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)



Traditional vs Expanded Scope

- 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



Clinical Paramedic





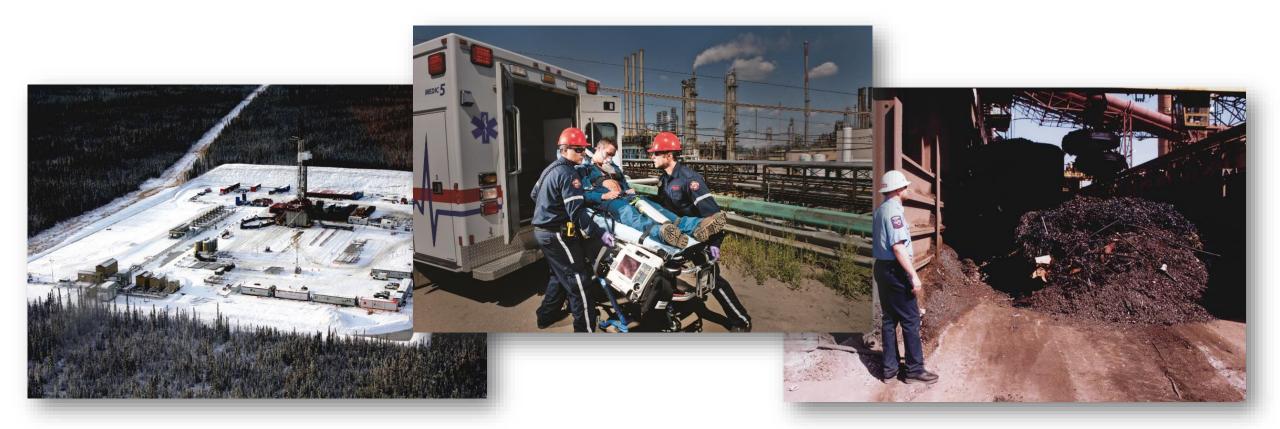
Collaborative Emergency Center







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











Expanded Scope Paramedic







- 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



Public Education





Health Promotion







- Event medical coverage
- Support for trainers or coaching staff





Isolated Communities

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



Implementing Expanded Scope Paramedicine

- 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.