

# ROLES OF THE MODERN PARAMEDIC

## Primary Care Paramedicine

Module: 02  
Section: 04



- Review the current typical roles for EMS providers
- Explore the opportunities Paramedics can explore in acute, non-acute and expanded scope or community paramedicine programs

- As outlined in the NOCP document there are four practitioner levels in paramedicine:
  - Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
  - Primary Care Paramedic (PCP)
  - Advanced Care Paramedic (ACP)
  - Critical Care Paramedic (CCP)

- The traditional scope refers to out-of-hospital care, typically involving transporting patients to a hospital.
- Expanded scope or community paramedicine moves beyond that role to apply specialized training and skills, treatment and decision making abilities.
- These expanded roles can be acute or non-acute settings

- Hospitals/Clinical
- Collaborative Emergency Centers
- Advanced care on scene
- Alternative transport decisions or care plans
- Treat and release



# Collaborative Emergency Center



- The industrial paramedic provides several important services in addition to emergency care.









- Primary care
- Public health
- Home visits
- Partnerships with other health or public safety organizations
- Isolated communities

# Primary Care (Community Paramedicine)

- Many patients receive primary care outside the hospital at far less cost
- In some cases, paramedics in close contact with medical direction can provide care at the scene without transport to the hospital.



- Paramedics will continue to fill the well-defined and traditional role of 911 response.
- Emerging roles include
  - Public education
  - Health promotion
  - Participation in illness prevention programs





- Event medical coverage
- Support for trainers or coaching staff





- Diagnostic testing
- Blood work
- Medication administration
- Physician follow up



- Needs assessment
- Staffing requirements
- Education requirements
- Outcome goals and measurements

- Although a vital part of the profession, the practice of prehospital emergency management and transport is evolving to meet the needs of the health care system in general.
- As the scope of practice grows to meet these needs, so to will the educational requirements and opportunities for future Paramedics.