



CHARLOTTESVILLE-ALBEMARLE RESCUE SQUAD Clinical Review and Training

Intermediate/Paramedic Provider Release

Introduction:

The Intermediate/Paramedic preception process is designed to orient providers to the policies, procedures, and guidelines of the Charlottesville-Albemarle Rescue Squad. Although some providers may have practiced in this region as Enhanced technicians, the bridge to Intermediate or Paramedic from any level brings more responsibility. In addition to the new skills, medications, and responsibilities associated with a higher level of care, candidates often find themselves serving as role models and mentors for other providers within this agency and the region as a whole. The preception process is intended to help each candidate bridge this gap by building competence on a framework of sound clinical reasoning. This foundation will allow each provider to develop their skills and judgement in an individual manner while ensuring that quality patient care is provided regardless of circumstance or setting.

Requirements:

- The candidate will collect at least 20 ALS calls and run as a junior technician for a minimum of 12 shifts.
- *The patient must require a cardiac monitor and have an IV attempted in order for the call to qualify as ALS.*
- Quantitative evaluation of skills will be based on the following "point" system

Scene Management	50 points
Patient Assessment	50 points
Circulation	25 points
Medications	25 points
ECG Interpretation	25 points
- If the candidate reaches his/her proscribed 20 ALS calls and 12 shifts, but is missing skills points, paperwork with appropriate skills collected during medic class may be turned in.
 - Paperwork from the original call must be turned in and reviewed with the candidate's primary preceptor.
 - Skills points from class may not account for more than 1/3 of the points in any category.

Medication points are awarded for all **ALS medications administered. **15 points** must be for I/PM medications. (maximum 3 points per call)**

- Points will be awarded by the preceptor according to the Advanced Life Support Evaluation Form
- A copy of each ECG tracing **must** be attached to the corresponding PPCR and Clinical Thought Process Evaluation. ECG points will only be awarded if the rhythm is correctly documented on the PPCR and there is a copy of the ECG with the paperwork.
- In order to receive credit for airway points, the intervention must be correctly documented on the PPCR and a copy of the airway form **must** be submitted to the committee. Airway privileges will only be granted after **one (1)** successful field intubation. All ET intubations must be confirmed using a secondary device (ETCO₂ or EID), and documented accordingly. Enhanced providers who bridge to either Intermediate or Paramedic with prior field intubations will retain current airway privilege during preception and after release.
- The candidate will be required to complete a Clinical Thought Process Evaluation for each call with the exception of non-transport.



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- o These evaluations are to be filled out by the candidate at the end of each call or shortly thereafter (while it is still memorable) and then approved or evaluated by the candidate's primary preceptor.
- An approved I/PM preceptor will review all calls using the Advanced Life Support Evaluation Form. <http://warhammer.mcc.virginia.edu/cars/alspeval.pdf>
 - o The candidate must have acted as the AIC (i.e. primary decision maker) on the minimum (20) of the calls submitted to the committee.
 - o All submitted calls must be approved for submission by the candidate's primary preceptor.

Choosing a Preceptor:

During preception the candidate will function as a medic only under the direct supervision of an approved I/PM preceptor. It is the preceptor's responsibility to evaluate the candidate as he/she initiates patient care and delegates tasks to other providers. In order to accomplish this, the preceptor should always be in close proximity to the candidate (i.e. in the patient compartment) and should "shadow" every assessment and intervention. The preceptor will evaluate each call and provide feedback to the candidate when patient care is completed. This evaluation process should be a cooperative effort, and the candidate should be made aware of any potential problems or issues arising from the care being provided. As skill, experience, and comfort levels progress, the candidate should be encouraged and allowed to function independently and assume more responsibility. It is the expectation that each candidate will be able to operate independently from other experienced ALS providers in difficult and stressful situations once preception is complete. This expectation is included as one of the many criteria for release.

Each candidate shall collect the majority of their calls with the primary preceptor. All of the calls the candidate collects for release must be completed and evaluated under the supervision of one of these three providers (all of whom must have been approved by the Clinical Review and Training Committee to function in this capacity). The purpose of this limitation is to ensure that each candidate is receiving consistent evaluation and feedback from a focused group of people. It is recommended that these preceptors communicate on a regular basis and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the candidate although the primary preceptor will be ultimately responsible for reviewing the candidate's calls, presenting the candidate to the committee, and endorsing their promotion from preception. This endorsement must be submitted in writing as a letter of recommendation.

When choosing a preceptor, each candidate should consider the following things:

- The feasibility of collecting calls with the preceptor on a regular basis
- The preceptor's willingness to fulfill the responsibilities associated with evaluating candidates at the I/PM level
- The interpersonal/cooperative relationship between the preceptor and candidate
- The preceptor's willingness or ability to provide accurate and appropriate feedback to the candidate.

Once the preceptor assignment has been made and approved it is the responsibility of the candidate and his/her preceptors to ensure that all of the requirements, paperwork, and deadlines of the process are met. The Clinical Review and Training Committee will serve as a resource for questions and/or guidance in the preception process, but will not facilitate or



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regularly remind the candidate of requirements and policies that are clearly outlined in this manual.

When you feel you are ready to be released...

- Meet with your primary preceptor and ensure that all of your paperwork is in order. Your primary preceptor must approve all of your calls and endorse you for promotion in writing. You must have the following items:
 - Copies of all submitted ALS calls with the patient's name and address marked out for confidentiality
 - Advanced Life Support Point Evaluation Form from preceptor
 - A Clinical Thought Process Form for each call. Please attach any ECG, airway data, and or EZ-IO form to this sheet
 - A Letter of Endorsement from your **primary** preceptor

The Clinical Review and Training Committee will review your calls, evaluations. A decision regarding promotion will be made at the monthly meeting (2nd Thursday of each month) and you will be notified via email or in person. After CRAT has reviewed and approved paperwork, the candidate is required to meet with the OMD and will only be released with OMD approval after said meeting.

Your Responsibilities

- Maintain a current CPR Certification
- Maintain your State I/PM certification through CE credit.
- Obtain **and maintain** certifications in Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Pediatric Advanced Life Support within one year of your release **effective January 1 2016**.
 - o These classes are offered through the Life Support Learning Center at UVA, **through ACFR's training division** and numerous other sites throughout the region. CARS will provide funding for these classes and their recertification provided that you remain a member in good standing with the organization. These certifications may be obtained while in preception.
- Attend the Biannual Skills Drill (Mandatory)