

National Occupational Competency Profiles for Paramedic Practitioners

LINKS BETWEEN ESSENTIAL SKILLS AND OCCUPATIONAL COMPETENCIES



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Project Director: Mary Beth Gibbons, MA

Project Consultant: David Cane, PhD; Catalysis Consulting, Kamloops BC

Essential Skills Consultant: Glenda Lewe; Glenda Lewe Consulting, Ottawa ON

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Paramedic Association of Canada

Unit 294

230 - 1210 Summit Drive

Kamloops BC V2C 6M1

www.paramedic.ca

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	reading text	document use	writing	numerical estimation	measurement & calc math	data analysis	oral communication	problem solving	decision making	job task planning	memory	finding information	working with others	computer use	continuous learning	attitude	future trends	physical - fine motor	physical - sensory	physical - strength
GENERAL COMPETENCY 1.1 Function as a professional.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
1.1.a Maintain patient dignity.																X				
1.1.b Reflect professionalism through use of appropriate language.							X									X				
1.1.c Dress appropriately and maintain personal hygiene.																X				
1.1.d Maintain appropriate personal interaction with patients.																X				
1.1.e Maintain patient confidentiality.																X				
1.1.f Participate in quality assurance and enhancement programs.								X							X		X			
1.1.g Utilize community support agencies as appropriate.							X					X								
1.1.h Promote awareness of emergency medical system and profession.							X					X								
1.1.i Participate in professional association.															X	X				
1.1.j Behave ethically.																X				
1.1.k Function as patient advocate.																X				
GENERAL COMPETENCY 1.2 Participate in continuing education.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
1.2.a Develop personal plan for continuing professional development.															X	X				
1.2.b Self-evaluate and set goals for improvement, as related to professional practice.															X	X				

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1.2.c Interpret evidence in medical literature and assess relevance to practice.	X	X				X		X							X	X	X			
GENERAL COMPETENCY 1.3 Possess an understanding of the medicolegal aspects of the profession.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
1.3.a Comply with scope of practice.	X								X		X						X			
1.3.b Recognize "patient rights" and the implications on the role of the provider.							X	X									X			
1.3.c Include all pertinent and required information on ambulance call report forms.		X	X								X									
GENERAL COMPETENCY 1.4 Recognize and comply with relevant provincial and federal legislation.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
1.4.a Function within relevant legislation, policies and procedures.	X								X								X			
GENERAL COMPETENCY 1.5 Function effectively in a team environment.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
1.5.a Work collaboratively with a partner.							X			X			X							
1.5.b Accept and deliver constructive feedback.			X				X						X				X			
1.5.c Work collaboratively with other emergency response agencies.							X			X			X				X			
1.5.d Work collaboratively with other members of the health care team.							X			X			X				X			

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GENERAL COMPETENCY 1.6 Make decisions effectively.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
1.6.a Exhibit reasonable and prudent judgement.									X							X				
1.6.b Practice effective problem-solving.								X	X							X				
1.6.c Delegate tasks appropriately.							X	X	X				X			X				
GENERAL COMPETENCY 2.1 Practice effective oral communication skills.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
2.1.a Deliver an organized, accurate and relevant report utilizing telecommunication devices.							X													
2.1.b Deliver an organized, accurate and relevant verbal report.							X													
2.1.c Deliver an organized, accurate and relevant patient history.							X													
2.1.d Provide information to patient about their situation and how they will be treated.							X									X				
2.1.e Interact effectively with the patient, relatives and bystanders who are in stressful situations.							X									X				
2.1.f Speak in language appropriate to the listener.							X									X				
2.1.g Use appropriate terminology.							X									X				

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GENERAL COMPETENCY 2.2 Practice effective written communication skills.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
2.2.a Record organized, accurate and relevant patient information.			X											X						
2.2.b Prepare professional correspondence.			X											X						
GENERAL COMPETENCY 2.3 Practice effective non-verbal communication skills.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
2.3.a Exhibit effective non-verbal behaviour.							X									X				
2.3.b Practice active listening techniques.							X									X				
2.3.c Establish trust and rapport with patients and colleagues.							X									X				
2.3.d Recognize and react appropriately to non-verbal behaviours.							X									X				
GENERAL COMPETENCY 2.4 Practice effective interpersonal relations.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
2.4.a Treat others with respect.							X									X				
2.4.b Exhibit empathy and compassion while providing care.							X									X				
2.4.c Recognize and react appropriately to individuals and groups manifesting coping mechanisms.							X									X				
2.4.d Act in a confident manner.																X				
2.4.e Act assertively as required.							X		X				X			X				
2.4.f Manage and provide support to patients, bystanders and relatives manifesting emotional reactions.							X									X				

