

## Elective Description

**Campus:** Southwest Campus (Bismarck)

**Department:** Emergency Medicine

**Elective/Experience Title:** Emergency Medical Services (EMS)  
& Community Medical Direction

**Course Number:** EMRG 9106-01

**Location of Elective:** Bismarck North Dakota, CHI St Alexius Center and/or Sanford Hospital

**Preceptor(s):** Jon Solberg, MD, Brooks Martin (Deputy Chief, Bismarck Fire Department), Lt Mike McMerty (Bismarck Police Department), Dan Schaefer, EMT-P (Bismarck Metro Ambulance), Mike Dannenfelzer (Central Dakota Communications Center (CenCom) )

**Period(s) Offered:** All

**Course Prerequisites:** Intro to Emergency Medicine

**Number of students per period:** 2

**Revised Curriculum Phase(s):** 3

**Purpose:** Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties as a subspecialty of emergency medicine. Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and paramedics follow protocols written by licensed EMS Medical Directors, who fulfill a unique role in the health care system by providing oversight and medical direction to ensure the safety and efficacy of EMS care. This rotation exposes future EMS medical directors to their roles and responsibilities, and it introduces several resources to aid the future EMS medical director as he/she functions within the EMS system.

**Objectives:** Following successful completion of this elective, the student will be able to:

1. Summarize how the National Incident Command System (ICS), National Incident Management System (NIMS), and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) guide the EMS system to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the effects of emergency incidents (*Competency 1.10*).
2. Summarize how physicians work with community organizations (emergency dispatch center, fire and police department, and ambulance services) to care for medical and behavioral health emergencies (*1.10, 3.5*).
3. Identify resources which support an EMS director's participation in the design and evaluation of a community's comprehensive emergency operations plan (*Competency 1.10, 3.5*).
4. State the difficulties facing medical directors in the management of pandemics (*Competency 1.9, 1.10, 3.5*).
5. Build a portfolio of FEMA certificates which distinguish the student as having obtained formal training in EMS Medical Direction (*Competency 1.2, 1.3*).
6. Demonstrate the use of the extremely valuable information obtained by EMS, Fire, and Police personnel in guiding the initial resuscitation of critically ill patients in the emergency department (*Competency 3.1, 3.5, 7.3, 7.4*).
7. Students will be able to state where North Dakota EMS Directors can obtain additional education (outlined in "An Introduction to Rural EMS Medical Direction in North Dakota")
8. Students will be able to list at least 2 beliefs of the National Association of EMS Providers outlined in their position statement.

**Instructional Activities:** During this elective, the student will be involved in/experience:

1. Online training modules
  - a) FEMA Certificate IS-100: [Introduction to the Incident Command System](#) (2 hr)
  - b) FEMA Certificate IS-200: [Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response](#) (4 hr)
  - c) FEMA Certificate IS-230: [Fundamentals of Emergency Management](#) (6 hrs)
  - d) FEMA Certificate IS-520: [Introduction to Continuity of Operations Planning for Pandemic Influenzas](#) (1 hr)
  - e) FEMA Certificate IS-700: [An Introduction to the National Incident Management System](#) (3.5 hrs)
2. Online course textbook: [Handbook for EMS Medical Directors](#), March 2012. (82 pages)
3. Field experience (Students will contact each course preceptor to arrange field experience).  
Required attire: sturdy closed-toe shoes, khaki pants, UND polo shirt, student name badge
  - a) Two half-day sessions at Central Dakota Communications Center (CenCom) experiencing how dispatchers respond to 911 calls and direct the first few minutes of on-scene care.
  - b) Three shifts with Bismarck's Metro Ambulance service experiencing the unique challenges of responding to medical emergencies outside the hospital setting.
  - c) Two shifts with the Bismarck Police Department and/or the Crisis Intervention Team (to respond to mental health emergencies) to experience first-hand how officers respond to car accidents, narcotic overdoses, and behavioral health emergencies.
  - d) One half-day tour of Bismarck Fire Department to discuss medical issues surrounding HAZMAT response, patient extrication from car accidents, and the unique medical and environmental stressors placed on fire department personnel when responding to structural fires.
4. Attend a monthly meeting of Metro Ambulance, or a monthly meeting of any other ambulance service or fire department of your choosing.

**Criteria for Grading:** During and following this elective, the preceptor will:

1. Utilize the standardized UNDSMHS senior elective evaluation form.
2. Review the student's successful completion of FEMA certificates listed under Instructional Activities (a-d). (Objectives 1-5).

**Criteria for Honors:** In addition to the criteria above the student will do the following to obtain honors:

1. Complete FEMA Certificate IS-700 listed under Instructional Activities (e).
2. Complete a one-page essay on your EMS elective experience.