

Specialty Care Transport

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Sec. 414.605 Definitions.

Advanced life support (ALS) assessment is an assessment performed by an ALS crew as part of an emergency response that was necessary because **the patient's reported condition at the time of dispatch** was such that only an ALS crew was qualified to perform the assessment. An ALS assessment **does not necessarily result in a determination that the patient requires an ALS level** of service.

Advanced life support (ALS) intervention means a procedure that is, **in accordance with State and local laws**, beyond the scope of authority of an emergency medical technician-basic (EMT-Basic).

Advanced life support, level 1 (ALS1) means transportation by ground ambulance vehicle, medically necessary supplies and services and **either an ALS assessment by ALS personnel or the provision of at least one ALS intervention**.

Advanced life support, level 2 (ALS2) means either **transportation** by ground ambulance vehicle, medically necessary supplies and services, **and the administration of at least three medications by intravenous push/ bolus or by continuous infusion** excluding crystalloid, hypotonic, isotonic, and hypertonic solutions (Dextrose, Normal Saline, Ringer's Lactate); **or transportation**, medically necessary supplies and services, **and the provision of at least one** of the following ALS procedures:

- (1) Manual defibrillation/cardioversion.
- (2) Endotracheal intubation.
- (3) Central venous line.
- (4) Cardiac pacing.
- (5) Chest decompression.
- (6) Surgical airway.
- (7) Intraosseous line.

Advanced life support (ALS) personnel means an individual trained to the level of the emergency medical technician-intermediate (EMT- Intermediate) or paramedic. The EMT-Intermediate is defined as an individual who is qualified, in accordance with State and local laws, as an EMT-Basic and who is also qualified in accordance with State and local laws to perform essential advanced techniques and to administer a limited number of medications. The EMT-Paramedic is defined as possessing the qualifications of the EMT-Intermediate and also, in accordance with State and local laws, as having enhanced skills that include being able to administer additional interventions and medications.

Basic life support (BLS) means transportation by ground ambulance vehicle and medically necessary supplies and services, plus the provision of BLS ambulance services. The ambulance must be **staffed by an individual who is qualified in**

accordance with State and local laws as an emergency medical technician-basic (EMT-Basic). These laws may vary from State to State. For example, only in some States is an EMT-Basic permitted to operate limited equipment on board the vehicle, assist more qualified personnel in performing assessments and interventions, and establish a peripheral intravenous (IV) line.

Paramedic ALS intercept (PI) means EMT-Paramedic services furnished by an entity that does not furnish the ground ambulance transport, provided the services meet the requirements specified in Sec. 410.40(c) of this chapter. (Not applicable in Idaho)

Specialty care transport (SCT) means **interfacility** transportation of a critically injured or ill beneficiary by a ground ambulance vehicle, including medically necessary supplies and services, at a level of service **beyond the scope of the EMT-Paramedic**. SCT is necessary when a beneficiary's condition requires ongoing care that must be furnished by one or more health professionals in an appropriate specialty area, for example, nursing, emergency medicine, respiratory care, cardiovascular care, or a paramedic with additional training.