

NCH Paramedic Program
Preadmission Exam – F23 Blueprint

All treatment questions are cited to the 2022 NWC EMSS SOPs.

Topics	# items
Preparatory/EMS Systems (3)	
EMS responsibilities regarding Illinois Advance Directive/POLST form	1
Workplace safety/infection control practices (Selecting and using appropriate PPE)	1
Mandatory reporting obligations	1
Airway assessment/management (12)	
S&S of impaired airway	1
Manual airway maneuvers	1
Nasopharyngeal/oropharyngeal airways: indications/contraindications, insertion steps (review NWC EMSS Procedure manual – online – www.nwcemss.org)	4
Use of oxygen delivery devices: NC, NRM, BVM	3
Oropharyngeal suctioning	1
Upper airway obstruction maneuvers – adult and child	2
Patient Assessment (16)	
Factors to note in scene size up	1
Purpose of a primary assessment; components to assess (including A, B, C, D, E + SpO ₂ , ETCO ₂ , & obtaining a 12-L ECG) and resuscitative interventions	4
Determining priorities based on clinical presentations	1
Abnormal breath sounds: wheezes or crackles (cause, sounds produced, implications)	1
Glasgow Coma Score assessment	2
Secondary assessment components/findings to note: Chief complaint (OPQRST); SAMPLE history; review of systems Rx: acetaminophen, ondansetron	4
Vital signs: Accurate assessment and interpretation of normal vs. abnormal values	3
Medical Emergencies (25)	
Glucose emergencies (high and low): assessment of blood glucose / treatment (oral glucose, glucagon)	2
ACS: Assessment findings/ priorities of calling a STEMI alert; treatment (ASA, NTG profile)	3
Heart failure (including use of NTG and CPAP)	2
Cardiac arrest management: high perfusion CPR, defibrillation	3
Acute and chronic respiratory emergencies; treatment (albuterol, ipratropium profiles)	3
Behavioral emerg assessing decisional capacity/suicide risk; use of de-escalation techniques, restraints; Rx under implied consent; documentation requirements	4
Seizures	1
Stroke (BEFAST and LVO assessments; stroke alerts, positioning, O2 delivery; transport destinations	2
Sepsis / Septic shock (assessment using qSOFA; sepsis alerts)	2
Altered mental status; Substance use disorders; Alcohol intoxication; drug overdoses/treatment (naloxone)	3
Pediatric emergencies (10)	
Assessing vital signs in children	1
Croup/epiglottitis: assessment/treatment	2
Cardiac arrest in children: causes, management	2
Causes and treatment of shock in infants/small children	1
SIDS or BRUE; EMS interventions (See NWC EMSS SOPs)	2
Toxic ingestions in children: EMS interventions	1
Child abuse reporting obligations	1
Trauma (14)	
Hypovolemic/hemorrhagic shock	1
Head and facial trauma	2
Chest trauma	1
Abdominal trauma	1

Topics	# items
Musculoskeletal trauma; amputations; splinting/bandaging	3
Spine trauma; assessment, spine motion restriction, neurogenic shock	3
Eye trauma	1
Burns; estimating depth; calculating extent using Rule of 9s	2
Environmental emergencies (9)	
Allergic reactions/anaphylactic shock; clinical S&S; use of diphenhydramine; epinephrine 1 mg/1mL IM	3
Heat emergencies: Cause, mechanisms of gaining and losing heat; clinical S&S; treatment	3
Submersion incidents including decompression illness Rx	1
Hypothermia and frostbite: Assessment, determination of severity; Rx	2
OB Emergencies (9)	
S&S imminent delivery and EMS actions	1
Steps in an out of hospital delivery; head first (vertex) and breach	3
Pre-eclampsia/eclampsia: S&S, treatment	2
Newborn assessment/APGAR scoring	1
Newborn resuscitation	1
Bleeding complications of the 3 rd trimester	1
Ambulance operations	
Multiple patient incidents: EMS roles; triage and tagging patients	2
TOTALS	100