Respirator Medical Evaluations

Question:

Can an EMT, EMT-I, A-EMT, Paramedic, or PHRN complete an initial Occupational Safety and Health Administration Respirator Medical Evaluation Questionnaire on behalf of fire service personnel

Answer:

Yes, a fire department paramedic can administer the respirator medical evaluation questionnaire for fire department members, but ONLY if they are authorized to so in writing by their EMS medical director. You would need a letter from that EMS medical director that says something to the effect of "Paramedic Bob Jones of the Central City Fire Department is authorized by me to perform respirator medical evaluations for members of the Central City Fire Department under the following restrictions or conditions, etc." The actual law is below. Thanks.

(210 ILCS 50/3.55)

Sec. 3.55. Scope of practice.

(f) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit an EMT, EMT-I, A-EMT, Paramedic, or PHRN from completing an initial Occupational Safety and Health Administration Respirator Medical Evaluation Questionnaire on behalf of fire service personnel, as permitted by his or her EMS System Medical Director.

(Source: P.A. 102-79, eff. 1-1-22.)

Erik Kambarian, CSP

Chief, Division of Occupational Safety and Health (IL OSHA)