

PRACTICE CODE NUMBERING SYSTEM

A Division of the Board of Healthcare Funders

01 July 2026

Practice Code Number Application
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES - ILS CRITERA

INTERMEDIATE LIFE SUPPORT SERVICE

This document is to be submitted together with the Application form; supporting documents and completed questionnaire to pcns_admin@bhfglobal.com

This level of care involves the transportation of patients who may require medical assistance up to and including Intermediate Assistant level.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

1. Vehicles (please be advised that the requirements stated below apply to all vehicles that are made use of as ambulances)**:**

1. The ambulance must be configured in such a way that the medical personnel have complete access to a patient in order to begin and maintain life support	
2. The ambulance must be fitted with a two-way radio or cellular communication system or a combination thereof which allows for communication at all times with the dispatch centre	
3. The ambulance must be fitted with red warning lights that must be visible from the front, rear and both sides of the vehicle at all times, and siren in accordance with the relevant vehicle registration and safety legislation	
4. The ambulance must display the word “Ambulance” on the front and rear of all ambulances and must adhere to the following minimum dimensions: 600mm X 150mm; or large as possible proportionate to make of the vehicle	
5. The ambulance must be configured in such a way that the interior of the patient compartment, excluding the driver’s cab section, must be a minimum of- a. height 1222mm. b. width 1333mm. c. length 1900mm;	
6. The ambulance must be configured in such a way that adequate, permanently installed lighting is provided in the patient compartment	
7. The ambulance must have installed within the ambulance a minimum of a 2 000-watt electrical inverter, capable of providing a 220-volt power supply to the patient treatment compartment of the vehicle	
8. The ambulance must have an adequate entry that allows for the loading and off-loading of the patient without compromising the condition of the patient	
9. The ambulance must be configured in such a way that a patient can be carried in the supine position with specialised medical equipment fitted	
10. The ambulance must have an approved restraining device fitted for all patients and emergency care personnel	
11. The ambulance must have a stretcher restrained with a restraining device, approved by the manufacturer of the stretcher, which shall be permanently fitted to the vehicle and shall restrain both the front and rear of the stretcher	
12. The ambulance must have a stretcher that is secured in such a way that it allows medical personnel clear view of, and access to, the patient and specialised medical equipment	
13. The ambulance must have a stretcher that is fitted in such a way that it does not block the entry or emergency exits of the vehicle	
14. The ambulance must have a stretcher that is fitted in such a way that it does not block access to the airway of the patient and in such a way that the performance of advanced airway techniques will not be hindered	
15. The ambulance must be configured in such a way that medical equipment and medical gas cylinders are secured in brackets that are attached to the body of the vehicle and do not allow any vertical or horizontal movement of the medical equipment or medical gas cylinders within the compartment of the ambulance	
16. The ambulance must be configured in such a way that medical equipment and medical gas cylinders are fitted	

	in such a way that they do not obstruct the entry or emergency exits of the vehicle or pose a potential threat to personnel or patients	
17.	The ambulance must have medical gas cylinders and outlets marked in accordance with SANS Codes of Practice and that have been subjected to visual and hydrostatic inspection by a Department of Labour approved testing facility	
18.	The ambulance must have an adequate supply of convenient hanging devices that are fitted for intravenous therapy - such must be fitted in such a way as not to inflict injury to patients or medical personnel	
19.	The ambulance must have a patient compartment that is lined with a non-porous material to avoid blood and other body fluids from contaminating the area, and allows for the cleaning of the compartment	
20.	The ambulance must have surfaces and equipment within the ambulance free from the visible appearance of any and all contaminants including but not limited to dust, dirt, blood, faeces, urine, vomit, human tissue or any other bodily fluid	
21.	The ambulance must have a patient compartment separated from the driver compartment in such a way that the patient, treatment of the patient, and actions of the patient must in no way interfere with the driving of the vehicle	
22.	The ambulance must in the case of a vehicle with a gross vehicle mass which exceeds 3 500kg, be fitted with retro-reflective red and retro-reflective yellow chevron strips on the rear of the vehicle, as required by the National Road Traffic Act	
23.	The ambulance must in the case of a vehicle with a gross vehicle mass which exceeds 3 500kg, be fitted with yellow, retro-reflective strips to both the sides of the vehicle as well as the rear of the vehicle, in addition to the chevron, which must be fitted no more than 600mm from the lower part of the body of such vehicle, as required by the National Road Traffic Act	
24.	The ambulance must be registered as an 'Ambulance' with the relevant authorities according to existing Acts, ordinances or regulations.	

