

Patient Assessment – Trauma Instructions to Skill Examiners

Thank you for serving as a Skill Examiner at today's examination. Please take a few moments to review the instructions for your station.

Skill Examiner Responsibilities

- Act in a professional and unbiased manner toward everyone involved in the exam, including candidates.
- Limit conversation with candidates to instructions and answering exam-related questions.
- Do not behave in a way that is discriminatory or perceived as harassment, and immediately report all instances of discrimination or harassment to the Regional EMS Consultant and/or Program Officials.
- Maintain control of your scenario.
 - Familiarize yourself with the details of the scenario.
 - Brief simulated patients and assistants.
 - Make sure all equipment is functional.
- Be sure that all exam materials always remain in a secure place.
- Return all exam materials to the Regional EMS Consultant and/or Program Officials.
 - Include all notes taken by the candidate.
- Thoroughly document justification for the candidate's score, especially if any Critical Criteria are identified.
- Do not give verbal or physical cues to the candidate to indicate their performance at your station. Remain neutral and objective in your conduct.

Skill Examiner Key Points

- Candidates are expected to choose equipment and medications based on current evidence-based guidelines and the national scope of practice for the EMT level for which the candidate is testing.
- The perceived chronological order in which a candidate performs each step for a skill is only important if performing steps out of order would cause harm.
- Reasonable equipment substitutions are acceptable. Direct any questions regarding equipment substitutions to the Regional EMS Consultant and/or Program Officials.
- Report all equipment failures immediately to the Regional EMS Consultant and/or Program Officials, and promptly replace defective equipment.

Skill Examiner Key Points

- Evaluate the candidate's ability to use appropriate interviewing techniques and assessment skills for a patient who has a traumatic injury.
- This skill requires the presence of a live Simulated Patient or high-fidelity simulation manikin capable of responding as a real patient.
- The Simulated Patient must be at least 16 years of age.
- The age and gender of the patient in the scenario may be altered to match today's Simulated Patient.
- Do not allow candidates to remove clothing or expose the simulated patient beyond a level previously agreed upon by you, the Regional EMS Consultant, Program Officials, and the simulated patient.
- Due to the limitations of moulage, you must provide any information to the candidate that would have been made obvious by the candidate's assessment.
- Candidates have a maximum 15-minute time limit to complete this skill station.
- If a candidate took notes, it is your responsibility to retain those notes upon completion of the station and return them to the Regional EMS Consultant and/or Program Officials.
- If a candidate freezes, it is appropriate to prompt them without guiding them to the answer.
- Do not deviate from the information in the scenario.

Simulated Patient Key Points

- Performance should be consistent for every candidate.
- The skill examiner will help you understand your appropriate responses for today's scenario.
- It is inappropriate to prompt or guide the candidate to the answer. Responses should only occur upon assessment of the area.
- When movement is required (logrolling, etc), assist the candidate in your movement to avoid injury to yourself and the candidate.
- If you need to leave the room for a break, wrap a blanket around yourself to avoid exposing your moulage to other candidates.
- Do not allow candidates to remove your clothing or expose you beyond a level previously agreed upon by you and the skill examiner.

Equipment List

Do not open this skill for testing until the Regional EMS Consultant and/or Program Official(s) has provided you with a Patient Assessment - Trauma scenario. The following equipment must also be available, and you must ensure that it is working adequately throughout the examination:

- Personal protective equipment
- Moulage kit or similar substitute
- Outer garments to be cut away
- Penlight
- Blood pressure cuff
- Stethoscope
- Pulse oximeter
- Scissors
- Blanket
- Tape (for outer garments)

Instructions to the Psychomotor Skills Candidate Patient Assessment – Trauma Skill Station

This is the Patient Assessment – Trauma skill station. In this skill, you will have 15 minutes to perform your assessment, patient interview, and verbally treat all conditions discovered. You must conduct your assessment as you would in the field, including communicating with your Simulated Patient. You may remove the Simulated Patient's clothing down to his/her shorts or swimsuit if you feel it is necessary. As you progress through this skill, you should state everything you are assessing. Specific clinical information not obtainable by visual or physical inspection, for example blood pressure, must be obtained from the Simulated Patient just as you would in the out-of-hospital setting. You may assume you have two partners working with you who are trained to your level of care. They can only perform the interventions you indicate necessary and I will acknowledge all interventions you order. I may also supply additional information and ask questions for clarification purposes. Do you have any questions?

[Skill Examiner now reads “Mechanism of Injury” from prepared scenario and begins 15-minute time limit.]