

Rulemaking Hearing Rules  
of the  
Tennessee Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Licensure and Regulation  
Division of Emergency Medical Services

Chapter 1200-12-1  
General Rules

Table of Contents  
Amendments of Rules

Rule 1200-12-1-.03 Emergency Medical Services Equipment and Supplies

Rule 1200-12-1-.03 Emergency Medical Services Equipment and Supplies is amended by deleting the language of the existing rule in its entirety and substituting instead the following language, so that as amended, the rule shall read:

1200-12-1-.03 Emergency Medical Services Equipment and Supplies. Each provider shall maintain the required equipment for the level of service to provide appropriate emergency care and where applicable, patient care during transport, on each vehicle permitted.

- (1) Definitions - as used in this rule, the following terms and abbreviations shall have these meanings:
  - (a) (E) - "Essential device" shall mean any item critical for lifesaving patient care and which by its absence would jeopardize patient care.
  - (b) (M) - "Minimal equipment or devices" shall mean such equipment and supplies provided in sufficient amounts for patient care, but when missing may not result in serious harm to a patient.
  - (c) "Optional equipment or devices" shall mean any item of elective use, which shall be operational and sanitary.
  - (d) "Specifications" shall refer to the federal standards and performance requirements for equipment and devices recognized within the emergency medical services industry and adopted by the board, which include the following:
    1. Federal Specification for Ambulances, KKK-A-1822E, dated June 1, 2002, or its successor.
    2. Standard Specification for Minimum Performance Requirements for EMS Ground Vehicles, F 1230-89, American Society of Testing and Materials, November, 1989, or its successor.
    3. Federal Motor Vehicles Safety Standards cited under 49 CFR Part 571.
- (2) Safety devices shall be provided to include:
  - (a) Fire extinguishers (E) - Two (2) ABC dry chemical, multipurpose 5 lb. unit, in restraint brackets. One mounted in the driver/cab compartment or in a body compartment reachable from outside the vehicle. On ambulances an extinguisher shall be located in the patient compartment or in a cabinet within the patient compartment.

- (b) Three (3) bi-directional reflective triangles (E) - approved per FMVSS 125, for any transport vehicle.
  - (c) Flashlights (M) - 4.5 volt or better, three cell or lantern type for scene use, one accessible to the driver and one provided for technician use. At least one flashlight shall be provided for a first responder unit.
- (3) Oxygen inhalation, ventilation, and airway management devices shall be supplied providing:
- (a) Resuscitation and airway devices including:
    - 1. Adjuncts for ventilation: (If disposable or single use devices are furnished, a spare unit shall be supplied on all ambulances.)
      - (i) bag-valve device (E) - with a bag volume of at least 1600 milliliters with oxygen reservoir for adult use.
      - (ii) bag-valve device (E) - with a bag-volume of 450 milliliters with oxygen reservoir for pediatric use.
      - (iii) resuscitation masks (E) -in adult, pediatric (child) and infant sizes.
      - (iv) oropharyngeal airways (M) - in at least five different sizes.
      - (v) nasopharyngeal airways (M) - in at least five different sizes.
      - (vi) dual lumen airway device (such as the Combitube or Pharyngeal Tracheal Lumen Airway) that has been approved by the EMS Board. (M).
      - (vii) end-tidal carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) detectors, for adult and pediatric use. (E).
    - 2. Oxygen delivery devices:
      - (i) An installed oxygen supply (E) - with a capacity of at least 2,000 liters of oxygen shall be supplied on all ambulances.
        - (I) Cylinders shall be restrained in an approved manner.
        - (II) Pressure regulator and flow meters shall comply with 3.12.1.1, Federal Specifications for Ambulances and automatically supply a line pressure of 50 psi.
        - (III) At least two distribution outlets and flow meters shall be operable in the compartment.
      - (ii) Portable oxygen (E) - shall be provided with at least 300 liter, or "D" size cylinders.
        - (I) The oxygen unit and spare cylinders shall be restrained in an approved manner.
        - (II) Pressure regulator and flow meter shall comply with 3.12.2, Federal Specifications for Ambulances.