2. Equipment checklist:

	Ambulance	Response Vehicle	Medical Rescue Vehicle
2.1. Airway Equipment			
1. Oropharyngeal airway No. 00	2 each	2 each	2 each
2. Oropharyngeal airway No. 0	2 each	2 each	2 each
3. Oropharyngeal airway No. 1	2 each	2 each	2 each
4. Oropharyngeal airway No. 2	2 each	2 each	2 each
5. Oropharyngeal airway No. 3	2 each	2 each	2 each
6. Oropharyngeal airway No. 4	2 each	2 each	2 each
7. Hard Suction Catheter (Paediatric)	2	2	2
8. Neonatal Suction Catheters Size No. 5 FG	2	2	2
9. Neonatal Suction Catheters Size No. 6 FG	2	2	2
10. Neonatal Suction Catheters Size No. 8 FG	2	2	2
11. Paediatric Suction Catheters Size No. 10 FG	1	1	1
12. Adult Suction Catheter Size No. 12 FG	1	1	1
13. Adult Suction Catheter Size No. 14 FG	1	1	1
14. Neonatal Suction Catheters Size No. 5 FG	1	1	1
15. Neonatal Suction Catheters Size No. 6 FG	1	1	1
16. Neonatal Suction Catheters Size No. 8 FG	1	1	1
17. Paediatric Suction Catheters Size No. 10 FG	1	1	1
18. Adult Suction Catheter Size No. 14 FG	2	2	2
19. Portable Suction Apparatus (Combination of Battery and Electrically Operated)	1	1	1
20. Manual Hand Operated Portable Suction Apparatus (As a backup device)	1	1	1



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	Ambulance	Response Vehicle	Medical Rescue Vehicle
21. Stethoscope (Combination of diaphragm and bell type head)	1	1	1
2.2. Endotracheal Intubation Equipment			
1. Magill forceps - adult	1	1	1
2. Magill forceps - paediatric	1	1	1
2.3. Breathing / Ventilation Equipment			
1. Adult oxygen masks providing 40% inhaled oxygen with tubing	4	4	4
2. Adult non-rebreather masks providing 100% inhaled oxygen with tubing	2	2	2
3. Adult oxygen nebuliser masks including tubing and fluid reservoir	2	2	2
4. Nasal cannula with tubing	2	2	2
5. Paediatric oxygen masks providing 40% inhaled oxygen with tubing	2	2	2
6. Paediatric non-rebreather masks providing 100% inhaled oxygen with tubing	2	2	2
7. Paediatric oxygen nebuliser masks including tubing and a fluid reservoir	2	2	2
8. Oxygen T-Piece with tubing	2	2	2
9. Adult Bag-Valve-Mask with Reservoir and adult mask (size 4)	1	1	1
10. Paediatric Bag-Valve-Mask with Reservoir and paediatric mask (size 1)	1	1	1
11. Neonatal Bag-Valve-Mask with Reservoir and neonatal mask (size 0)	1	1	1
12. Oxygen Humidification Device	1	0	0
2.4. Oxygen Supply			
1. Minimum of a portable oxygen cylinder. Size "D"	2	2	2
2. Portable oxygen cylinder gauge with flow meter	1	1	1
3. Fitted oxygen cylinder/s, size "F" capable of supplying a minimum of 30 minutes of oxygen at a flow rate of at least 15 litres per minute	2	0	0
4. Fitted oxygen cylinder gauge with flow meter	1	0	0
2.5. Ventilator			
1. Heat moisture exchange valve for both manual as well as mechanical ventilation methods.	2	2	2
2.6. Diagnostic / Therapeutic Equipment			
1. Sphygmomanometer including adult, paediatric and neonatal cuffs	1	1	1
2. Pupil torch	1	1	1
3. Glucometer and blood glucose monitoring strips	1	1	1
4. Pulse Oximeter (if not included as a feature of an ECG monitor or electronic patient monitor)	1	1	1

