



MICN Field Observation Procedures, Guidelines and Objectives

As part of the continuing education requirements to maintain MICN certification in Riverside County, emergency department MICNs can participate in up to twelve (12) hours of field observations, every two (2) years, with an ALS unit. The purpose of this experience is to expose the MICN to the field perspective of patient care. In addition, this experience allows the MICN to have positive interactions with the field crews and improve communication skills while gaining appreciation and understanding of the field care role of the paramedic.

Procedures

1. You may ride along with any ALS unit in Riverside County (fire department or AMR).
2. Ride-outs must be scheduled directly with the preferred agency.
 - To schedule a ride out with AMR, call the scheduler at 951-782-5232.
 - **NOTE:** EMT and paramedic students take precedence and may already be scheduled to accompany a preferred crew on a preferred date. Plan ahead and contact the preferred agency as early as possible.
3. If riding with a fire dept, you must ensure that the fire captain / company officer is aware of your presence and participation.
4. Scrubs, sturdy shoes (not open heel clogs) and proper ID are required attire during any ride along.

Performance Guidelines

1. Your primary responsibility is to observe ALS operations. You may assist with BLS procedures if requested; however, the paramedic is ultimately responsible for the patients care.
2. You cannot be "consulted" for, and may not give, base hospital orders while observing during a ride along. The paramedic must contact the appropriate base hospital, per protocol.
3. You must adhere to agency safety guidelines and follow directions given for your safety during a ride-a-long.

Learning and Performance Objectives

During the ride-a-long experience, you must observe and identify the operations of the ALS unit and complete the attached MICN Field Observation Evaluation to include:

- Describe how 911 calls are processed (from PSAP to dispatch)
- Document basic information for each call the unit responded to
- Describe how the primary paramedic participated in patient care
- Describe the differences between Code 2 and 3 transport
- Define the term "staging"
- Describe what equipment that is brought to the side of the medical and trauma patient
- Identify the priority of patient care events on scene
 - Were the standard ABC's followed?
- Describe the primary components of an initial assessment of a trauma patient
- Observe the extrication of patients involved in traffic collisions (if any) and describe the challenges the faced
- Observe multi-patient scene management (if any) and identify how patients are initially triaged
- Observe and describe conditions on scene which may hinder patient care (scene location, weather conditions, confined space in cars or homes, combative patients, limited personnel on scene)

- Observe radio communications with receiving hospitals and note at which point during the encounter the receiving hospital was notified
- Observe and document if the crew accurately described the scene situation and the patient's condition to the receiving hospital
- Observe which treatments were done on scene versus en route. Describe any barriers to performing all treatments needed prior to arrival at the hospital
- Describe any events you felt should have been performed, or ended, differently
- Describe the most important learning experience from this ride along



MICN Field Observation Evaluation Form

Name: _____ MICN# _____ License # _____

Date: _____ Time: _____

ALS Agency: _____ Unit / Engine# _____

How do 911 calls get processed (from PSAP to dispatch)?

	How many 911 calls did your unit respond to?		
#	Chief complaint / Injury	Mild, mod, severe distress?	Treatment(s) provided by team
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

Describe the difference between Code 2 and Code 3 transport:

How did you participate in ALS intervention?

What equipment is initially taken to the patient with a medical complaint? What equipment is initially taken to the patient who experienced a traumatic injury?

Did you observe any trauma calls? If so, describe mechanism(s) of injury:

Were patient(s) easily accessible or was extrication required? Describe any challenges:

What are the primary components of an initial trauma assessment? (ask the paramedic to explain to you exactly, and in what order, he/she does the initial assessment of the trauma patient)

Did you observe any multi-victim incidents? If so, how were the patients initially triaged?

What does "staging" mean?

Were there any conditions which hindered or delayed patient care?

On most calls, at what point did the paramedic contact the receiving hospital?

Do you think the paramedic accurately described the events and condition of the patients to the hospital on both medical and trauma calls?

Was the priority of care for all patients "ABC"? (airway, breathing, circulation)

In most cases, was there enough time for all necessary treatments prior to arrival at the hospital? If not, explain:

Did anything really surprise you today?

Was there an event today that you thought, "I would have done (this) differently"? If so, please explain:

What was the most important thing you learned from the ride-along experience?

Field Observation Ride Out Course Evaluation (completed by MICN):

Circle your responses:	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Did this course meet the stated objectives?	4	3	2	1
Was the instructor/facilitator knowledgeable?	4	3	2	1
Were the teaching techniques appropriate?	4	3	2	1
Will the participant be able to use this information in his/her practice?	4	3	2	1
Was the information given on a level in which all participants could understand?	4	3	2	1

Paramedic to complete this section:

I, _____, paramedic, verify that _____, MICN, has
Printed name *Printed name*

completed _____ hours of field observation and has satisfactorily completed the performance objectives.
#

Paramedic signature _____ Paramedic License # _____ Today's date and time _____

Paramedic comments:

This completed form is to be returned to your PLN for continuing education credit.