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| Clinical competency standards |
| Non emergency patient transport |
| OFFICIAL |

# Reference

Non-Emergency Patient Transport Regulations 2016 Part 3, Regulation 19-21

# Introduction

Appropriate clinical competency standards and credentialling are a core requirement to assess, maintain and develop the skills of Non Emergency Patient Transport (NEPT) clinical staff. It is a requirement that NEPT licence holders provide a crew mix that has the competencies and knowledge to ensure that a patient’s clinical needs are met for the duration of the transport. NEPT providers must also ensure that the competency of staff is maintained during their service as a staff member with the provider.

# Requirements for different skill levels of NEPT staff

## Supervised clinical practice

Supervised clinical practice:

* is clinical experience in active patient care
* cannot include more than 50 per cent of clinical placement hours involving patient management
* does not include purely observational shifts with no patient management

## Clinical Instructor (CI)

CIs provide education, guidance and training to employees of NEPT services

* CIs must possess a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (TAE) or an equivalent qualification
* CIs must also be one of the following:
	+ Registered Medical Practitioner
	+ Registered Paramedic employed by an ambulance service with not less than 18 months service
	+ A person employed by the NEPT provider who has experience in transporting patients of all acuity levels and holds a recognised Degree or Diploma
	+ Was previously employed as a CI with a NEPT service prior to 20th April 2016

## Ambulance Transport Attendant (ATA)

ATAs provide care and monitoring to low-medium acuity patients during transport and provide assistance to suitably qualified staff members during the transport of high acuity patients.

* an ATA must have completed 400 hours of on road clinical supervised practice by another ATA over a period of not more than two years
* an ATA that has not yet reached the 400 hours of on road clinical supervised practice, must be supervised whilst practicing

## Patient Transport Officer (PTO)

PTOs provide care and monitoring to low acuity patients during transport and provide assistance to suitable qualified staff members during the transport of medium-high acuity patients.

* a PTO must have completed 100 hours of on road clinical experience, or:
* is supervised by an ATA or CI

# Skills maintenance Training

All NEPT licence holders are required to provide annual skills maintenance training in the topics outlined in table 1 which is aligned to the acuity of patients that the staff member is likely to provide clinical care for. Records of this training must be kept and must include:

* the names of staff involved, and
* the level of accreditation achieved by each member of staff

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| Table 1: Training and transport acuity | Acuity |
| Training | Low | Medium | High |
| Basic Life Support (BLS) | ● | ● | ● |
| Occupational Health and Safety (including manual handling and infection control) | ● | ● | ● |
| Current evidence based clinical practice | ● | ● | ● |
| Mental health training | ● | ● | ● |
| Defibrillator and electrocardiogram interpretation |  | ● | ● |

For further information email NEPT, First Aid and Investigations

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