



**MESCAL J-6
FIRE DISTRICT**

**STANDARD OPERATING
POLICY # 106**

***PATIENT ASSESSMENT/ VITALS
NON-EMCT PERSONNEL***

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a procedure and related training protocols so that non-EMCT certified firefighters may obtain patient vitals and conduct an initial patient assessment at the scene of emergency and non-emergency medical calls.

II. SCOPE

This policy applies to all operational personnel who do not possess certification as an Arizona or Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Care Technician certification.

III. POLICY

It shall be the policy of this District that all operational personnel be able to conduct a proper scene size-up, conduct an initial patient assessment, attempt to stop any life-threatening hemorrhaging and obtain patient vitals and until such time additional personnel possessing EMCT credentials arrive on scene. Furthermore, it shall be the policy of this District that these procedures adhere to currently accepted protocols and standing orders, as required by the District's medical control.

V. DEFINITIONS

A. Patient Vitals- Includes a systolic/ diastolic blood pressure obtained manually or by machine, a pulse oximetry reading, heart rate and rate of respirations. For the purposes of this policy, a blood glucose finger stick and reading shall not be performed by non-EMCT personnel.

B. Patient Assessment- The process used to identify and treat life-threatening problems, concentrating on Level of Consciousness, Cervical Spinal Stabilization, Airway, Breathing, and Circulation. The firefighter will also be forming a General Impression of the patient to determine if the patient is a medical or trauma patient.

C. Scene Size-up- Steps taken by EMS providers when approaching the scene of an emergency call; determining scene safety, taking BSI precautions, noting the mechanism of injury or patient's nature of illness, determining the number of patients, and deciding what, if any additional resources are needed.

D. Medical Control- A physician, or the physician's appointed representative, responsible for the oversight of the District's pre-hospital medical care. Tucson Medical Center, Dr. Roger Ottman supervising.

E. BSI Precautions- a practice of isolating all body substances (blood, urine, feces, tears, etc.) of individuals undergoing medical treatment, particularly emergency medical treatment, so as to reduce as much as possible the chances of transmitting a communicable disease or illness.

F. EMCT- Emergency Medical Care Technician



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VI. REQUIRED TRAINING

1. All new members shall receive 4) hours of initial training related to BSI precautions, scene size-up and safety, patient assessment, general impression and documentation.
2. Training shall be validated by a practical exam consisting of 2) mock EMS calls; one simulated trauma incident and one simulated illness. Training shall be evaluated by an officer with current EMCT certification and recorded in Emergency Reporting/ Training.
3. Training shall be completed within 90 days of date of hire.

Approved by the Mescal-J6 Fire District Governing Board on August 7, 2019