- (III) A full spare cylinder (M) - shall be provided except on first responder units.
- (iii) Administration devices shall include at least two of each item: (E) for items, (M) for amounts.
  - (I) Oxygen supply tubing of at least 48 inches length.
  - (II) Oxygen Masks including, adult non-rebreathing high concentration, pediatric non-rebreathing high concentration, and an infant medium concentration.
  - (III) Adult nasal cannula.
  - (IV) Humidifiers shall be optional, but when supplied shall be single patient use.
- 3. Endotracheal intubation devices shall be supplied on advanced life support units, to include: (E) for items, (M) for amounts.
  - (i) Laryngoscope handles with operable batteries in adult and pediatric sizes, appropriate for use with (ii).
  - (ii) Laryngoscope blades in sizes:
    - (I) 0, straight,
    - (II) 1, straight,
    - (III) 2, straight,
    - (IV) 2, curved,
    - (V) 3, straight,
    - (VI) 3, curved
    - (VII) 4, straight
    - (VIII) 4, curved.
  - (iii) Endotracheal tubes, individually packaged in a sanitary sealed envelope or plastic package in:
    - (I) Uncuffed sizes in the pediatric range, one of each size 2.5 to 6.0mm. (2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0, 5.5, 6.0 mm)
    - (II) Cuffed sizes in the adult range, one of each size 6.5 to 9.0mm. (6.5, 7.0, 7.5, 8.0, 8.5, 9.0, 9.5 mm)
  - (iv) Six packets of sterile surgical lubricant or equivalent.
  - (v) Stylets, adult and pediatric.
  - (vi) Syringe for cuff inflation, 10cc, with plain Luer tip.
  - (vii) Magill forceps in adult and pediatric sizes.
  - (viii) Esophageal detection device
- (b) Suction devices and supplies shall include the following items:

1. Installed suction (E) - with vacuum gauge, a control, and collection bottle as specified in 3.12.3, Federal Specifications for Ambulances.
    - (i) At least two sets of suction tubing, six feet in length shall be supplied. (E) for item, (M) for amount.
    - (ii) Suction tubing and adapters (E) - shall be provided for endotracheal aspiration of meconium allowing direct connection of suction to the endotracheal tube. (E)
  2. A portable suction aspirator (E) - shall be supplied as specified in 3.12.4, Federal Specifications for Ambulances.
    - (i) A collection bottle (disposable preferred) of at 500 milliliters shall be provided.
    - (ii) At least two sets of suction tubing, two feet or more in length shall be provided. (E) for items, (M) for amount.
  3. Suction supplies (M) - shall include rigid and flexible tips.
    - (i) At least two rigid, Yankauer style tips shall be provided.
    - (ii) Two sets of suction catheters shall be provided by BLS transport and ALS units; each set to consist of size 6, 8, 10, 14 and 16 French catheters.
- (4) Diagnostic and assessment devices shall include:
- (a) Sphygmomanometer with inflation bulb and gauge with: (E)
    1. Adult blood pressure cuff (E) - on all units.
    2. Pediatric blood pressure cuff (M) - except on first responder units.
    3. Adult large or thigh blood pressure cuff (M) - except on first responder units.
  - (b) Stethoscope (E)
  - (c) Bandage shears (M)
  - (d) Items (b) and (c) may be carried as personally assigned equipment, provided the service has a posted policy regarding supply of these devices.
- (5) Bandages and dressing material shall include:
- (a) Two (2) rolls of surgical adhesive tape (M), at least one inch in width.
  - (b) Six (6) rolls of conforming gauze roller bandage (M), at least three inches in width.
  - (c) Six (6) triangular bandages (M) with a minimum base at least forty-two (42) inches.
  - (d) Twenty-five (25) sterile 4" by 4" dressings (M).
  - (e) Eight (8) composite pad sterile compresses, abdominal (ABD)/combine dressings (M).

