



**SOUTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL, INC.**

611 OLD POST ROAD FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06430 (203) 255-4411

**GUIDELINES FOR THE USE AND APPLICATION OF
PNEUMATIC ANTISHOCK GARMENTS (MAST)**

I. PERSONNEL

- A. Pneumatic antishock garments (PASG/MAST) are to be applied only by EMTs who have been properly trained in a course recognized by the region and who have demonstrated their knowledge and skills and hold a current medical identity number.
- B. These EMTs shall be designated by the prefix MA. (See regional medical I.D. system.)
- C. This skill is to be practiced regularly and EMTs shall demonstrate their ability to the sponsor hospital medical director or designee every 24 months in an appropriate written and practical refresher exam. A minimum of two (2) hours of didactic training is required annually (four (4) hours every 24 months) above and beyond EMT-BLS training. This training may be integrated into the normal recertification practice. The MAST module must be recorded on the appropriate T-1 signed by the sponsor hospital medical director.
- D. In order to apply pneumatic antishock garments, the EMT must be active with a service that is recognized by the region and has been authorized by the OEMS to provide PASG (MAST or higher level) service.

II. SERVICES

- A. A PASG (MAST) service must have the following on each ambulance:
 - 1. Large size full unit.
 - 2. Small size garment or full unit.



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3. Spare pump with hose (and proper adapter.)
 4. Direct radio communications to the controlling hospital emergency department via the regional emergency medical communications system.
- B. Each service must be able to offer PASG (MAST) service 100 percent of the time on a first-call basis and 80 percent in aggregate for secondary calls.
- C. Each service is to have a medical director or director of training (the sponsor hospital medical director or designee) who shall agree to be responsible for ongoing inservice training, including the device, and for remedying any problems brought to his/her attention by the director of the emergency department at any controlling hospital.
- D. Pneumatic antishock garments will only be used under the direction of a medical control physician, according to regional guidelines and in accordance with approved standing orders, where appropriate. (When communicating with the medical control physician, PASG (MAST) is to be referred to as "anti-shock trousers.")
- E. Only pneumatic antishock garments that have at least one gauge are to be used.

III. TRAINING PROGRAMS

- A. An EMS-I or physician must be designated lead instructor. The lead instructor must be approved by a sponsor hospital medical director. An EMS-I serving as lead instructor must be regionally trained and/or approved in the use of pneumatic antishock garments. The medical director is responsible for course content. There must be a state certified EMS-I responsible for all class sessions.
- B. PASG (MAST) programs will be scheduled for no less than **ten hours**. At a more advanced life support level in the use of PASG



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(MAST), teaching hours will vary individually to level of competency.

C. There is no minimum EMT time requirement to enroll in a PASG (MAST) training program. The applicant must, however, be 18 years of age and hold a valid EMT-B certification.

D. A PASG (MAST) course must include:

1. Review of basic life support airway management techniques including oropharyngeal and nasopharyngeal airway insertion and use of the bag valve mask with special emphasis on maintenance of patent airway, proper mask seal and delivery of adequate tidal volume.
2. Reteaching of patient assessment with special reference to auscultation of chest sounds (normal, rales, wheezing), and spinal immobilization.
3. Shock: To include lecture on the details of hypotension, hypovolemia, relative hypovolemia, etc., and other mechanisms, i.e., insufficient cardiac output, hypoperfusion, and the use of PASG (MAST) in arrest from exsanguination.
4. Regional guidelines for use of the garment.
5. Radio reporting and proper documentation techniques. (On the radio, PASG (MAST) is to be referred to as "anti-shock trousers").
6. Demonstration of three or more methods of placing the garment on patients, demonstration of all approved types of garments closing, inflation, and gauge reading.
7. Practice in placing a patient on garment, fastening and inflating, proper vital signs.
8. Discussion of proper deflation procedures with warning regarding nonhospital deflation.
9. Instruction in modified use.



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10. Instruction in correcting chamber or garment failure.
11. Written and practical skills evaluation.

IV. TREATMENT GUIDELINES: See "Protocols for the Use of Pneumatic Antishock Garments."

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EXECUTIVE BOARD APPROVED 3/4/99