



Community Paramedic Practitioner - Course Outline

The program is designed to engage participants in active learning to build knowledge and understanding of the practice of Community Paramedicine. Additionally, it aims to enhance the critical thinking skills of paramedics with a specific learning style.

Premergency's Community Paramedic Practitioner training program leverages the adult's learner preference for self-directed learning through a Problem-based Learning (PBL) approach. Course participants will be able to apply their newly acquired knowledge within their scope of practice, whether it be Primary Care Paramedic (PCP), PCP with enhanced skills, or Advanced Care Paramedic (ACP), to real patient cases.

Participants are gradually introduced to the PBL approach to learning, with the first modules of the program being very prescriptive and becoming more self-directed with each subsequent module. They will gain knowledge of community paramedicine and hone their critical reflection and critical self-reflection skills, which better equips them to meet the challenges they will encounter on their journey across the continuum from technician to clinician to practitioner.

Ultimately, **Premergency's Community Paramedic Practitioner Training Program** prepares paramedics with the knowledge and skills required to apply their scope of practice in a new environment.

Module 01 – Introductions and Foundational Knowledge

Participants are introduced to Problem-based learning and foundational community paramedic information such as community referrals, social determinants of health, and collaborating with health partners.

Module 02 – Course Didactic, Learning, and Resource Library

Module 2 includes didactic training modules on typical chronic diseases encountered in community care, palliative care, and the three D's: Dementia, Delirium, and Depression. Participants are provided with resources to understand a broader picture of Community Paramedicine and the importance of research.

Module 03 – First Contact, Care Planning, and Communications

Participants begin to explore care planning and working collaboratively with allied agencies and care partners. They will conduct their first visit with their three patients, perform goal setting, and create care plans.

Module 04 – Chronic Disease Patho

Participants review the pathophysiology of chronic diseases as they relate specifically to their three patients and their comorbidities.



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Module 05 – Assessments, Lab Work, and Point of Care Testing

Modules 1 and 3 identified possible assessments that are used in community paramedicine. Module 5 investigates the one specifically used for each patient, applying them, and discussing the possible results and how they affect treatment plans.

Module 06 – Chronic Disease Management

Participants will explore the differences between a paramedic's usual acute care and the chronic care provided in a community paramedic environment, including ways to better self manage chronic disease and potential complications.

Module 07 - Pharmacology

The pharmacology module explores the pharmaceutical changes that commonly occur with ageing and the importance of collaborative medication reviews. Part two of this module reviews the pharmacological management regimes for each patient and the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of the medications, including interactions with other drugs and novel treatments.

Module 08 – Mental Health and Health Education

The first discussion in module 8 explores how health education and promotion can assist with both the physical and mental health of patients in the community. The second discussion investigates how chronic disease in the elderly has a direct effect on mental health by discussing the physiology, pathophysiology, mitigation of acute and chronic dementia, delirium and depression, other conditions, and how chronic disease and medications can exacerbate their mental health.

Module 9 – Community Paramedic/Patient Relationships & Palliative Care

The final module finds that one of the three patients becomes palliative. The first discussion explores the care the participant would give working collaboratively with a palliative care team, pharmacology of pain relief and associated patient/family education, and educational support for the patient and family. The second discussion provides participants with the opportunity to self-reflect on ethical issues related to palliative care and personal reflections on paramedic-patient relationships.

Evaluation

To be a self-directed learner, the learner must also evaluate their learning. Participants self-evaluate their education by completing a 500+ word reflective paper on how they contributed to the program learning, what they learned about community paramedicine, and what they learned about themselves. Participants are also required to complete a summative final exam consisting of 50 scenario-type questions.