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2.4.g Exhibit diplomacy, tact and discretion.							X	X								X				
2.4.h Exhibit conflict resolution skills.							X	X								X				
GENERAL COMPETENCY 3.1 Maintain good physical and mental health.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
3.1.a Maintain balance in personal lifestyle.																X				
3.1.b Develop and maintain an appropriate support system.							X					X	X			X				
3.1.c Manage personal stress.																X				
3.1.d Practice effective strategies to improve physical and mental health while working shift work.							X					X				X				X
3.1.e Exhibit physical strength and fitness consistent with the requirements of professional practice.	X										X					X				X
GENERAL COMPETENCY 3.2 Practice safe lifting and moving techniques.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
3.2.a Practice safe biomechanics.									X											
3.2.b Transfer patient from various positions using applicable equipment and / or techniques.								X	X	X			X							X
3.2.c Transfer patient using emergency evacuation techniques.									X	X			X							X

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3.2.d Secure patient to applicable equipment.									X				X							X
3.2.e Lift patient and stretcher in and out of ambulance with partner.										X			X							X
GENERAL COMPETENCY 3.3 Create and maintain a safe work environment.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
3.3.a Assess scene for safety.									X											
3.3.b Address potential occupational hazards.								X	X											
3.3.c Conduct basic extrication.							X	X		X			X							X
3.3.d Exhibit defusing and self-protection behaviours appropriate for use with patients and bystanders.							X		X											
3.3.e Conduct procedures and operations consistent with Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) and hazardous materials management requirements.	X	X							X											
3.3.f Practice infection control techniques.	X								X		X									
3.3.g Clean and disinfect equipment.	X	X																X		
3.3.h Clean and disinfect an emergency vehicle.	X	X																X		

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GENERAL COMPETENCY 4.1 Conduct triage.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
4.1.a Rapidly assess a scene based on the principles of a triage system.								X	X	X	X		X							
4.1.b Assume different roles in a mass casualty incident.								X		X	X		X							
4.1.c Manage a mass casualty incident.								X	X	X	X		X							
GENERAL COMPETENCY 4.2 Obtain patient history.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
4.2.a Obtain list of patient's allergies.	X	X	X									X		X						
4.2.b Obtain list of patient's medications.	X	X					X	X				X		X						
4.2.c Obtain chief complaint and / or incident history from patient, family members and / or bystanders.		X	X									X		X						
4.2.d Obtain information regarding patient's past medical history.	X	X					X	X				X		X						
4.2.e Obtain information about patient's last oral intake.	X		X				X	X				X		X						
4.2.f Obtain information regarding incident through accurate and complete scene assessment.			X				X	X				X		X						
GENERAL COMPETENCY 4.3 Conduct complete physical assessment demonstrating appropriate use of inspection, palpation, percussion and																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
4.3.a Conduct primary patient assessment and interpret findings.				X			X		X											X
4.3.b Conduct secondary patient assessment and interpret findings.				X	X		X													X

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4.3.c Conduct cardiovascular system assessment and interpret findings.		X		X	X		X		X			X		X					X	
4.3.d Conduct neurological system assessment and interpret findings.				X	X		X		X			X							X	
4.3.e Conduct respiratory system assessment and interpret findings.		X		X	X		X					X		X					X	
4.3.f Conduct obstetrical assessment and interpret findings.		X		X	X		X		X			X		X					X	
4.3.g Conduct gastrointestinal system assessment and interpret findings.				X	X		X		X			X							X	
4.3.h Conduct genitourinary system assessment and interpret findings.				X	X		X		X			X							X	
4.3.i Conduct integumentary system assessment and interpret findings.				X	X		X		X			X							X	
4.3.j Conduct musculoskeletal assessment and interpret findings.				X	X		X		X			X							X	
4.3.k Conduct assessment of the immune system and interpret findings.												X							X	
4.3.l Conduct assessment of the endocrine system and interpret findings.				X	X							X							X	
4.3.m Conduct assessment of the ears, eyes, nose and throat and interpret findings.				X	X							X							X	
4.3.n Conduct multisystem assessment and interpret findings.				X	X							X							X	
4.3.o Conduct neonatal assessment and interpret findings.		X		X	X	X		X		X		X		X					X	

