

**JIBC**

School of Health, Community & Social Justice
Health Sciences Division

SAR Tech Annual Skills Maintenance (ASM) Ambulance Placement Summary

The Role of Search and Rescue Technicians

Canadian Forces Search and Rescue Technicians (SAR Techs) receive medical training to a paramedic level so that they can provide on-scene medical attention during the rescue of aviators, mariners and others who are in distress in remote, hard to reach areas across Canada.

The SAR Tech medical training component is only one portion of the extensive and demanding educational program at the Canadian Forces School of Search and Rescue in Comox, BC. Phases of training include medical, ground, winter operations, arctic operations, diving and sea operations, parachuting operations, mountain operations, and operational/consolidation.

The medical training programs provide exposure to ambulance and hospital environments with opportunities to enhance the development of clinical skills and provide context for the patient experience.

The medical training program is comprised of:

Year 1: Restricted Team Member (Primary Care Paramedic level)

Year 2: Annual Skill Maintenance

Year 3: Restricted Team Leader (PCP level with additional specific airway, drug administration and other practice skills)

Year 4 and onward: Annual Skill Maintenance

Every two years: Medical Recertification

Annual Skills Maintenance (ASM) Placements

- To maintain their clinical skills, **Restricted Team Members** complete four (4) ambulance and/or hospital emergency department placements each during Year 2 of the SAR Tech medical training cycle.
- To maintain their clinical skills, **Restricted Team Leaders** complete four (4) ambulance and/or hospital emergency department placements each during Year 4 of the SAR Tech medical training cycle, and annually thereafter.

Documentation

SAR Techs are not currently using CompTracker. A Clinical Checklist is used for skills documentation and SAR Tech learners will bring the Clinical Checklist with them to their ambulance placements.

Learning Objectives

- Demonstrate the skills required for patient assessment, management and differential diagnosis while performing ambulance calls.
- Observe the differences in patient management between an ambulance environment and emergency rooms or critical care areas.
- Demonstrate administration of medications and competencies within scope of practice.
- Manage an adult airway King Air EGD insertion (**Restricted Team Leaders only**).
- Perform core clinical skills as outlined on Competency Checklists.
- Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills, including appropriate verbal and written communication.



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Restricted Team Member - Competency Summary

- Patient Assessment: primary survey, history, vital signs, head to toe
- Safety: universal precautions, sterile technique, disposal of sharps
- Communication Skills: explains procedures, employs active listening, communicates clearly with other team members
- Patient Management: IV skills, blood glucose reading, airway manoeuvres, CPR, hemorrhage control, oxygen therapy
- Drug Administration: administers IV medications
- Trauma Management: able to discuss classic case injuries
- Seeking out and receiving feedback in a professional manner
- Be able to provide rationale and discuss theory relevant to procedures performed
- Spinal management, fracture management, burn management, wound management

Restricted Team Leader - Competency Summary

- Patient assessment and safety
- Patient Management: IV skills, cardiac monitoring, oxygenation and airway management, assist in the management of cardiac arrest
- Examine, review and identify indications and complications for King Air EGD insertion
- Insert King Air EGD where permitted on anaesthetized patients
- Drug administration and delivery of analgesia
- Suction non-intubated patients
- Insert a gastric tube in conscious and unconscious patients
- Provide mechanical ventilation
- Accurate self-evaluation of performance with the clinician
- Demonstrate communication skill when managing a patient and a professional relationship with all members of the paramedic and health-care team

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