



EMA FR Examination Study Material

NOCP 1 – Professional Responsibilities

The [National Occupational Competency Profile for Paramedics \(NOCPs\)](#) contains a set of four integrated competency profiles that define the competencies of paramedic and emergency medical responders within Canada. While EMA FRs are not specifically listed within the NOCPs, the relationship can be drawn from the current legislation, regulation and policies to link EMA FR services and endorsements to the NOCPs.

The framework for NOCP 1 – Professional Responsibilities is:

- 1.1 Function as a professional.
- 1.2 Participate in continuing education and professional development.
- 1.3 Possess an understanding of the medicolegal aspects of the profession.
- 1.4 Recognize and comply with relevant provincial and federal legislation.
- 1.5 Function effectively in a team environment.
- 1.6 Make decisions effectively.
- 1.7 Manage scenes with actual or potential forensic implications.

The purpose of this study material is to assist candidates in preparing for British Columbia's EMA FR initial licensing and licence renewal examinations.

Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board

The Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board is responsible for examining, registering and licensing all emergency medical assistants (EMAs) in B.C., including first responders.

The board, under the authority of the Emergency Health Services Act, sets licence terms and conditions. In addition, the board investigates complaints and conducts hearings where necessary.

Read the entire Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board section of the EMA Licensing website (located on the navigation pane on the left side of the website).

Link: [Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board](#)

Complaint and Hearing Procedures

The EMA Licensing Board is mandated to investigate complaints regarding patient care and violations to the EMA code of ethics.

Key Study Areas:

Read the entire Complaints section of the EMA Licensing website (located on the navigation pane on the left side of the website).

Link: [Complaints](#)

Emergency Health Services Act

The *Emergency Health Services Act* defines key terms associated with the emergency medical services professions, for example “ambulance” and “emergency medical assistant (EMA)”. The Act also describes British Columbia Emergency Health Services (BCEHS), which is the corporation with the legislated mandate to provide British Columbia residents with ambulance services and emergency health services. The Act outlines the power and authority of the BCEHS.

This Act describes the composition of the Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board and outlines the scope of its power and authority. The EMA Licensing Board is responsible for examining, registering and licensing all EMAs in B.C., including First Responders.

In addition, the Act outlines the disciplinary action that may occur to an EMA following a complaint investigation and the actions the EMA Licensing Board may take to protect the public. The Act also outlines the appeal process an EMA may decide to pursue, if adversely affected.

Key Study Areas:

Read the entire *Emergency Health Services Act*, focusing on the following sections:

- Definitions ([Section 1](#))
- Purposes of corporation ([Section 5.1](#));
- Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board ([Section 6](#))
- Disciplinary action ([Section 7](#));
- Extraordinary action to protect the public ([Section 8](#));
- Appeal ([Section 9](#));
- No service contrary to advance directive ([Section 11.1](#)); and
- Licence required ([Section 12](#))

Link: [Emergency Health Services Act](#)

Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation

The EMA Regulation outlines a comprehensive list of code of ethics requirements for all EMAs; it describes the precise scope of practice for each licence category and describes the continuing competency requirements EMAs are required to complete to maintain licensure.

Additionally, the EMA regulation describes the licence application process, the information requirements necessary for licensure and the various categories of EMA licence available.

Key Study Areas:

Read the entire Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation, focusing on the following sections:

- Definitions ([Section 1](#));
- Application for licence ([Section 2](#));
- Applicants authorized to practice in a jurisdiction outside of British Columbia ([Section 3](#));
- Categories of licence ([Section 8](#));
- Term of licence ([Section 9](#));
- Requirements for renewals and reinstatement ([Section 9.1](#) & [9.2](#));
- Endorsement of other skills ([Section 10](#));
- Condition of licence ([Section 11](#));
- Register ([Section 13](#));
- Continuing Competence ([Part 4](#));
- Services – Licence Category ([Schedule 1](#))
- Services – Licence Endorsement ([Schedule 2](#)); and
- Code of Ethics – ([Schedule 3](#)).

Link: [Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation](#)

Emergency and Health Services Regulation

The Emergency and Health Services Regulation outlines the fees charged for licensing EMAs.

Key Study Areas:

Read the entire Emergency and Health Services Regulation.

Link: [Emergency and Health Services Regulation](#)

Advanced Directive

Read the entire EMA Licensing Board special bulletin outlining applicable information on the advance directive.

Link: [Advance Directive](#)

Gunshot and Stab Wound Disclosure Act

The *Gunshot and Stab Wound Disclosure Act* requires EMAs to notify local police when an individual presents for treatment of a gunshot or stab wound.

Key Study Areas:

Read the entire Act and supporting documentation detailing reporting requirements.