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4.3.p Conduct psychiatric assessment and interpret findings.		X		X								X								
GENERAL COMPETENCY 4.4 Assess vital signs.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
4.4.a Assess pulse.					X				X										X	
4.4.b Assess respiration.				X	X				X										X	
4.3.c Conduct non-invasive temperature monitoring.				X	X	X													X	
4.4.d Measure blood pressure by auscultation.				X	X														X	
4.4.e Measure blood pressure by palpation.				X	X														X	
4.4.f Measure blood pressure with non-invasive blood pressure monitor.					X									X						
4.4.g Assess skin condition.									X										X	
4.4.h Assess pupils.				X					X										X	
4.4.i Assess level of mentation.		X			X				X		X									
GENERAL COMPETENCY 4.5 Utilize diagnostic tests.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
4.5.a Conduct oximetry testing and interpret findings.			X		X				X	X	X			X						
4.5.b Conduct end-tidal carbon dioxide monitoring and interpret findings.			X		X				X	X	X			X						
4.5.c Conduct glucometric testing and interpret findings.			X		X				X	X	X			X						
4.5.d Conduct peripheral venipuncture.										X	X								X	
4.5.e Obtain arterial blood samples via radial artery puncture.		X							X		X								X	

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4.5.f Obtain arterial blood samples via arterial line access.		X			X						X							X		
4.5.g Conduct invasive core temperature monitoring and interpret findings.		X			X						X							X		
4.5.h Conduct pulmonary artery catheter monitoring and interpret findings.		X			X				X		X							X		
4.5.i Conduct central venous pressure monitoring and interpret findings.																		X		
4.5.j Conduct arterial line monitoring and interpret findings.		X			X						X			X				X		
4.5.k Interpret laboratory and radiological data.	X	X				X			X		X									
4.5.l Conduct 3-lead electrocardiogram (ECG) and interpret findings.		X		X				X	X		X			X				X		
4.5.m Obtain 12-lead electrocardiogram and interpret findings.		X		X				X	X		X			X				X		

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GENERAL COMPETENCY 5.1 Maintain patency of upper airway and trachea.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
5.1.a Use manual maneuvers and positioning to maintain airway patency.		X						X	X									X		
5.1.b Suction oropharynx.		X						X	X									X		
5.1.c Suction beyond oropharynx.		X		X				X	X									X		
5.1 d Utilize oropharyngeal airway.		X		X	X			X	X									X		
5.1.e Utilize nasopharyngeal airway.		X		X	X			X	X									X		
5.1.f Utilize airway devices not requiring visualization of vocal cords and not introduced endotracheally.		X		X	X			X	X	X								X		
5.1.g Utilize airway devices not requiring visualization of vocal cords and introduced endotracheally.		X		X	X			X	X	X									X	
5.1.h Utilize airway devices requiring visualization of vocal cords and introduced endotracheally.		X		X	X			X	X	X	X								X	
5.1.i Remove airway foreign bodies (AFB).		X						X	X		X							X		
5.1.j Remove foreign body by direct techniques.		X						X	X		X							X		
5.1.k Conduct percutaneous cricothyroidotomy.		X						X	X	X	X								X	
5.1.l Conduct surgical cricothyroidotomy.		X						X	X	X	X								X	

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GENERAL COMPETENCY 5.2 Prepare oxygen delivery devices.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
5.2.a Recognize indications for oxygen administration.								X	X		X									
5.2.b Take appropriate safety precautions.								X	X		X									
5.2.c Ensure adequacy of oxygen supply.				X	X			X	X											
5.2.d Recognize different types of oxygen delivery systems.									X		X									
5.2.e Utilize portable oxygen delivery systems.					X			X	X									X		
GENERAL COMPETENCY 5.3 Deliver oxygen and administer manual ventilation.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
5.3.a Administer oxygen using nasal cannula.		X			X				X											
5.3.b Administer oxygen using low concentration mask.		X			X				X											
5.3.c Administer oxygen using controlled concentration mask.		X			X				X											
5.3.d Administer oxygen using high concentration mask.		X			X				X											
5.3.e Administer oxygen using pocket mask.		X			X			X	X											

