

**SPEMS Protocol Changes**  
**EMT-Basic**  
**2008-2009**

**NOTE:** Throughout the Protocols, there are items listed in parenthesis as “recommended”. This means that these items are allowed and encouraged for the current Protocol version; but these items are NOT mandatory. However, these items will be MANDATORY for the next version of protocols. This will allow all services to make financial arrangements to purchase these items prior to the next protocol period.

Currently, the “recommended” EMT-Basic Items are:

- ResQPOD
- King Airway

**PROTOCOL CHANGES**

- **Every Page**
  - Changed dates at bottom of each page
- **Cover Page**
  - Signature with October 1, 2008 date
- **Page P-2: Table of Contents**
  - Updated
- **Page P-4**
  - #7 (Skills Proficiency): Added King Airway (recommended)/Combitube
    - If your service carries King airways, then you must demonstrate proficiency in on the use of the King airway
    - If your service carries Combi-tubes, then you must continue to demonstrate proficiency on the Combi-tube
- **Page P-11 Treatment Procedures**
  - Airway Management
    - Addition of 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence which states: “With any patient requiring King Airway (**recommended**)/ combitube placement, the EMT Basic should call for Paramedic backup.”
- **Page P-12 Treatment Procedures**
  - Addition of **RESQPOD (recommended)**
    - “The use of the ResQPOD is recommended yet optional for the adult patient in cardiac arrest. An adult patient is defined by AHA as one whom has reached puberty. EMT’s who have been properly trained in the use of the ResQPOD should apply the device directly to the ventilation adjunct ie.(BVM, King Airway, Combitube etc.) When used with CO2 monitoring the monitor should be placed between the ResQPOD and the ventilation device. The ResQPOD is not a ventilation device but provides its therapeutic benefit during chest compressions. Therefore it is necessary to maintain a good seal with the device during the chest compression phase of CPR. In the event that the patient resumes a pulse and/or spontaneous respirations the ResQPOD should be removed.”

- **Page P-13 Pre-Hospital Medications**
  - Addition of “**Glucagon** 1mg/unit (page 12) (Optional) (Appropriate training and testing must be documented prior to administration)”
- **Page P-33 Equipment List**
  - Added “1ea- ResQPOD (**recommended** yet optional)”
  - Added “1- King Airway (**recommended**) and/or Combitube”
  - Added 1ea-Nasal airways (adult and child)
  - Added 3- Vaseline gauze
- **Page P-34 Equipment List**
  - Under Intramuscular Medications, addition of “\*1-Glucagon 1mg/unit (Optional)”
  - Changed 2<sup>nd</sup> to last paragraph to state: “If you have medical direction for any medications or invasive equipment not listed here, you must attach written authorization for the use of such. This document must be signed by the SPEMS Medical Director.”
  - Changed dates and signed by Medical Director
  - Must be signed by Service Director
  
- **Throughout Algorithms**
  - Changed dates on bottom to 10/1/08
  - Addition of “King Airway/Combitube” wherever Combitube was previously listed
- **Page 4 Foreign Body Airway Obstruction**
  - Updated to meet AHA 2005 Guidelines
- **Page 7 Cardiac Arrest/Semiautomatic External Defibrillation**
  - Added in top box #4: “Use ResQPOD if the patient has reached puberty (optional)”
- **Page 8 Cardiac Chest Pain or Suspected Myocardial Infarction**
  - Addition of the second to bottom box that states “\* Following the request of Paramedic backup the EMT-Basic may place the patient on the cardiac monitor/12lead if available. Under no circumstances shall an EMT-B use monitor placement for interpretation/treatment . Appropriate training and testing must be documented prior to the placement of the cardiac monitor/12lead.”
- **Page 9 Post Resuscitation Management**
  - Addition of box at top left that states “\*Remove ResQPOD if previously used”
- **Page 12 Decreased Level of Consciousness or Neurologic Symptoms**
  - Addition of “\*\*Glucagon 1mg/unit, IM (Optional)”
    - May be given if patient cannot hold head upright or without gag reflex
  
- **Supplement**
  - Alphabetical Listing of all drugs carried
    - Indications, dosages, contraindications, etc
    - One supplement for all levels
      - Includes ECA, EMT, Intermediate, and Paramedic drugs
  - Chart for Left Sided and Right Sided 12 EKG electrode placement