



Emergency Medical Training Services

Emergency Medical Technician – Basic Program Outlines

Outline Topic: Gaining Access

Revised: 11/2013

DEFINITIONS

- Rescue – is to remove someone from a natural situation.
- Extrication – is to remove someone from a man made situation.
- Cribbing – wood blocks to stabilize the car.
- Chocks – place at tire just like a plane at the gate
- Center Punch – like a nail punch that breaks side windows.
- Glass Master – cutting tool to cut out windshield.
- Jaws of Life – Spreaders that can open to 32 inches.
- Shears – can cut almost anything 7 inches or less.
- Ram – Spread things up to 36 to 63 inches.
- Air Bags for Extrication (not the ones in the dashboard) – can be placed under a car and pumped with air to rise up to 20 inches to a few feet.

RESCUES

- Building collapse – EMT helps most in surface checks. Unless specially trained.
- Trench – EMT do not enter if untrained and unequipped.
- Confined spaces - EMT do not enter if untrained and unequipped.

- Low/High angle - EMT do not enter if untrained and unequipped.
- Wilderness - EMT do not enter if untrained and unequipped.
- Water - EMT do not enter if untrained and unequipped.
- Vehicle – Enters with protective equipment.
- And more.

EMT AT THE SCENE

- Safety.
- Size-up.
- Stabilize the scene if equipped and trained. Turn off the car and set brakes.
- Access patient if safe.
- Remove patient.
- Transport patient.

ENTRAPMENT

- Light extrication is hand powered tools or by hand.
- Heavy extrication with machine powered tools. Spreaders, jaws, etc
- EMT should be in car with patient while being cut out.
- EMT should have on protective clothing.

- EMT if trained, disconnects the ground post of the battery. (Air Bag concern) But air bag can still go off minutes after this with stored energy) or wait for fire support.
- EMT should block the tires if needed or wait for fire support.
- Try before you pry. Check all doors before breaking something.
- Do not pop tires to stabilize vehicle, unless absolutely necessary for safety.

AIR BAGS

- Maintain a safe zone from air bags that have not gone off.
- Maintain at least 5 inches from side bags.
- Maintain at least 10 inches from driver bags.
- Maintain at least 15 inches from passenger bags.

BREAKING CAR WINDOWS

- Side windows are tempered glass and shatter into small pieces.
- Laminated glass is two sheets of glass with laminated layer in-between. Windshield and some back windows.
- If breaking window choose one away from patient and break on lower corner.
- Cover patient with coat, heavy duty blanket, KED, board so they do not get injured during extrication.

GOLDEN HOUR

- The patient's best chance of survival is definitive treatment within one hour of incident. Your goal is only 10 minutes on scene.

HOME ENTRANCE

- Try all doors and windows first.
- Try a neighbor for a key or under pots.
- Break a door before a window. DEPENDS ON SITUATION
- Look in mailbox for old mail. Look for old newspapers. Look for the person's car in driveway to indicate they might be home.
- EMT should call fire or police for assistance if not an immediate emergency.

CHILD IN CAR

- If Texas heat, break window.
- Call police.
- If the child is OK and temperature and ventilation is good, try to find parent and calm child until you can get in.