Link: [Gunshot and Stab Wound Disclosure Act](#) and [British Columbia Gunshot and Stab Wound Disclosure Requirements](#)

WorkSafeBC – Occupational Health and Safety Regulation

The WorkSafeBC Occupational Health and Safety Regulation provides key information for individuals who plan on working in British Columbia as designated workplace first-aid attendants (e.g. at a community college, manufacturing facility, oil-rig, etc.).

To understand when the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation is applicable refer to the following table.

<i>If</i>	<i>Then</i>
You provide medical care to the public (e.g. through the British Columbia Ambulance Service).	Your practice is <u>not</u> subject to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation.
You provide medical care to employees in a workplace, as a designated first-aid attendant.	Your practice <u>is</u> subject to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation.

All applicants applying for licensure within British Columbia should have an awareness of the WorkSafeBC Occupational Health and Safety Regulation.

The regulation outlines first-aid attendant qualifications; employer responsibilities regarding first-aid equipment, supplies, and transport; how to maintain first-aid records; and first-aid attendant responsibilities.

Key Study Areas:

Read the entire WorkSafeBC Occupational Health and Safety Regulation.

Link: [WorkSafe BC Related Law and Policy](#)

Good Samaritan Act

The *Good Samaritan Act* describes how “off-duty” health care professionals who render assistance to a sick or injured person cannot be held liable for damages, injuries or death that allegedly result from the act or omission of an act in offering medical assistance. The only exception to this act is if the established injuries or death are caused by the “off-duty” professional’s gross negligence in offering care.

Key Study Areas:

Read the entire Act.

Link: [*The Good Samaritan Act*](#)

Examination Questions

These questions are provided by the EMA Licensing Branch as study material for EMA FR examinations.

Please note that only 25 of the questions below will be on the EMR FR licensing and licence renewal examinations. Additionally, the questions and answers will be randomized in the examination(s).

- 1) A conscious patient has refused care from an EMA. The patient suddenly becomes unconscious. The EMA can legally provide emergency care despite the initial refusal. This is an example of:
 - a) Expressed consent
 - b) Substituted consent
 - c) Advance directive
 - d) Implied consent
- 2) Maintaining a professional appearance as an EMA-FR is important because it:
 - a) Is a local, provincial and federal requirement
 - b) Let's bystanders know that you are important
 - c) Helps to instil confidence in patients and their families
 - d) Allows other rescuers to recognize you from your dress
- 3) As an EMA, you have answered a call to a potential crime scene. Once the scene is safe, your priority is to:
 - a) Preserve crime-scene evidence
 - b) Notify relatives of the victim
 - c) Provide patient care
 - d) Document scene findings

- 4) The **best way** to ensure that you meet the expectations of the licensing board, the public, your peers, and the employer/fire department is to:
- a) Know your level of licence
 - b) Attend all ongoing education sessions
 - c) Record everything well on the prehospital care report
 - d) Always act in the best interest of the patient
 - e) Act confident and in control while you provide care.
- 5) Which of the following is NOT a good characteristic of a professional EMA?
- a) Confident leadership
 - b) Excellent judgement
 - c) Strong opinions about ethnic groups
 - d) Ability to develop a rapport with a wide variety of patients
 - e) Ability to function independently
- 6) EMAs must be able to function independently in a non-structured, constantly changing environment.
- a) True
 - b) False
- 7) A professional “code of ethics” helps to ensure that the public interest is maintained above personal, corporate or financial considerations.
- a) True
 - b) False
- 8) Provision of emergency health Services in British Columbia is a local or municipal responsibility.
- a) True
 - b) False

- 9) An emergency medical assistant (EMA) must notify the *Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board* of any change of name, address, or employment within 30 days after the change.
- a) true
 - b) false
- 10) One requirement to obtain licensure through the Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board is that a person be of good character as an emergency medical assistant.
- a) true
 - b) false
- 11) The Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation includes, as a condition on every licence that EMAs must comply with the Emergency Health Services Act, and the regulations including without limitation the Code of Ethics set out in Schedule 3.
- a) true
 - b) false
- 12) The register and rules must be open to inspection at the office of the Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board by any person at any time.
- a) true
 - b) false
- 13) In British Columbia the term of licence for a First Responder is:
- a) 2 years
 - b) 3 years
 - c) 5 years
 - d) 8 years
- 14) The EMA Licensing Board may grant a licence holder an endorsement provided they have successfully completed training and/or examinations recognized by the board?
- a) true
 - b) false

