

**641—131.5(147A) Authority.**

**131.5(1)** *Authority of emergency medical care provider.* An emergency medical care provider who holds an active Iowa certification issued by the department or has permission to practice in Iowa pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 147D may:

*a.* As a member of a responding authorized service program, render emergency medical care and perform emergency medical care without contacting medical direction if written protocols have been approved by the service program medical director.

*b.* Function in any hospital or any other entity in which health care is ordinarily provided only when:

(1) Employed by or assigned to a hospital or other entity in which health care is ordinarily provided when under the direct supervision of a physician as a member of an authorized service program, or in an individual capacity, by rendering lifesaving services in the facility in which employed or assigned pursuant to the emergency medical care provider's certification and under direct supervision of a physician, physician assistant, or registered nurse. An emergency medical care provider shall not routinely function without the direct supervision of a physician, physician assistant, or registered nurse. However, when the physician, physician assistant, or registered nurse cannot directly assume emergency care of the patient, the emergency medical care provider may perform, without direct supervision, emergency medical care procedures for which certified, if the life of the patient is in immediate danger and such care is required to preserve the patient's life;

(2) Employed by or assigned to a hospital or other entity in which health care is ordinarily provided when under the direct supervision of a physician, as a member of an authorized service program, or in an individual capacity, to perform nonlifesaving procedures for which certified and designated in a written job description. Such procedures may be performed after the patient is observed by and when the emergency medical care provider is under the supervision of the physician, physician assistant, or registered nurse and where the procedure may be immediately abandoned without risk to the patient.

**131.5(2)** *Scope of practice.*

*a.* Emergency medical care providers shall perform only those skills and procedures that are authorized within the scope of practice for which certified.

*b.* The Iowa Emergency Medical Care Provider Scope of Practice (September 2019) is hereby incorporated and adopted by reference for emergency medical care providers. For any differences that may occur between the scope of practice adopted by reference and these rules, the rules shall prevail.

*c.* The Iowa Emergency Medical Care Provider Scope of Practice (September 2019) is available on the BETS website ([www.idph.iowa.gov/BETS/EMS/provider-information](http://www.idph.iowa.gov/BETS/EMS/provider-information)).

*d.* The department may grant a waiver for changes to the scope of practice that have not yet been adopted by reference in these rules pursuant to 641—Chapter 178.

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