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GENERAL COMPETENCY 5.4 Utilize ventilation equipment.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
5.4.a Provide oxygenation and ventilation using bag-valve-mask.		X							X									X		X
5.4.b Recognize indications for mechanical ventilation.									X		X									
5.4.c Prepare mechanical ventilation equipment.	X							X	X		X	X						X		
5.4.d Provide mechanical ventilation.		X				X		X	X										X	
GENERAL COMPETENCY 5.5 Implement measures to maintain hemodynamic stability.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
5.5.a Conduct cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).		X							X		X									X
5.5.b Control external hemorrhage through the use of direct pressure and patient positioning.		X		X				X	X											X
5.5.c Maintain peripheral intravenous (IV) access devices and infusions of crystalloid solutions without additives.		X		X	X			X	X											
5.5.d Conduct peripheral intravenous cannulation.		X						X	X		X							X		
5.5.e Conduct intraosseous needle insertion.		X						X	X		X							X		
5.5.f Utilize direct pressure infusion devices with intravenous infusions.		X						X	X											
5.5.g Administer volume expanders (colloid and non-crystalloid).		X						X	X		X									

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5.5 h Administer blood and/or blood products.		X						X	X		X		X							
5.5.i Conduct automated external defibrillation.		X						X	X		X			X						
5.5.j Conduct manual defibrillation.		X						X	X		X			X						
5.5.k Conduct cardioversion.		X						X	X		X			X						
5.5.l Conduct transcutaneous pacing.		X						X	X		X			X						
5.5.m Maintain transvenous pacing.		X						X	X		X			X						
5.5.n Maintain intra-aortic balloon pumps.		X						X	X		X			X						
5.5.o Provide routine care for patient with urinary catheter.		X		X	X			X	X											
5.5.p Provide routine care for patient with ostomy drainage system.		X		X	X			X	X											
5.5.q Provide routine care for patient with non-catheter urinary drainage system.		X		X	X			X	X											
5.5.r Monitor chest tubes.		X		X	X			X	X											X
5.5.s Conduct needle thoracostomy.		X						X	X		X							X	X	
5.5.t Conduct oral and nasal gastric tube insertion.		X			X			X	X		X							X	X	
5.5.u Conduct urinary catheterization.		X			X			X	X		X							X	X	
GENERAL COMPETENCY 5.6 Provide basic care for soft tissue injuries.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
5.6.a Treat soft tissue injuries.		X						X	X										X	
5.6.b Treat burn.		X						X	X										X	
5.6.c Treat eye injury.		X						X	X										X	
5.6.d Treat penetration wound.		X						X	X										X	
5.6.e Treat local cold injury.		X						X	X										X	
GENERAL COMPETENCY 5.7 Immobilize actual and suspected fractures.																				

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SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
5.7.a Immobilize suspected fractures involving appendicular skeleton.							X	X	X		X							X		
5.7.b Immobilize suspected fractures involving axial skeleton.							X	X	X	X	X							X		
GENERAL COMPETENCY 5.8 Administer medications.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
5.8.a Recognize principles of pharmacology as applied to the medications listed in Appendix 5.	X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X	X								
5.8.b Follow safe process for responsible medication administration.	X	X		X	X		X		X		X									
5.8.c Administer medication via subcutaneous route.		X		X	X		X	X			X									
5.8.d Administer medication via intramuscular route.		X		X	X		X	X			X							X		
5.8.e Administer medication via intravenous route.		X		X	X		X	X			X							X		
5.8.f Administer medication via intraosseous route.		X		X	X		X	X			X							X		
5.8.g Administer medication via endotracheal route.		X		X	X		X	X			X							X		
5.8.h Administer medication via sublingual route.		X		X	X		X	X			X							X		
5.8.i Administer medication via topical route.		X		X	X		X	X			X									
5.8.j Administer medication via oral route.		X		X	X		X	X			X									