- 15) In special circumstances the Emergency Medical Assistants (EMA) Licensing Board may extend the licence of an EMA on one occasion provided all of the following requirements have been met except:
- a) The licence extension is for a maximum of 60 days
 - b) the request is made before the EMA's licence has expired
 - c) the EMA is unable to complete renewal requirements prior to licence expiry
 - d) the request is authorized by the BC Emergency Health Services Corporation
- 16) Which of the following is not recorded in the Register?
- a) the EMA's name, address, licence number and place of employment
 - b) the EMA's category of licence
 - c) any terms, limits or conditions set or imposed by the board for a licence
 - d) Notation of each licence renewal, suspension or revocation
 - e) the EMA's employee number
- 17) For which of the following reasons may the Emergency Medical Assistants (EMA) Licensing Board deny a person access to the "Register"?
- a) a member of the public wishes to know the status of an EMA's licence
 - b) an employer wishes to know the status of an EMA's licence
 - c) the person seeking access is doing so for commercial purposes
 - d) the Alberta College of Paramedics wishes to know the status of an EMA's licence
- 18) An Emergency Medical Assistant (EMA) must notify the Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board within how many days of legally changing his or her name?
- a) 7 days
 - b) 14 days
 - c) 30 days
 - d) 60 days

- 19) The Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board may endorse an Emergency Medical Assistant – First Responder (EMA-FR) for the maintenance of intravenous lines without medications or blood products.
- a) true
 - b) false
- 20) The purpose of the emergency medical assistant (EMA) *Code of Ethics* is to:
- a) provide general principles of ethical conduct to guide emergency medical assistants in meeting their duties to the public and to the profession
 - b) provide registrants with critical decision-making skills around patient care
 - c) provide information to the public on how emergency medical assistants (EMA's) are to behave professionally
 - d) communicate to the employer the appropriate code of conduct for emergency medical assistants (EMA's)
- 21) An EMA is obligated to protect and maintain the patient's safety and dignity, regardless of the patient's race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex or sexual orientation. Where can this statement be found?
- a) Emergency Health Services Act
 - b) Emergency Health Services Commission Treatment Guidelines
 - c) Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation: Schedule 3 Code of Ethics
 - d) Health Professions Act
- 22) An Emergency Medical Assistant (EMA) is obligated to assume responsibility for personal and professional development, and maintain professional standards through training and peer mentoring. Where is this statement found?
- a) Emergency Health Services Act
 - b) Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation: Schedule 3 Code of Ethics
 - c) Health Professions Act
 - d) Emergency Health Services Regulation

- 23) The Emergency Health Services Act defines the term “*emergency health service*” as:
- a) the first aid or other health care provided in circumstances in which it is necessary to provide the first aid or other health care without delay
 - b) the ability to practice medicine by an emergency medical assistant
 - c) a conveyance that is used for the transport of patients requiring medical attention
 - d) the provision of medical services solely within the hospital setting
- 24) The power and authority of the *BC Emergency Health Services* can be found in:
- a) the Emergency Medical Assistant Regulation
 - b) the *Good Samaritan Act*
 - c) the Emergency Health Services Act
- 25) Which of the following is **not** a responsibility of the *Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board*?
- a) examine, register, and license emergency medical assistants
 - b) set terms and conditions for an emergency medical assistant's licence
 - c) train personnel to provide emergency health services
 - d) investigate complaints
- 26) Which of the following bodies is responsible for examining, registering, and licensing emergency medical assistants?
- a) University of British Columbia's School of Medicine
 - b) Ministry of Labour
 - c) British Columbia Ambulance Service
 - d) Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board
- 27) During a complaint investigation, the *Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board* determined it was in the public’s interest to suspend the licence of an emergency medical assistant (EMA). The board must notify the EMA of this action.
- a) true
 - b) false

- 28) The *Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board* is investigating a complaint and determines that public safety may be at risk allowing an emergency medical assistant (EMA) to practice. Which of the following actions may the *board* impose on the EMA being investigated?
- a) terminate employment
 - b) suspend the EMA's licence
 - c) notify the public of the ongoing investigation
 - d) insist that the EMA take further training
- 29) To whom may disciplinary actions imposed by the Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board be appealed to?
- a) the Union Shop Steward
 - b) the British Columbia Provincial Court
 - c) the BC Emergency Health Services
 - d) the Supreme Court
- 30) The *Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board* finds that an emergency medical assistant (EMA) has incompetently carried out the duties of an emergency medical assistant. The board may do all of the following **except**:
- a) impose conditions on the person's licence
 - b) sue the individual for damages
 - c) revoke or suspend the licence
 - d) bar the person from being licensed under the Act for a period of time the board considers appropriate
- 31) Which of the following statutes creates the Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board?
- a) Good Samaritan Act
 - b) Health Professions Act
 - c) *Emergency Health Services Act*
 - d) Emergency Medical Assistants Act

32) An advance directive must state:

- a) that the patient acknowledges a health care provider may not provide health care for which a patient has refused consent in the advance directive
- b) that the patient acknowledges a delegate may not be chosen to make decisions on behalf of the patient about health care for which the patient has given or refused consent in the advance directive
- c) that the patient understands the type of emergency health service he or she has consented to or refused
- d) all of the answers

33) In emergency situations where an emergency medical assistant (EMA) discovers a patient has an advance directive and a “No CPR” or “DNR” order, the EMA must comply with the most recently dated document. Which document prevails if both documents have the same date?