	Ambulance	Response Vehicle	Medical Rescue Vehicle
5. Automated External Defibrillator (AED) that is approved by the manufacturer for use in a moving vehicle, To be used in combination with a Vital Signs Monitor that includes visual 3 lead ECG Monitoring and a ECG rhythm printer /recorder feature (Vital Signs Monitor requires annual calibration certification)	1	1	1
OR			
6. ECG monitor and defibrillator featuring 3 lead ECG monitoring capability, 3 lead cable, AED capability, AED pads, manual defibrillation, recorder I printer with paper and hard defibrillation paddles (requires annual calibration certification)	1	1	1
7. Defibrillation gel	1	1	1
2.7. Miscellaneous Disposable Equipment			
1. Boxes of disposable examination gloves (S,M,L)	1 each	1 each	1 each
2. Wound dressings 100mm x 100mm	5	5	5
3. Wound dressings 100mm x 200mm	4	4	4
4. Hydrogel Burn Dressing 100mm x 100mm	2	2	2
5. Hydrogel Burn Dressing 200mm x 200mm	1	1	1
6. Hydrogel Burn Dressing 200mm x 450mm	2	2	2
7. Gauze swabs (100mm x 100mm)	20	20	20
8. Roll of 25 mm adhesive tape (zinc oxide)	1	1	1
9. Roll of 10 mm adhesive tape (hypoallergenic)	1	1	1
10. 75mm elasticised bandages	4	4	4
11. 100mm elasticised bandages	4	4	4
12. Sealed maternity pack (including 2 x sealed & sterile surgical blades, 4 x sealed sanitary pads, 2 x sealed space blankets, 4 x sealed & sterile umbilical cord clamps, 1 x sealed & sterile mucous extractor)	1	1	1
13. Regurgitation bags	4	0	0
OR Large kidney bowl I receiver (may not be a bedpan)	1	0	0
14. Sealed space blanket	4	4	4
15. Clear safety goggles	2	2	2
2.8. Intravenous Therapy Equipment			
1. Alcohol Swab (30mm x 30mm)	30	30	30
2. 14-gauge intra- venous catheters	2	2	2
3. 16-gauge intra- venous catheters	2	2	2
4. 18-gauge intra- venous catheters	2	2	2
5. 20-gauge intra- venous catheters	2	2	2
6. 22-gauge intra- venous catheters	2	2	2
7. 24-gauge intra- venous catheters	2	2	2
8. 60 micro drops / ml - Administration Sets	2	2	2

	Ambulance	Response Vehicle	Medical Rescue Vehicle
9. 15 drops /ml or 20 drops /ml-Administration Sets	2	2	2
10. 10 drops 1 ml - Blood Administration Set	2	2	2
11. 200m1 Normal Saline - 1V Fluid	2	2	2
12. 1000m1 Ringers Lactate - IV Fluid	2	2	2
Or 1000m1 Balsol - IV Fluid	2	2	2
13. 500m1 Synthetic Colloid e.g. Haemaccel I Haes - sterile	1	1	1
14. Transparent, waterproof, IV securing dressing (e.g. Tegaderm or similar) minimum of 10cm x 12cm dimensions	8	8	8
15. Infusion flow regulators (e.g. Dial -a- Flow, Dosi Flow)	2	2	2
16. 3 Way Stopcock	1	1	1
17. Spencer Wells Artery Forceps	2	2	2
2.9. Medicines Therapy Sundries			
1. 20 ml syringes	2	2	2
2. 10 ml syringes	2	2	2
3. 5 ml syringes	2	2	2
4. 2 ml syringes	2	2	2
5. 16-gauge needles	4	4	4
6. 20-gauge needles	4	4	4
2.10. Medicines	Medicines to be carried by the on -duty registered practitioner as per HPCSA approved scope of practice for a registered Ambulance Emergency Assistant or a registered Emergency Care Assistant.		
2.11. Transport and Immobilisation Equipment			
1. Hard/Stiff Neck Cervical Collars - Small	2	2	2
2. Hard/Stiff Neck Cervical Collars - Medium	2	2	2
3. Hard/Stiff Neck Cervical Collars - Large	2	2	2
4. Full set of Soft Cervical Collars (Small, Medium, Large)	Optional	Optional	Optional
5. Patient Extrication Device -Adult (e.g. KED)	1	Optional	Optional
6. Patient Extrication Device - Paediatric (e.g. KED)	1	Optional	Optional
7. Long spine board	1	0	0
8. Scoop stretcher	1	0	1
9. Vacuum Mattress	Optional	0	0
10. Set Head Blocks	2	Optional	Optional
11. Spider harness	2	Optional	Optional
12. Lower extremity traction splint - Adult	1	Optional	Optional
13. Lower extremity traction splint - Paediatric	1	Optional	Optional
14. Long splints - Leg	6	6	6
15. Short splints - Arm	4	4	4
2.12. Other			
1. Pillow	2	0	0
2. Sheet	6	1	0
3. Blanket	2	0	0

	Ambulance	Response Vehicle	Medical Rescue Vehicle
4. Bedpan/urinal	1	0	0
5. Waste disposal facility (enclosed container)	1	0	0
6. Red, medical waste disposal plastic bags	6	6	6
7. Enclosed, commercially manufactured, disposable sharps container	1	1	1
8. Suitably manufactured Jump Bag for safe, clean and secure storage and transportation of medical equipment	1	1	1
9. Pair rescue scissors	1	1	1
10. High visibility, reflective vest and / or jacket	2	1	2
11. Safety helmet	2	1	2
12. Fire Extinguisher (minimum of 2KG dry powder)	1	1	1
13. Thermometer (standard)	1	1	1
14. Casebook or patient record sheet	1	1	1
15. Map book or fitted GPS device	1	1	1

