EMS Education in Alabama

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• I’m an educator so I’m good at writing quizzes -
Quiz

• What animal causes more deaths each year in Alabama?

Others?
WRONG ... it’s BAMBI
EMS in Alabama and Nationally

- EMS levels
- Skills and Medications
- Curriculum changes
- Degree program
New EMS Structure

• **Basic** –
  – Chemistry and Pathophysiology additions
  – Assessment changes

• **AEMT** – rules pending – expected
  – Protocols being finalized now
  – Skills

• **Paramedic**
  – No additions
  – More in depth science education
Changes

• The more things changed, the more things remain the same.

• We’ve come full circle
  – Like the last 20 years didn’t exist!
Basic

- **OLD – OLD** – (Pre 1994)
  - Primary assessment, secondary assessment
  - diagnosis
- **OLD** – (1994 – 2009)
  - Initial assessment; detailed physical exam, ongoing assessment
  - no diagnosis
- **NEW** –
  - Primary assessment, secondary assessment, reassessment
  - diagnosis
Terminology change

• Basic EMT is now just EMT
  – EMT

• Advanced EMT is AEMT
  – AEMT

• Paramedic is no longer EMT-P
  – Paramedic

Suggested - NRP
Advanced EMT

• New level – licenses beginning in Dec.
• Similar to old Intermediate
• National Registry testing begins in July 1.

• Schedule
  – One semester
• Advantages
Advanced EMT Skills

• Gain IV access
  – Administer IV fluids
• Gain intraosseous access for pediatric patients
  – Administer IV fluids
• Insert supraglottic airways
  – King airway, combitube, etc
• IN ALABAMA - CPAP
Advanced EMT Skills

• NOT ALLOWED:
  – Intubation
  – Defibrillation – only with AED
Nationally Approved Medications

- Aspirin
- Nitroglycerin – Paste, spray, tablets
- Epinephrine – Sub-q and IM
- Albuterol
- Dextrose (50%)
- Glucagon
- Glucose (oral)
- Naloxone
- Oxygen
- Nitrous Oxide
Alabama Approved Medications

- Thiamine
- Ondansetron (Zofran)
Paramedic

- No skill or medication changes
- Curriculum enhanced.
National Registry Exams

• Test revisions:
  – 5 content areas instead of 7
    • Airway, Ventilation and Oxygenation
    • Cardiology & Resuscitation
  • Trauma
  • Medical/Obstetrics/Gynecology
  • EMS Operations
• Exam items are divided between adult patients (85%) and pediatric patients (15%)
Questions???
University of South Alabama

- Bachelor of Science
- Emergency Medical Service

- First initiated because we need educators.
Purpose/Goal of the Program

- To provide a baccalaureate level educational program for paramedics aspiring to careers in pre-hospital medicine and EMS administration and leadership.
- To prepare students as competent, entry-level EMS professionals.
- Prepare students for entry into post graduate programs.
Overview of the Curriculum

- **41 credit hour General Education Core**
  - English 101 and 102 (6 hours)
  - Natural Sciences and Mathematics (11 hours)
  - Humanities (12 hours)
  - Social and Behavioral Sciences (12 hours)

- **22 credit hour Pre-Professional Core**
  - Basic EMT (8 hours)
  - Anatomy and Physiology I and II (8 hours)
  - Statistics and Computer Applications (6 hours)
### General Education Courses

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<tr>
<th>Communications (6 hrs)</th>
<th>Natural Science/Math (11 hrs)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English 101 3&lt;br&gt;English 102 3</td>
<td>Biology 101 3&lt;br&gt;Chemistry 101 3&lt;br&gt;Math 110 3</td>
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<tr>
<th>Humanities/Fine Arts (12 hrs)</th>
<th>History/Social Sciences (12 hrs)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Speech 3&lt;br&gt;Fine Arts Elective 3&lt;br&gt;Literature I 3&lt;br&gt;Humanities Elective 3</td>
<td>Psychology 120 3&lt;br&gt;History I 3&lt;br&gt;History II 3&lt;br&gt;Elective 3</td>
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<th>Additional courses (22 hrs)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Anatomy &amp; Physiology I &amp; II 8&lt;br&gt;Statistics 3&lt;br&gt;Computers applications 3&lt;br&gt;Basic EMT 8</td>
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Overview of the Curriculum

**Professional Component**

- 32 credit hour **Paramedic Core**
  - Meets or exceeds the DOT paramedic curriculum.
- 34 credit hour **EMS Core**
  - EMS leadership and administration.
  - EMS administration internship.
EMS Professional Courses

- EMS Systems
- Ems Administration
- Instructional Methods
- Health Insurance/Managed Care
- EMS Internship
- EMS Law and Legal Issues
- Issues and Trends
- EMS Research
- Disaster Management and Event Planning
EMS Internship Course

- Sites:
  - National Registry
  - NOLS – National Outdoor Leadership School
  - State EMS office
  - Miami Dade Fire Department
  - St. Louis EMS
  - Mobile EMA
  - American Heart Association
  - Others
Class Schedule and Duration

- Full time students –
- Part time students -

- Classes will be scheduled as followed:
  - Fridays 1:00 pm – 9:00 pm
  - Saturdays 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Transfer Students

• Students who have taken their paramedic coursework elsewhere will be allowed to take a 6 semester hour ‘bridge’ course.

• The Bridge course provides these students an opportunity to obtain academic credits (up to 40) for their previous clinical education as a paramedic.
Summary

• EMS Education has come a long way over the last 20 years.
• Over half of our Bachelor of Science students have gone on to graduate schools.
  – Several Physician’s Assistant students
  – Masters in Healthcare Management
  – Masters in Emergency Management
Questions???