- a) the “No CPR” Order
- b) the “DNR” Order
- c) the advance directive

34) An emergency medical assistant must follow a patient’s instructions, as described in an advance directive, unless the patient’s representative disagrees.

- a) true
- b) false

35) What is an advance directive?

- a) a written summary of the capable adult's wishes to guide their temporary substitute decision-maker or representative if called to make a health care decision where the adult is incapable of making a decision
- b) a written instruction made by a capable adult who gives or refuses consent to health care in the event that the adult is not capable of giving instruction at the time the health care is required
- c) a document in which a capable adult names a representative and sets out the type and scope of decisions that the representative may make on behalf of the adult if the adult becomes incapable
- d) none of the answers

36) An advance directive is a medical order signed by a physician.

- a) true
- b) False

37) As an Emergency Medical Assistant (EMA), if a complaint is filed against you with the Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board, you will be first notified of the complaint in which of the following ways:

- a) A phone call from a member of the Investigations Committee
- b) A phone call from a member of the EMA Licensing Board
- c) A letter from the EMA Licensing Board
- d) Your employer will notify you of the complaint

38) If a complaint against you is investigated, you will be asked to submit your account of the incident.

- a) true
- b) false

- 39) As an EMA, if a complaint is filed against you, you may appoint a third-party representative to represent you?
- a) True
 - b) False
- 40) If an EMA decides to appoint a representative during the complaint process, which of the following is the representative **not permitted** to do:
- a) Speak on the EMA's behalf
 - b) Provide advice to the EMA
 - c) Participate in the complaint investigation by the investigation committee
- 41) How is information on gunshot wound and stabbings reported to police?
- a) facsimile report
 - b) oral report
 - c) email report
- 42) What information is required to be reported to police in the event of a gunshot wound or stabbing?
- a) the injured person's name, if known
 - b) the fact that the person is being treated, or has been treated
 - c) the name and location of the health care facility or where the emergency medical assistant treated the individual
 - d) all of the answers
- 43) Under the *Gunshot and Stab Wound Disclosure Act*, an emergency medical assistant is expected to determine whether a wound is criminal in nature.
- a) true
 - b) false

- 44) Gunshot and stab wound legislation is not intended to capture stab wounds that have been:
- a) self-inflicted or are accidental
 - b) assessed, treated and released at the scene
 - c) determined to be non-life threatening
 - d) assessed and released before transport
- 45) Whose responsibility is it to determine if a gunshot or stab wound is criminal in nature:
- a) the attending emergency medical assistant
 - b) the police in conjunction with the criminal justice system
 - c) the receiving physician treating the victim
 - d) the triage nurse accepting the patient
- 46) An emergency medical assistant is required to disclose all gunshot wounds regardless of origin.
- a) true
 - b) false
- 47) You are dispatched to a location where you see a person standing in the middle of a busy intersection. Cars are passing and honking. As you guide the person to the curb and question them, they are slow to respond and seem confused. They refuse to be examined, and they attempt to walk back into the street. In this case, which legislation pertains to the Emergency Medical Assistant's (EMA's) duties?
- a) Mental Health Act
 - b) Health Emergency Act
 - c) Good Samaritan Act
 - d) Motor Vehicle Act
- 48) What "Act" governs the preservation of evidence at a scene?
- a) Good Samaritan Act
 - b) Health Emergency Act
 - c) Coroners Act
 - d) Mental Health Act

- 49) All persons providing health care run some risk of being named a party in a legal action.
- a) True
 - b) False
- 50) What are the Acts that affect the way you will perform your duties as a First Responder? 1) Health Emergency Act 2) Good Samaritan Act 3) First Responder Act 4) Mental Health Act 5) Coroners Act.
- a) 1 only
 - b) 2 only
 - c) 1,2,3
 - d) 1,4,5
- 51) Which of the following is NOT a principle for preserving evidence at the scene of a crime?
- a) Avoid stepping on bloodstains
 - b) Do not move a body unless you have to check a pulse or breathing
 - c) Use a pen or pencil inserted into the barrel of any gun to avoid contaminating the weapon with your fingerprints
 - d) Do not take the victim's wallet to obtain personal information, try and obtain this from witnesses or relatives
- 52) As part of the EMA Code of Ethics, if an EMA witnesses any incompetent, illegal or unethical conduct by another EMA they must report the incident to the Licensing Board?
- a) True
 - b) False