

NEW ZEALAND LAND SEARCH AND RESCUE ORGANISATION

CORE COMPETENCIES FOR THE NOMINATED FIELD FIRST AIDER AS PER THE 1.6 PATIENT CARE STANDARDS

Core Competency – to be individually assessed

- 1^o Survey – as per master sheet.
- 2^o Survey – scenario based
 - as per sheet

Understanding of the importance of clinical info, how Medical Advisors use it and respond including examples.

Course Content

- Primary Survey – Basic life support as per National Resuscitation Council guidelines
- Secondary Survey
 - Demonstration / explanation and practice physical patient assessment including ethical issues.
 - Demonstration / explanation and practice of vital signs.
 - Demonstration / explanation and practice the use of the recommended Casualty Assessment Form.
 - Completion of the Casualty Assessment Form and transmission via radio to medical expertise (medical advisor / ambulance).

Respiratory System

- Overview / understanding how R.S. works
- Major breathing problems most likely to be seen e.g. asthma, infection, trauma, smoke inhalation and respiratory burns
- Demonstration and practice of the assessment and management of these conditions.

Cardiovascular System

- Overview / understanding how C.S. works
- Bleeding control – external and internal from minor → life threatening including # pelvis.
- Management of volume loss
- Management of impaled objects
- Practical exercise involving assessment and management of these conditions
- Wound management – practice in treating and how to position casualties depending on the injury site.

Shock

- What it is, how it occurs, management and importance of vital signs.
- Casualty positioning to minimise shock.

Head and Neck Injuries

- Including levels of consciousness
- S+S and management including ex collars
- Practice exercise involving assessment of head/neck injuries including immobilisation.

Spinal Injuries

- Signs, symptoms and management
- Casualty handling for spinal injuries including moving and loading into stretchers.

Fracture Management and Soft Tissue Injuries

- Types, common presentation
- Demonstration and practice splinting common fractures (including improvised).

Medical Problems

- Signs, symptoms, management angina and heart attacks, diabetes, epilepsy, anaphylactic shock, dehydration, 1080, cyanide, co. poisoning.

Burns

- Types, presentation and management.

Environmental emergencies

- Hypo
 - Hyper / heat stroke / heat exhaustion
- } S+S + management
mild → profound.

Scene Management

- Safety and hazards, best access, use limited resources, triage, and resource utilisation.

Psychological

- Dealing with deceased or no sign of life and managing difficult behaviours, suicide, drugs, alcohol
- Critical incident stress debriefing.

Patient Care and Comfort

- How to care for a patient's comfort including a patient confined to a stretcher
- Stretcher handling – getting patient into stretcher from limited access, carries on unstable ground.

Individual Practical Assessment (in teams)

- Rotation through skill stations
- Demonstration of competency in all the skills listed on the Individual Skills Assessment Sheet.

Extracurricular – per year

- Minimum 3 x 2hr practical scenario based sessions involving 1^o/2^o assessment, use of patient assessment forms and transmission of information
- Annual CPR practice.