

Emergency

Care and Transportation of the Sick and Injured



Section 7: Operations

36: Gaining Access

Gaining Access

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Cognitive Objectives (1 of 2)

- 7-2.1 Describe the purpose of extrication.
- 7-2.2 Describe the role of the EMT-B in extrication.
- 7-2.3 Identify what equipment for personal safety is required for the EMT-B.
- 7-2.4 Define the fundamental components of extrication.

Cognitive Objectives (2 of 2)

- 7-2.5 State the steps that should be taken to protect the patient during extrication.
- 7-2.6 Evaluate various methods of gaining access to the patient.
- 7-2.7 Distinguish between simple and complex access.
- There are no affective or psychomotor objectives for this chapter.

Safety

- Preparation
 - Mental
 - Physical



Vehicle Safety Systems

- Shock-absorbing bumpers
- Airbags

Fundamentals of Extrication

- Extrication
 - Removal from entrapment or a dangerous situation or position
- Entrapment
 - To be caught within a closed area with no way out

The 10 Phases of Extrication (1 of 2)

- Preparation
- En route to the scene
- Arrival and scene size-up
- Hazard control
- Support operations

The 10 Phases of Extrication (2 of 2)

- Gaining access
- Emergency care
- Disentanglement
- Removal and transfer
- Termination

Preparation

- Training
- Equipment maintenance

En Route to the Scene

- Safe driving practices
- Good steering techniques
- Road positioning and cornering
- Controlled acceleration
- Controlled braking
- Laws and regulations

Arrival and Scene Size-up

- Traffic hazards
- Additional resources
- Coordination within ICS
- Rescue team responsibilities
- EMS responsibilities

Hazard Control

- Law enforcement
 - Traffic control
 - Investigation
 - Scene control
- Fire fighters
 - Extinguishment
 - Spill control
- Rescue team
 - Extrication

Hazards

- Downed power lines
- Sharp metal
- Broken glass
- Toxic substances
- Hazardous substance ignition
- Unstable vehicles

Support Operations

- Lighting
- Tool and equipment staging areas
- Helicopter landing zones



Gaining Access (1 of 2)

- Is the patient in a vehicle or other structure?
- Is the vehicle or structure severely damaged?
- What hazards exist that pose risk to the patient and rescuers?
- What is the position of the vehicle?
- What type of surface is it on?
- Is it stable?

Gaining Access (2 of 2)

- Simple access
 - Access without the use of tools or force
- Complex access
 - Requires the use of tools and force



Emergency Care

- Provide manual immobilization to protect the cervical spine.
- Open the airway.
- Provide high-flow oxygen.
- Assist or provide for adequate ventilation.
- Control any significant external bleeding.
- Treat all critical injuries.

Disentanglement

- Removal of the motor vehicle from around the patient
- Disentanglement techniques
 - Brake and gas pedal displacement
 - Dash roll-up
 - Door removal
 - Roof opening and removal
 - Seat displacement
 - Steering column displacement
 - Steering wheel cutting

Removal and Transfer (1 of 2)

- Determine urgency of move.
- Plan moves and communicate with the team.
- Once patient is freed, rapidly reassess and recheck vital signs.
- Make certain spine is immobilized.

Removal and Transfer (2 of 2)

- Move the patient in slow, controlled steps.
- Choose a path that requires the least manipulation of the patient and equipment.
- Move the patient as a unit.
- If the patient's condition is critical, perform remaining steps en route.

Termination

- Check tools and equipment.
- Replace used supplies.
- Clean unit and conform to bloodborne pathogen standards.
- Complete all necessary reports.

Specialized Rescue Situations (1 of 2)

- Cave rescue
- Confined space rescue
- Cross-field and trail rescue
- Dive rescue
- Lost person search and rescue
- Mine rescue
- Mountain, rock, and ice-climbing rescue

Specialized Rescue Situations (2 of 2)

- Ski slope and cross-country or trail snow rescue (ski patrol)
- Structural collapse rescue
- Tactical emergency medical support (SWAT)
- Technical rope rescue (low- and high-angle rescue)
- Trench rescue
- Water and small craft rescue
- White-water rescue

Lost Person Search and Rescue

- Primary role will be to take care of patient when found.
- Prepare equipment and stand by in area designated by incident command.
- Only incident command should deliver information to the family unless someone else is designated to do so.

Trench Rescue

- Poor outcome for victims
- Risk of secondary collapse
- Proper safety reduces potential for injury.
- Stage response vehicles.

Tactical Emergency Medical Support (1 of 2)

- EMT-Bs, paramedics, nurses, and physicians with specialized tactical and medical training
- Nonstandard medical procedures similar to battlefield medicine
- Examples of tactical situations
 - Hostage situations
 - Snipers
 - Barricaded suspects

Tactical Emergency Medical Support (2 of 2)

- Response procedures
 - Shut off lights and siren when approaching the scene
 - Report to the command post
- Planning
 - Specific location of the incident
 - Rally point with tactical EMS providers
 - Helicopter landing zones
 - Hospital locations and route of travel

Structure Fires

- Ask incident command where the ambulance should be positioned.
- Do not block arriving equipment or become blocked.
- Only leave the scene if transporting a patient or cleared by incident command.