



Policy on Solicitation and Criteria for Selection of Readings for Lifelong Learning Self-Assessment Tests for Emergency Medical Services

BACKGROUND

The American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) and the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Subboard wish to involve the entire EMS community in the process of developing reading lists for the Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment (LLSA) component of the EMS continuing certification process. This policy documents the process for solicitation and development of reading lists for the biennial LLSA tests.

POLICY

The EMS Subboard will select readings for the Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment (LLSA) component for EMS continuing certification that meet the following goals:

1. Focus on recent advances or current issues in the field of EMS Medicine
2. Be drawn from peer-reviewed EMS journals, other peer-reviewed journals, textbook chapters, or current practice guidelines
3. Preferably be published within the previous three years of the test date in printed or electronic form
4. Relate directly to one or more of the content areas within *The Core Content of EMS Medicine*
5. Be potentially suitable for serving as part of a Continuing Medical Education (CME) activity by filling a knowledge or practice gap

The LLSA readings are designed as study tools and should be read critically. They are not intended to be all-inclusive and are not meant to define the standard of care for the field of EMS Medicine.

ABEM and the EMS Subboard will solicit readings biennially from designated EMS organizations and will accept suggestions from any EMS organization or diplomate when developing a reading list.

ABEM and the EMS Subboard will solicit readings biennially from the following organizations:

- National Association of Emergency Medical Services Physicians (NAEMSP)
- Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM), EMS Interest Group
- Air Medical Physician Association (AMPA)
- EMS Sections of the following organizations:
 - American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)
 - American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM)

The LLSA editors will select a final set of 10 to 15 readings on which the LLSA tests will be based. The EMS Subboard or its designated editors will maintain complete and final control over reading selection.

PROCEDURES

ABEM will post instructions for submitting LLSA readings on its website. The instructions will include submission criteria and content specifications for the current cycle.

ABEM and the EMS Subboard will distribute copies of the recommended readings to the designated group of LLSA item writers to begin the process of writing LLSA test items.

ABEM will notify the following organizations when the final EMS LLSA reading list will be posted on ABEM's website:

- National Association of Emergency Medical Services Physicians (NAEMSP)
- Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM), EMS Interest Group
- Air Medical Physician Association (AMPA)
- EMS Sections of the following organizations:
 - American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)
 - American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM)

EXCEPTION

None

RELATED DOCUMENTS

The Policy on Content Specifications of Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment Tests for Emergency Medical Services will guide the Subboard's development of the LLSA tests and readings. The Policy on Acceptable Use of Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment Test Materials defines the use of the copyrighted LLSA test materials. The Policy on Candidate Requests for Investigation of Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment Tests and the Appeal Process Related to the Policy on Candidate Requests for Investigation of Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment Tests outline the procedures for candidates wishing to protest the administration of LLSA tests.