

**PEORIA AREA EMS SYSTEM
PREHOSPITAL CARE MANUAL**

**Professional Conduct &
Code of Ethics Policy**

The following are guidelines for interaction with patients, other caregivers and the community:

- ◆ **Respect for Human Dignity** – Respect all patients regardless of socio-economic status, financial status or background. Dignity includes greeting, conversing, respectful mannerisms, and protecting physical privacy.
- ◆ **Maintain Confidentiality** – Respect every person’s right to privacy. Sensitive information regarding a patient’s condition or history should only be provided to medical personnel with an immediate need-to-know. Sensitive information regarding our profession may only be provided to those with a right to know.
- ◆ **Professional Competency** – Provide the patient with the best possible care by continuously improving your understanding of the profession and maintaining continuing education and required certifications. Protect the patient from incompetent care by knowing the standard of care and being able to identify those who do not.
- ◆ **Safety Awareness & Practice** – Protect the health and well-being of the patient, yourself, your co-workers and the community by constantly following safety guidelines, principles and practices.
- ◆ **Accountability for Your Actions** – Act within your training, know your limitations, and accept responsibility for both satisfactory and unsatisfactory actions.
- ◆ **Loyalty & Cooperation** – Demonstrate devotion by maintaining confidentiality, assisting in improving morale and not publicly criticizing.
- ◆ **Personal Conduct** – Demonstrate professionalism by maintaining high moral, ethical and grooming standards. Do not participate in behavior that would discredit you, your co-workers and the profession.

**PEORIA AREA EMS SYSTEM
PREHOSPITAL CARE MANUAL**

**Professional Conduct &
Code of Ethics Policy**

Code of Ethics

(Applies to ALL Prehospital providers)

Professional status as an Emergency Medical Technician is maintained and enriched by the willingness of the individual practitioner to accept and fulfill obligations to society, other medical professionals, and the profession of Emergency Medical Technician.

As an Emergency Medical Technician, I solemnly pledge myself to the following code of professional ethics:

- A fundamental responsibility of the EMT is to conserve life, to alleviate suffering, to promote health, to do no harm, and to encourage the quality and equal availability of emergency medical care.
- The EMT provides services based on human need, with respect for human dignity, unrestricted by consideration of nationality, race, creed, color or status.
- The EMT does not use professional knowledge and skills in any enterprise detrimental to the public well-being.
- The EMT respects and holds in confidence all information of a confidential nature obtained in the course of professional work unless required by law to divulge such information.
- The EMT, as a citizen, understands and upholds the law and performs the duties of citizenship; as a professional, the EMT has the never-ending responsibility to work with concerned citizens and other healthcare professionals in promoting a high standard of emergency medical care to all people.
- The EMT shall maintain professional competence and demonstrate concern for the competence of other members of the EMS healthcare team.
- An EMT assumes responsibility in defining and upholding standards of professional practice and education.

**PEORIA AREA EMS SYSTEM
PREHOSPITAL CARE MANUAL**

**Professional Conduct &
Code of Ethics Policy**

Code of Ethics (continued)

- The EMT assumes responsibility for individual professional actions and judgment, both in all aspects of emergency functions, and knows and upholds the laws which affect the practice of the EMT.
- An EMT has the responsibility to be aware of and participate in matters of legislation affecting the EMS System.
- The EMT, or groups of EMTs, who advertise professional service, does so in conformity with the dignity of the profession.
- The EMT has an obligation to protect the public by not delegating to a person less qualified, any service which requires the professional competence of an EMT.
- The EMT will work harmoniously with and sustain confidence in EMT associates, the nurses, the physicians, and other members of the EMS healthcare team.
- The EMT refuses to participate in unethical procedures and assumes responsibility to expose incompetence or unethical conduct of others to the appropriate authority in a proper and professional manner.