



# EMS SAFETY COURSE

National Association of  
Emergency Medical Technicians



## NAEMT NAEMT Position Statements on EMS Safety

- EMS Practitioner Safety
- EMS Patient Safety
- Ambulance Safety
- Safety Restraint Use in EMS

*"NAEMT supports the development of a culture of safety in all EMS systems in our nation. NAEMT is committed to advocating for the safest practices and regulations that protect and promote EMS patient and practitioner wellness....."*

September, 2009



## NAEMT EMS SAFETY COURSE

- **NAEMT Goal:** *"to help reduce the number and intensity of injuries incurred by EMS practitioners in carrying out their work through a focused education program."*
- **Purpose of the Course:** *"... to increase students' awareness and understanding of EMS safety standards and practices, and develop their ability to effectively implement these practices when on duty."*



## Course Design

- One-day program
- Interactive lecture, discussion, group activities
- Case studies using real incidents
- 8 hours continuing education credit (CECBEMS)
- Presented in 8 modules



## Course Modules

- Module 1: Introduction
  - Discusses the need for developing a Culture of Safety in EMS through a series of real-life case studies
- Module 2: Crew Resource Management
  - Adapts an airline industry program created to prevent aircraft accidents to the EMS environment
  - Stresses crew communications, avoidance of ambiguity, distraction and complacency, and maintaining situational awareness



## Course Modules

- Module 3: Emergency Vehicle Safety:
  - Reviews principles of defensive driving
  - Discusses dangers inherent in the design of today's ambulances
  - Issues discussed include use of warning lights and sirens and avoidance of common distractions
- Module 4: Operational Scene Safety
  - Focus on safety while operating on the highway



## Course Modules

- **Module 5: Safe Patient Handling**
  - Discusses frequency and severity of back injuries in EMS
  - Discusses techniques and devices for lifting, carrying and securing patients
- **Module 6: Patient Practitioner & Bystander Safety**
  - Provides information on dealing with violent scenes and patients



## Course Modules

- **Module 7: Personal Health**
  - Discusses ways to maintain personal health in an EMS environment
  - Presents information on the effects of sleep deprivation and how it can influence the practitioner's performance
- **Module 8: Conclusion**
  - Challenges the student to become a part of the change to a Culture of Safety in EMS



## Student Resource Guide

- Supplemental information to program modules
- Articles, papers on EMS Safety
- Information and web-sites for EMS Safety organizations
- Links to larger documents through NAEMT web-site
- Sample safety policies and protocols



## NAEMT EMS Safety Course Rollout

### **EMS Today Conference Baltimore, MD March 1, 2011**

*For more information about the course, send email to [GlennL15@aol.com](mailto:GlennL15@aol.com)*

*To sign up for the class in Baltimore, go to [www.emstoday.com](http://www.emstoday.com)*

