



State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health
Bureau of Emergency Medical Services
Emergency Medical Services Certification Commission

Dr. Jeffrey Elder, Chair
ACEP

Ryan Brown, Vice Chair
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EMT

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LFCA/Paramedic

Dr. Jeffrey Kuo
LSMA

Dr. Meg Marino
AAP

Christopher Mixon
Paramedic

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LSNA

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PFFA

Dr. Lance Stuke
ACOS

Jeff Watson
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Tracy Wold
Private Administrator

Susan Bailey, Director
Bureau of EMS

Stacy Barbay
Bureau of EMS
Commission Facilitator

Expansion to the Louisiana Scope of Practice

Position of the Louisiana EMS Certification Commission

The consensus of the LA EMSCC is that the benefit of this expansion to the public is significant and the risk is negligible if agencies utilizing the expansion provide appropriate training and verify competency for individuals authorized to perform the skill or procedure.

Specific Expansion

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, licensed EMS professionals at the EMR, EMT and Advanced EMT level in Louisiana will be allowed to perform the following procedures:

- Nasal swabbing for specimen collection
- Nasopharyngeal swabbing for specimen collection
- Oral swabbing for specimen collection
- Capillary blood collection for analysis "fingerstick"

During a public health emergency/event and/or a declared disaster, licensed EMS professionals at the EMT and Advanced EMT levels can administer the prescribed vaccines related to the event. This includes additional vaccinations to be delivered as part of the event.

Record Keeping

Agencies utilizing these skills must maintain documentation demonstrating all individuals authorized by the agency's Medical Director to perform these skill(s)/procedure(s) have attended an agency-specific training module. Agency documentation of competency validation is required every 24 months.

Education related to the prescribed vaccines must be conducted and approved by the employing EMS provider's Medical Director and documented in the Practitioner's training transcript/file.

(This expansion is already approved for Paramedics under the Louisiana Scope of Practice.)

Duration of the expanded scope for EMR, EMT and AEMT Providers

This expansion of skills will remain in force during the COVID -19 crisis or until rescinded by the Louisiana EMS Certification Commission