

**EMS Personnel**  
***EMT Optional Skill Accreditation*****Date: 07/01/2023**  
**Policy #2200****I. Purpose:**

- A. To establish optional advanced skills to be performed by EMTs in Imperial County
- B. To set forth the criteria for EMTs to be accredited to perform optional advanced skills in Imperial County

**II. Authority:**

- A. California Health and Safety Code – Division 2.5: Emergency Medical Services, Sections, 1797.210, 1797.218, 1797.220, and 1798.
- B. California Code of Regulations, Title 22 – Division 9, Section 100064

**III. Definitions:**

- A. Emergency Medical Technician – a person who has successfully completed an EMT course that meets the requirements established by CCR Title 22, Division 9, has passed all required tests, and has been certified by a California EMT certifying entity.

**IV. Policy:**

- A. In addition to activities authorized by Imperial County EMS Agency EMT Scope of Practice Policy, certified EMTs and EMT students enrolled in an approved training program, may perform the following optional skills:
  - 1. Use of supraglottic airway adjuncts approved by the Imperial County EMS Agency
  - 2. Continuous positive airway pressure application and monitoring
  - 3. Continuous end tidal capnography monitoring
- B. To be eligible for accreditation to perform optional advanced skills, the EMT must:
  - 1. Possess a current certification as an EMT in California
  - 2. Possess a valid optional skills course completion certificate from an approved training program
  - 3. Submit a completed application to the EMS Agency
- C. Upon successful completion of the above requirements for optional skill accreditation, an accreditation card shall be issued that specifies the optional skill(s) the EMT is authorized to perform.
  - 1. The issue date shall be the date the applicant completes all requirements for optional skill accreditation. The expiration date shall be the same as the expiration date of the EMT Certification.

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D. To maintain continuous optional skill accreditation, the EMT must meet the following requirements:

1. Maintain California EMT Certification
2. Skills competency demonstrated by direct observation of an actual or simulated patient contact for each optional skill the EMT is authorized to perform. Skills demonstration shall include a review of the skill(s), medications and conditions for which they can be administered. The interval between skills demonstration sessions shall be every two (2) years from the date of accreditation. An EMT Optional Skills Competency Verification Form must be completed every two (2) years.
3. Failure to meet the criteria listed above shall result in the suspension of the optional skill accreditation.

E. To reactivate a suspended or expired optional skill accreditation, an EMT must successfully complete the following prior to performing the optional advanced skill:

1. Lapse in Optional Skill Accreditation of less than one year: Complete the required skills verification form
2. Lapse in Optional Skill Accreditation of more than one year: Pass a written and practical examination approved by the Imperial County EMS Agency and reapply for accreditation.

APPROVED:

SIGNATURE ON FILE – DATE

Katherine Staats, MD FACEP

EMS Medical Director