- (f) Two sterile occlusive dressings of white petrolatum coated gauze or plastic membrane film at least 3" by 3" (M).
  - (g) Two burn sheets (M) separately packaged, sterile or clean, at least 60 by 60 inches.
  - (h) Saline solution or sterile water for irrigation (M), in plastic containers sufficient to supply 2000 milliliters on each transport vehicle.
- (6) Immobilization devices provided on all units except first responder units:
- (a) Two long spinal immobilization devices or backboards (E) - whole body splints, or approved devices capable of immobilizing a patient with suspected spinal injuries.
    - 1. Straps or restraints which immobilize the patient at or about the chest, pelvis, and knees shall be provided.
    - 2. Wooden devices shall be sealed with finishes to prevent splintering and aid decontamination.
  - (b) One short spinal immobilization device consisting of a clam-shell, wrap around type vest. (E)
    - 1. Device shall provide spinal immobilization for the seated patient.
    - 2. Device shall include affixed restraint straps, head straps and integral padding.
    - 3. Device with straps and accessories shall be maintained in a separate case or carrier bag.
  - (c) Two cervical spinal immobilization devices or head immobilizers designed to prevent lateral head movement of the restrained patient. (M)
    - 1. Four disposable or plastic covered foam blocks with tape or restraint straps may be provided to fulfill this requirement.
    - 2. Commercial devices shall include accompanying straps or restraint materials.
    - 3. Sand bags shall not fulfill this requirement due to the potential for weight shifts of the fill material.
  - (d) Two sets of cervical collars (M) - shall be provided in the following sizes. (Combinations of adjustable-type collars are acceptable to provide at least two adult and two pediatric/infant collars):
    - 1. Pediatric - Infant sized cervical collars are highly recommended in addition to pediatric size ranges.
    - 2. Small adult.
    - 3. Medium adult.
    - 4. Large adult.
  - (e) Upper extremity splints (M) - shall include at least two devices or sets of fabricated splints for immobilization of arm injuries.
    - 1. Board splints, when provided, shall be padded and at least fifteen inches length.
    - 2. Inflatable splints shall not fulfill this requirement.

- (f) Lower extremity splints (M) - shall include at least two devices or sets of fabricated splints for immobilization of leg injuries.
    - 1. Board splints, when provided, shall be padded and at least thirty-six inches length.
    - 2. Inflatable splints shall not fulfill this requirement.
  - (g) Lower extremity traction splints (E) - shall be provided with necessary attachments to achieve immobilization of femoral fractures involving both lower extremities.
- (7) Immobilization devices on first responder units shall include one set of cervical collars, as identified in (6)(d) and at least one set of upper and lower extremity splints as identified in (6)(e) and (6)(f).
- (8) Patient care supplies shall include:
- (a) Containers for human waste and emesis with a bedpan, urinal, and emesis basin or suitable substitute on all patient transport vehicles. (M)
    - 1. Tissues shall be provided for secretions and toilet use.
    - 2. At least two emesis containers shall be provided.
  - (b) Blankets (M) - or protective patient covers with thermal insulating capabilities.
    - 1. Two blankets for adults
    - 2. One baby blanket and head covering (Cloth or non-woven fabric).
  - (c) Four sheets (M) - of linen or disposable material for cot and patient covers.
  - (d) An obstetrical emergencies pack or O.B. kit (E) - shall provide the following items, but shall not be required on first responder units:
    - 1. Drape towel or underpad,
    - 2. Gauze dressings,
    - 3. Sterile gloves,
    - 4. Bulb syringe or aspirator,
    - 5. Cord clamps and/or umbilical ties,
    - 6. Plastic bags and ties for placental tissues,
    - 7. Infant receiving blanket or swaddling materials, and
    - 8. A head covering shall be provided.
- (9) Infection control supplies shall include:
- (a) Appropriate personal protective equipment (M) - conforming to Occupational Safety and Health Administration rules including, but not limited to, the following:
    - 1. Disposable gloves sized for the crew,
    - 2. Fluid proof gowns or lab coats,
    - 3. Two face masks (NIOSH approved to at least N-95 standards)
    - 4. Eye shields or protective face shields, and
    - 5. Protective footwear or shoe covers.
  - (b) Materials for decontamination and disposal of potentially infected waste (M) - to include:
    - 1. Red plastic bags or trash bags labeled for biohazard, with at least two bags 24" by 30".

