy, physiology, biology, chemistry, pharmacology, psychology, sociology, statistics) are granted on a 8 hours for 1 college credit basis.*

*No more than 50% of the CME in any category may be acquired by teaching any of the topics in the National Continued Competency Program.*

### Practical Skills Testing

- **Successful completion of paramedic practical skills testing is required during the first year of this cycle (April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017).** The practical skills testing will include a competency based assessment of comprehensive pre-hospital patient care, in a scenario format, generally based on NREMT skill sheets to document the evaluation. This assessment must be successfully passed **ONCE** each 2-year cycle. Completing paramedic practical skills testing at other sponsor hospital programs will not fulfill this requirement. *Successful completion of paramedic practical skills testing means NO remediation whether verbal or written and NO repeating a station, even if done the same day.*
- These testing sessions will be limited to 4 participants per hour and will be offered the first Friday of the month at the YNHSHP office. Participants must pre-register, as test slots are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Test times between 9am and 3pm will be assigned in order to equally distribute the flow and decrease waiting times during test sessions.
- Paramedics who pass **all stations** on their **first attempt** of the cycle will not need to test again during this cycle. This means they will not need to test until after April 1, 2018.
- Paramedics who **do not** pass **all stations** on their **first attempt** will be required to successfully complete the entire skills testing during the second year of the cycle (April 1, 2017-March 30, 2018) as well.
- Paramedics who fail the testing a second time will be remediated and be allowed a third attempt without disruption of medical authorization.
- Paramedics who fail the testing a third time will have their medical authorization immediately suspended. They will be remediated again and will be offered a fourth and final attempt no sooner than one month from the previous attempt. Medical authorization will be reinstated if the paramedic passes on that fourth attempt.
- Paramedics who fail the fourth and final attempt will have their medical authorization under the auspices of YNHSHP withdrawn. They may reapply for medical authorization after presenting evidence of additional, formal training/education that was prospectively approved by YNHSHP, and no sooner than 6 months. If the paramedic is not currently nationally registered and if the reapplication process is not completed within the year following the withdrawal of medical authorization, the paramedic will be required to obtain National Registry Certification along with the completion of the reapplication.
- Paramedics who do not complete or pass the skills evaluation by April 1, 2017 for the preceding 12 month period will have their medical authorization suspended until such

time as the requirement is met. This requirement must also be completed by April 1, 2018 for those individuals required to test both years.

#### Yearly Protocol Written Examination

- **Successful completion (defined as a grade of 70% or greater) of a written protocol test is required each cycle year (April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017 and again April 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018).** This test will be offered at each practical skills workshop, during the paramedic refreshers, as well as being accessible through the YNHSHP office by appointment.
- Paramedics who do not pass the exam on the first attempt will be allowed to review their exam for deficiencies and then retake another exam at a date no sooner than 1 week from the date of review.
- Paramedics who do not pass the exam on the second attempt will be required to review their exam to establish the areas in need of improvement, attend a protocol remediation session, and retake another exam for a third attempt. A protocol remediation session will entail a one-on-one review of the protocols with a member of YNHSHP Operations Committee or designee.
- Paramedics who do not pass the third attempt will have their medical authorization to practice as a paramedic under the auspices of YNHSHP temporarily suspended. A second protocol remediation session will be required (a one-on-one review of the protocols with a member of YNHSHP Operations Committee or designee), followed by a fourth and final attempt to pass the exam.
- If the fourth exam attempt is passed, unrestricted medical authorization will be reinstated. Paramedics who fail the fourth and final attempt will have their medical authorization under the auspices of YNHSHP withdrawn. They may reapply for medical authorization after presenting evidence of additional, formal training/education that was prospectively approved by YNHSHP, and no sooner than 6 months. If the paramedic is not currently nationally registered and if the reapplication process is not completed within the year following the withdrawal of medical authorization, the paramedic will be required to obtain National Registry Certification along with the completion of the reapplication.
- Paramedics that have either not taken the protocol exam or have not passed the exam by April 1<sup>st</sup> for the preceding 12 month period will have their medical authorization to practice as an independent paramedic under the auspices of YNHSHP immediately suspended as of 0800 hours on April 1<sup>st</sup> until such time as the deficiency is rectified.

**Attendance at mandatory “in service” sessions is required**, e.g. for new protocols or equipment. In general, providers will receive credit toward the 15 hours of CME in the Local Component as required per two year cycle for these sessions. Any such mandatory session will be offered at least twice at the YNHSHP training center, and in most cases departments can make arrangements for presentation on-site.

Paramedics are strongly encouraged to provide documentation of all off-site CME to the YNHSHP office in a timely manner, so these hours may be logged in the YNHSHP CME database.

**No later than 12:00 hours EST on March 1, 2018, each YNHSHP medically authorized paramedic who did not complete their CME through YNHSHP must submit a CME log for this two year cycle to the YNHSHP office**, indicating how the various requirements were met by applying documented CME hours to the various topic requirements.

*At any time*, a paramedic can review his/her own CME transcript for classes attended at YNHSHP via the registration software located on the sponsorhospital.org website, by logging in and choosing the option “View your unofficial transcript”. Make sure the class dates fall within April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2018 to be relevant for this CME cycle.

**Certification in CPR, ACLS, PALS, PHTLS, and PEPP (ALS) or EPC (ALS), are required continuously.** Each paramedic must also ensure that copies of current driver’s license, CPR, ACLS, PALS, PHTLS and PEPP (or EPC) cards, current NREMT card (if applicable) and current state paramedic license, are on file at YNHSHP. Medical authorization will be immediately suspended for any paramedic failing to meet the above requirements. There will be a two month grace period for which the paramedic can complete the requirements and have their medical authorization immediately reinstated. Otherwise, in order to regain medical authorization through YNHSHP, the paramedic must re-apply and follow the process outlined in the YNHSHP Medical Authorization Policy to include **ALL** aspects of the process including precepting and a final field evaluation by the YNHSHP Operations Staff. If the paramedic is not currently nationally registered and if the reapplication process is not completed within the year following the withdrawal of medical authorization, the paramedic will be required to obtain National Registry Certification along with the completion of the reapplication.

*All paramedics must have a current copy of these certification cards (or verification of currency) and CT state Paramedic license on their person at all times while working as a paramedic under the medical authorization of YNHSHP.*

**All NREMT-Ps / NRPs must continue to maintain National Registry status in order to maintain medical authorization through YNHSHP.**

Any questions should be directed to the YNHSHP office (203-562-3320) well in advance of any deadlines.

**Compliance with CME Requirements**

*Each paramedic is responsible for maintaining his or her own CME records and submitting them to YNHSHP in time for verification of any CME not obtained directly through YNHSHP.*

**For classes taken at YNHSHP**

*At any time, a paramedic can review his/her own CME transcript for classes attended at YNHSHP via the registration software located on the sponsorhospital.org website, by logging in and choosing the option “View your unofficial transcript”. Make sure the class dates fall within April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2018 to be relevant for this CME cycle.*

Questions or concerns can be directed to the operations coordinator at YNHSHP.

Email: [leonard.guercia@ynhh.org](mailto:leonard.guercia@ynhh.org) or phone 203-562-1507