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5.8.k Administer medication via rectal route.		X			X		X	X			X							X		
5.8.l Administer medication via inhalation.		X			X		X	X			X							X		
GENERAL COMPETENCY 6.1 Utilize differential diagnosis skills, decision-making skills and psychomotor skills in providing care to patients.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
6.1.a Provide care to patient experiencing illness or injury primarily involving cardiovascular system.		X					X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X		
6.1.b Provide care to patient experiencing illness or injury primarily involving neurological system.		X					X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X		
6.1.c Provide care to patient experiencing illness or injury primarily involving respiratory system.		X					X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X		
6.1.d Provide care to patient experiencing illness or injury primarily involving genitourinary / reproductive systems.		X					X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X		
6.1.e Provide care to patient experiencing illness or injury primarily involving gastrointestinal system.		X					X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X		
6.1.f Provide care to patient experiencing illness or injury primarily involving integumentary system.		X					X	X	X	X	X		X			X		X		
6.1.g Provide care to patient experiencing illness or injury primarily involving musculoskeletal system.		X					X	X	X	X	X		X			X		X		

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6.1.h Provide care to patient experiencing illness or injury primarily involving immune system.		X					X	X	X	X	X		X			X		X		
6.1.i Provide care to patient experiencing illness or injury primarily involving endocrine system.		X					X	X	X	X	X		X			X		X		
6.1.j Provide care to patient experiencing illness or injury primarily involving the eyes, ears, nose or throat.		X	X				X	X	X	X	X		X			X		X		
6.1.k Provide care to patient experiencing illness or injury due to poisoning or overdose.		X	X				X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X		
6.1.l Provide care to patient experiencing non-urgent medical problem.		X	X				X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X		
6.1.m Provide care to patient experiencing terminal illness.		X	X				X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X		
6.1.n Provide care to patient experiencing illness or injury due to extremes of temperature or adverse environments.		X	X				X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X		
6.1.o Provide care to patient based on understanding of common physiological, anatomical, incident and patient-specific field trauma criteria that determine appropriate decisions for triage, transport and destination.		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X		X			X		X		
6.1.p Provide care for patient experiencing psychiatric crisis.		X	X				X	X	X	X	X		X			X		X		

	reading text	document use	writing	numerical estimation	measurement & calc math	data analysis	oral communication	problem solving	decision making	job task planning	memory	finding information	working with others	computer use	continuous learning	attitude	future trends	physical - fine motor	physical - sensory	physical - strength
6.1.q Provide care for patient in labour.		X	X				X	X	X	X	X		X			X		X		
GENERAL COMPETENCY 6.2. Provide care to meet the needs of unique patient groups.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
6.2.a Provide care for neonatal patient.		X	X				X	X	X	X	X		X			X		X		
6.2.b Provide care for pediatric patient.							X	X	X											X
6.2.c Provide care for geriatric patient.							X	X												X
6.2.d Provide care for physically-challenged patient.							X	X	X											X
6.2.e Provide care for mentally-challenged patient.							X	X	X											X
GENERAL COMPETENCY 6.3 Conduct ongoing assessments and provide care.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
6.3.a Conduct ongoing assessments based on patient presentation and interpret findings.	X	X																		
6.3.b Re-direct priorities based on assessment findings.							X	X	X	X	X		X							
GENERAL COMPETENCY 7.1 Prepare ambulance for service.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
7.1a Conduct vehicle maintenance and safety check.		X	X																X	
7.1.b Recognize conditions requiring removal of vehicle from service.		X	X					X	X											
7.1.c Utilize all vehicle equipment & vehicle devices within ambulance.		X									X							X		

	reading text	document use	writing	numerical estimation	measurement & calc math	data analysis	oral communication	problem solving	decision making	job task planning	memory	finding information	working with others	computer use	continuous learning	attitude	future trends	physical - fine motor	physical - sensory	physical - strength
GENERAL COMPETENCY 7.2 Drive ambulance or similar type vehicle.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
7.2.a Utilize defensive driving techniques.											X					X				
7.2.b Utilize safe emergency driving techniques.								X		X						X				
7.2.c Drive in a manner that ensures patient comfort and a safe environment for all passengers.								X								X		X		
GENERAL COMPETENCY 7.3 Transfer patient to air ambulance.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
7.3.a Create safe landing zone for rotary-wing aircraft.								X	X		X									
7.3.b Safely approach stationary rotary-wing aircraft.								X	X		X									
7.3.c Safely approach stationary fixed-wing aircraft.								X	X		X									
GENERAL COMPETENCY 7.4 Transport patient in air ambulance.																				
SPECIFIC COMPETENCY																				
7.4.a Prepare patient for air medical transport.	X	X					X			X	X	X	X							X
7.4.b Recognize the stressors of flight on patient, crew and equipment, and the implications for patient care.				X	X				X											