2. A puncture resistant container shall be supplied for sharps disposal in a locking-style bracket or in a locked compartment within the ambulance. Sheath style or single use containers shall be disposed of in larger approved containers.
    3. Antiseptic hand cleaner and an Environmental Protection Administration approved hospital grade disinfectant for equipment application.
- (10) Intravenous therapy supplies shall be required on all ambulances as follows: (E) for items, (M) for amounts.
  - (a) Fluid administration sets,
    1. Macro drip, ten to twenty drops per milliliter, three (3) each.
    2. Micro drip, sixty drops per milliliter, three (3) each
  - (b) Antiseptic wipes twelve (12) each.
  - (c) Catheters, over-the-needle type, four (4) sets in each gauge size 14, 16,18,20,22 and 24.
  - (d) Three liters of intravenous solutions, two of which will be crystalloid fluids.
  - (e) Disposable (non-latex) venous tourniquets, sufficient for adult and pediatric use.
  - (f) Intraosseus infusion needles, a minimum of an 18 gauge size shall be required on ALS units.
- (11) Cardiac defibrillators and monitors shall be provided for use by appropriately trained personnel as follows:
  - (a) Advanced life support units shall be equipped with a cardiac monitor, electrocardiographic recorder, and defibrillator. (E)
    1. Cardiac monitoring leads (M) - shall be provided:
      - (i) Six electrodes for adults.
      - (ii) Six electrodes for pediatrics.
    2. A biphasic waveform shall be required on any cardiac monitor/defibrillator purchased for ambulances after the effective date of this rule, and the defibrillator shall provide a minimum setting of ten (10) joules.
  - (b) An automated external defibrillator shall be provided on each staffed ambulance, except those otherwise staffed and equipped to provide advanced life support as identified in paragraph (a) .
  - (c) Automated external defibrillators shall be an optional device for first responder units.
- (12) Medications and required drugs for all ambulance and advanced life support providers shall include: (E) for items, (M) for amounts. Medications must be packaged and stored in accordance with pharmacologic guidelines for sterility, cleanliness, dosage, and expiration.
  - (a) Medications for use by basic emergency medical services on all ambulances shall include:
    1. An anaphylaxis kit of Epinephrine 1:1,000 in a preloaded syringe of 0.3ml per dose, or a Tuberculin syringe with a minimum 5/8 inch, 25 gauge needle, with a sufficient quantity of Epinephrine 1:1,000 to administer two (2) doses to two patients.
    2. Aspirin or therapeutic equivalent for administration to suspected cardiac patients.

