

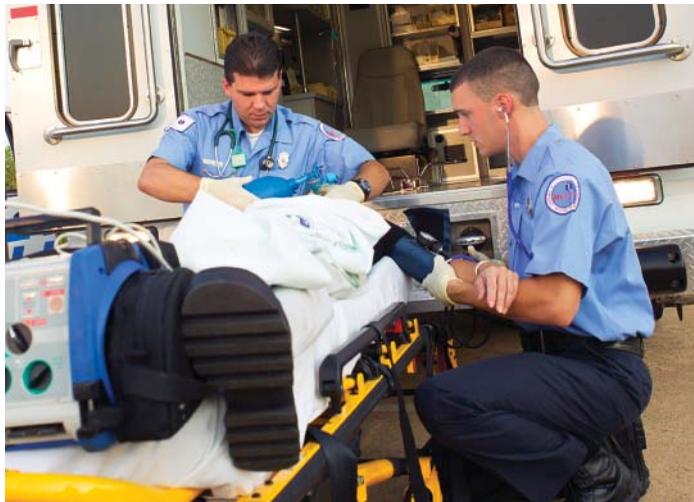
Assessing and managing patients

While on the job, EMS practitioners encounter patients experiencing a wide spectrum of medical crises. How can they quickly and accurately assess patients to provide the best care?

To provide an accurate diagnosis and treatment plan, EMS practitioners need to know how to quickly and best assess the scene, the patient's medical history and current condition.

The National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT)'s Advanced Medical Life Support (AMLS) course is the first education program that fully addresses how to best assess and manage the most common medical crises in patients, offering a "think outside the box" methodology.

AMLS is the most comprehensive EMS continuing education course addressing the assessment and management of patients.



The AMLS course

AMLS emphasizes the use of scene size-up, history, interactive group discussion on potential treatment strategies, and physical exam to systematically rule out and consider possibilities and probabilities in treating patients' medical crises. The course offers an initial assessment-based approach that progresses to a diagnostic-based approach to quickly develop the best treatment plan.

AMLS is for all levels of practitioners with a strong commitment to patient care, including first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurse anesthetists and physicians.

When given a case presentation, students who take AMLS will learn to:

- Identify and manage life-threatening presentations for a variety of medical emergencies, while considering comprehensive patient history, focused physical exam, and diagnostic findings.
- Demonstrate with proficiency the application of the AMLS Assessment Pathway to determine appropriate differential diagnoses and management strategies.
- Compare and contrast the concepts of clinical decision-making, pattern recognition, and clinical reasoning used in the determination of differential diagnoses.

The AMLS curriculum

The course discusses common medical crises, introduces the AMLS Assessment Pathway, and presents specific cases and differential diagnoses and management strategies for each. The course includes lecture, discussion and skills stations, so students leave with thorough knowledge and hands-on skills to perform accurate physical examinations and provide best treatment to patients.

The curriculum covers the signs, symptoms and pathophysiology of:

- **Altered mental status and neurologic disorders** – Addresses patients' mental status and abnormal neurological function and how to perform accurate basic neurologic physical examinations
- **Respiratory dysfunction** – Covers respiratory distress versus respiratory failure, a variety of respiratory disorders, and the use of basic and advanced airway adjuncts to manage the airway and increase oxygenation and ventilation
- **Shock** – Discusses compensated and decompensated shock and appropriate treatment strategies
- **Chest discomfort** – Covers disorders, diagnoses that require emergency interventions, and the interpretation of findings for a 12-lead ECG into the AMLS Assessment Pathway
- **Endocrine, metabolic and environmental disorders** – Discusses these disorders that require emergency interventions
- **Abdominal discomfort** – Covers the variety of disorders and issues
- **Infectious disease** – Addresses differential diagnoses that require emergency interventions and demonstrates use of body substance isolation
- Toxicologic emergencies, hazardous materials and weapons of mass destruction – Describes exposures, toxidromes and safety concerns that require emergency interventions

Accreditations

AMLS is endorsed by the National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP).

All NAEMT continuing education courses are accredited by the Continuing Education Coordinating Board for Emergency Medical Services (CECBEMS).

They also are recognized for recertification requirements by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT).

Find or conduct a course

Advanced Medical Life Support courses are conducted nationwide.

If you are a student interested in taking this course, please visit the Education section of www.naemt.org to use our course locator to find a course in your area.

If you are a course site, to learn more about conducting an AMLS course, please call 1-800-346-2368.



Advanced Medical Life Support

Assessing and managing patients in medical crisis



NAEMT is the nation's only professional association representing all EMS practitioners, including paramedics, emergency medical technicians, first responders and other professionals working in prehospital emergency medicine.

Through its industry-leading EMS continuing education courses, NAEMT annually helps more than 46,000 EMS practitioners provide better care and save more lives.

Helping save lives one course at a time

www.naemt.org
1-800-346-2368

