

Comment from Matthew Dryden

Posted by the **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration** on Jan 3, 2024

What are the most critical issues facing EMS education system:

Allowing state regulators to succumb to political pressures to drop accreditation requirements.

Lack of national standardization in EMS curricula leading to variations in the quality of education and training across different states and regions. Inconsistencies in curriculum content, duration, and assessment methods. Establishing uniform standards for paramedic education across states can enhance the overall quality.

Ensuring paramedic education incorporates the latest evidence-based practices is crucial for providing high-quality pre-hospital care. Regular updates to paramedic curricula should reflect advancements in emergency medicine and technology.

What significant changes will impact the EMS education system in the next 25 years?

While there may be initial challenges in implementing degree requirements, the long-term benefits, including improved patient care, professional recognition, and career advancement opportunities, make a compelling case for raising the educational standards for paramedics through the requirement of a college degree.

What specific agencies/organizations/entities are essential to involve, in a revision of the EMS Education Agenda ?

Equal representation between the different EMS delivery models. Not too fire service-heavy. With professional and physician groups providing input.

Do you have any additional comments regarding the revision of the EMS Education Agenda?

Integrating the study of laboratory values into paramedic education is essential for developing well-rounded, clinically competent professionals. This knowledge enhances the ability of paramedics to assess, prioritize, and treat patients effectively, ultimately contributing to better patient outcomes and the continued evolution of pre-hospital care.

Incorporating IV pump training into paramedic education enhances the clinical capabilities of paramedics, promoting precision in medication administration, patient safety, and efficient resource utilization. As pre-hospital care continues to advance, these skills position paramedics to provide optimal care in a variety of emergency situations.

Comprehensive understanding of medical sciences, anatomy, physiology, and pharmacology. This advanced knowledge base would contribute to increased clinical competence, allowing paramedics to better assess, diagnose, and treat patients in the pre-hospital setting.