3. Beta-adrenergic agonist (albuterol, etc.) or therapeutic equivalent with appropriate administration devices for acute pulmonary distress.
  4. Nitroglycerine, 1/150 grain (0.4 mg) bottle of thirty (30) tablets or sublingual spray, or therapeutic equivalent.
- (b) Medications for use in definitive and cardiac care shall be provided on advanced life support units. Medications used on advanced level ambulances shall be compatible with current standards as indicated by the American Heart Association's Emergency Cardiovascular Care Committee to include:
1. Cardiovascular medications
    - (i) Adenosine, 6 mg/2ml, sufficient to administer successive doses up to 18 milligrams, or therapeutic equivalent.
    - (ii) Atropine sulfate, at least four (4) prefilled syringes of 1.0mg/10ml, or therapeutic equivalent.
    - (iii) Antiarrhythmic agents to include sufficient amounts for two successive doses of either lidocaine for cardiac arrhythmia (at least four (4) prefilled syringes of 100 mg in 5 milliliters), or Amiodarone (in ampules of 150 to 300 mg to total at least 450 mg), or therapeutic equivalent. Admixtures or premixed solutions shall be provided for a maintenance drip.
    - (iv) Magnesium sulfate, 1 gm sufficient to administer 2 gm in successive doses with dilution, or therapeutic equivalent.
    - (v) Bacteriostatic water and sodium chloride for injection and dilution of medications.
  2. Analgesics, such as morphine, meperidine hydrochloride, nalbuphine (Nubain), butorphanol (Stadol), Nitrous oxide, or therapeutic equivalent.
  3. Benzodiazepine anticonvulsant, diazepam (at least two (2) vials or prefilled syringes of ten (10) milligrams/2ml or other benzodiazepine in equivalent amounts sufficient to administer two successive maximum doses, or therapeutic equivalent.
  4. Vasopressor agents, such as Epinephrine 1:10,000, at least four (4) prefilled syringes of 1.0 mg/ml or therapeutic equivalent.
  5. Hypoglycemic countermeasures
    - (i) Glucose testing devices for semi-quantitative blood glucose determinations, with media, calibration strips, and lancets.
    - (ii) Dextrose 50% in water, at least two (2) prefilled syringes of 25 grams in 50 milliliters, or therapeutic equivalent.
    - (iii) Dextrose 25% in water, at least two (2) prefilled syringes of 12.5 grams in 50 milliliters, or therapeutic equivalent.
  6. Narcotic antagonist, Narcan (naloxone). At least two (2) ampules or prefilled syringes of 1mg/ml, or therapeutic equivalent..
  7. Alkalinizing agents, sodium bicarbonate, at least two (2) syringes of 50 mEq in 50 milliliters, or therapeutic equivalent.
  8. Systemic diuretics, furosemide, 10 mg/ml, ampules, vials, or prefilled syringes to total 80 milligrams, or therapeutic equivalent.
  9. Antinauseant, such as promethazine, 25mg/ml, or therapeutic equivalent.
  10. Antihistamine, diphenhydramine, 50 mg, or therapeutic equivalent.
- (c) Syringes for drug administration shall be supplied in at least 1 cc, 3 cc, and 10 cc sizes with needles.

- (d) A length-based drug dosage tape for pediatric resuscitation shall be supplied. (2002 Broselow <sup>TM</sup>or successor edition.)
- (13) Air ambulances shall provide equipment as required in Rule 1200-12-1-.05.
- (14) Equipment requirements as detailed in (3) to (12) shall not apply to vehicles used solely for neonatal critical care transport. Neonatal transport equipment and supplies shall conform to the standards adopted in the Tennessee Perinatal Care System Guidelines for Transportation, Tennessee Department of Health, Maternal and Child Health Section, September, 2001, or the successor publication.
- (15) Inspections of equipment and supplies reflecting deficiencies in essential (E) items or multiple deficiencies of minimum (M) items shall be grounds for failure of inspection. Five or fewer deficiencies or shortage of supplies termed minimal (M) shall receive a warning. Conditional acceptance during inspection may be recognized by the Division's representative when good faith efforts are demonstrated by the provider to acquire or repair minimal equipment, subject to a recheck of any conditional device within forty-five (45) days of the initial inspection.
- (16) Equipment cited for Emergency Medical First Responder vehicles shall be in addition to minimal supplies cited in Rule 1200-12-1-.16.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-5-202, 4-5-204, 68-140-504, 68-140-505, and 68-140-507.

The rulemaking hearing rules set out herein were properly filed in the Department of State on the 16th day of November, 2005, and will become effective on the 30th day of January, 2006.