3. Rescue Equipment Requirements

Equipment	Quantity	Equipment	Quantity
1. Hydraulic Pump	1	Jumper cables	1 set
2. Hydraulic Spreader	1	10-litre compressed-air cylinder	1
3. Hydraulic Cutter	1	Pneumatic airbags	1
4. Hydraulic Hand Pump	1	Pneumatic Hoses	1
5. Hydraulic Hose	3	Pneumatic Controls and Air Cylinder	1
6. Hydraulic Rams (Short, Medium, Long)	3	Pneumatic Chisel Set	1
7. Reciprocating saw	1	Torch	1
8. Generator, minimum 3,5 kW	1	Pedal cutter	1
9. Lighting system	1	Tool sheet (Staging)	1
10. Petrol angle grinder	1	Dry powder portable fire extinguisher	1 x 2.5kg
11. Step Chocks	2	Abseil Harness with 1 ascender device	2
12. Wedges	4	Helmets	2
13. Chocks	4	Rescue gloves	2 pairs
14. Road cones	20	Ropes 50 meters Main line	2
15. Multi-purpose tool e.g. Haligan Tool	1	Ropes 50 meters Safety line	2
16. Hacksaw	1	Edge roller	1
17. Axe	1	Ascenders	1
18. Rubber hammer	1	Prussik Loops	4
19. Hammer	1	Light-use Ascenders	2
20. Bolt cutter	1	Descenders	1 set
21. Toolbox	1	Figure 8 descenders	2
1. Rescue Tool Storage bag	1	Brake Bar Racks	1
2. Chain saw	1	Self-Braking Descender e.g. Petzl ID	2

3. Rescue Equipment Requirements

Equipment	Quantity	Equipment	Quantity
3. Bow Saw	1	Carabiners	14
4. Crowbar	1	Anchor plate	2
5. Ratchet straps	2	Slings (S,M,L)	2 each
6. Glass cutter	1	Rope grabs	2
7. Spade	1	Cow Tail	6
8. Broom	1	Directional pulley	4
9. Duct tape	2	Haul hoist	1
10. Trolley jack	1	Breathing apparatus and cylinders	2
11. Bottle jack	1	Bunker kit	1
12. High Lifting Jack	1	Helmets with visor	1
13. Jimmy jack	1	Utility rope	1
14. Soft protection	1	Tarpaulin	1
15. Hard protection	1	Torpedo Buoys	2
16. Seatbelt cutter	1	Personal Flotation Devices	2
17. Centre punch	1	Trauma board	1
18. Large pliers	1	Scoop stretcher	1
19. Barrier tape	2	Roll-able Toughened Plastic Rescue Stretcher e.g. SKED stretcher	1
20. Jerry can with appropriate fuel	1 x 10 litre	Step ladder	1
21. Basket stretcher with straps e.g. Stokes	1	Head blacks	1
22. Scoop stretcher	1	Spider harness	1
23. Webbing	1	Short Spinal Board e.g. Kendrich Extrication Device	1
24. Oxygen cylinder and gauge	1	Suction unit	1
25. Bag-Valve-Masks (Adult, child, Neonate)	1 each	Jump bag	1
26. Face Mask N95 rating	1 box	Sharps Container	1
27. Red Plastic Bags	5		

4. Personnel for Intermediate Life Support Ambulance (NB Refer to the latest 2017 EMS Regulation)

Personnel for Intermediate Life Support Ambulance	Minimum Quantity (per vehicle)
Basic Ambulance Assistant (BAA) registered at HPCSA	2
Ambulance Emergency Assistant (AEA) registered at HPCSA	2

Additional personnel

- 1 Medical Practitioner with an active practice number.
- 1 Emergency Medical Service Manager | who is qualified in at least Ambulance Emergency Assistant or higher qualification at HPCSA

All staff members above are required to have valid PDP's.

There shall also be a consulting registered Medical Practitioner, available 24 hours per day, for medical advice or intervention by radio, telephone or on scene intervention. It is highly recommended that the registered Medical Practitioner hold currently valid ATLS / ACLS/ PALS or (APLS) certificates or equivalent.

The ambulance crew must be dressed in an appropriate uniform.

All staff members are required to have a employment contract or employment confirmation signed by both the employer and employee. **NB: Personal information such as residential address or remuneration are to be excluded.**

An SLA agreement is required to be signed by both the Medical Practitioner and owner of the Ambulance Service.

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