National EMS Education Standard Competencies

Medicine
Applies fundamental knowledge to provide basic emergency care and transportation based on assessment findings for an acutely ill patient.

Psychiatric
Recognition of
- Behaviors that pose a risk to the EMT, patient, or others (pp 704, 706-710)
- Basic principles of the mental health system (pp 702-703)
- Assessment and management of
  - Acute psychosis (p 708)
  - Suicidal/risk (pp 708-709)
  - Agitated delirium (pp 709-710)

Knowledge Objectives
1. Discuss the myths and realities concerning psychiatric emergencies. (p 701)
2. Discuss general factors that can cause alteration in a patient’s behavior. (p 701)
3. Define a behavioral crisis. (p 702)
4. Understand the magnitude of mental health problems in society. (pp 702-703)
5. Understand the main principles of how the mental health system functions. (pp 702-703)
6. Describe the two basic categories of diagnosis that a physician will use. (p 703)
7. Discuss special considerations for assessing and managing a behavioral crisis or psychiatric emergency. (pp 703-708)
8. Define acute psychosis. (p 708)
9. Define schizophrenia. (p 708)
10. Describe the care for a psychotic patient. (p 708)
11. Explain how to recognize the behavior of a patient at risk of suicide, and discuss the management of such a patient. (pp 708-709)
12. Define agitated delirium and describe the care for a patient with agitated delirium. (pp 709-710)
13. Discuss the medical and legal aspects of managing a psychiatric emergency. (pp 710-712)
14. Describe methods used to restrain patients. (pp 712-713)
15. Explain the safe management of a potentially violent patient. (pp 713-714)

Skills Objectives
1. Demonstrate the techniques used to mechanically restrain a patient. (pp 712-713)