

**ALS Redesign Expert Panel Meeting
February 27, 2023, 2 p.m. ET**



This Month's Topic: AEMT Student Minimum Competency (SMC) Update

The ALS Expert Panel convened for the first time in 2023 on February 27, after the holiday break.

The National Registry's Bill Seifarth shared exciting news and introduced Dr. Heather Davis as the new Chairman of the ALS Redesign Expert Panel. Dr. Davis will lead the Panel for the remainder of the year following the succession of Chairman Tom Platt. We are grateful for Dr. Platt's contributions and wish him the best in his new endeavors.

The focus of the meeting was to update the Panel members on the current state of the Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians (AEMT) Student Minimum Competencies (SMC) project. Stephen Wilson, the National Registry's Stakeholder Partnerships Manager, and Dr. Paul Rosenberger, the Examinations Content Manager, presented the draft of the AEMT SMC advisory document and shared the progress.

Through continued collaboration with the NASEMSO, CoAEMSP, NAEMSE, as well as subject matter experts, state EMS offices, AEMT educational programs, and the National Registry, the AEMT SMC document encompasses:

- A standardization for the evaluation and documentation of AEMT student minimum competencies through skills and competency recommendations
- Consistency of instructional quality
- Improvements to SMC data tracking
- Harmonization with the 2019 National EMS Scope of Practice Model

Dr. Rosenberger emphasized that the document's purpose is to provide direction for a minimum competency standard that AEMT educational programs can follow, while taking into account the differences between state EMS office requirements.

Current State and Research: Moving the AEMT SMC framework forward

The AEMT SMC document has been received by NASEMSO and is under review by their Education Council. With many parties collaborating in its development, the National Registry is thrilled for NASEMSO to take the lead in championing the document. Following its final approval, ensuring State EMS Offices and AEMT program adoption will be a critical step in the standardization and verification of student competencies.

Although the AEMT SMC document is intended for advisory purposes only, Dr. Rosenberger reminded the Panel that the National Registry will require AEMT programs to verify student competencies in compliance with State EMS Offices through the documentation of demonstrated performance skills necessary for safe and effective care.

Additionally, AEMT SMC evidence will become a requirement along with the launch of the new ALS examination starting on July 1, 2024.

The Consensus

The National Registry delivered to the Panel the status of the AEMT SMC document and its future implementation. Informative feedback was received about the timing, dissemination, support, and some language of the AEMT SMC document.

While partnership and collaboration are essential for the creation of the document, the National Registry will look to NASEMSO to propel the document forward for state EMS offices to operationalize it after final approval.

The Panel agreed that it will be crucial to equip AEMT programs with instructional basics about defining competency and evaluating it through educational tools and support. Additionally, leveraging states who have successfully developed AEMT programs can provide guidance and information to pass along to other states and AEMT programs.

The National Registry and partnering organizations will continue to prioritize state EMS offices, AEMT programs and candidates by ensuring that information is disseminated, readily available, and allows AEMT programs to have enough time to make adjustments.

The National Registry is grateful for the conversations that the ALS Expert Panel provides, as they represent the many components that make up the EMS community.