

Paramedic Interview Questions And Answers Guide.



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Paramedic Job Interview Preparation Guide.

Question # 1

What motivates you as Paramedic?

Answer:-

I think that it is part of my caring nature. I feel that it is so important to care for people when they are at their most vulnerable. I am caring and compassionate and committed to helping people.

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Question # 2

Tell me what gives you the greatest joy as a Paramedic?

Answer:-

At the end of the day, regardless if its a good day or a bad day, I can always say I am proud of what I do. It brings me much joy knowing I am making a difference in the world, and that gives me great meaning to my life.

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Question # 3

Tell me how do you fill downtime?

Answer:-

By keeping as fit as possible (by running), playing the piano to relax and by spending as much time with my family as possible.

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Question # 4

Explain about your previous boss?

Answer:-

No, I became a Paramedic to help people and to try to make a difference. I realise that this difference is often going to be small - but that it can add up to something that saves lives. Every so often however, you do get to save a life as a Paramedic, and it means a lot to be able to do that too.

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Question # 5

Explain how Paramedics will treat people having drug overdose?

Answer:-

For people having drug overdose, Intravenous fluids may be given to flush the drug out of the system and to re-establish balance of fluids and minerals in the body. Generally, the IV fluid they use are saline water, which contains sodium, potassium and bicarbonate it will help to balance the fluids and minerals in the body.

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Question # 6

Tell me how do you use defibrillator?

Answer:-

- * Before using defibrillator make sure if, patient pulse is there, even if it is weak don't use defibrillator
- * Remove all unnecessary jewellery from victim's body so there should no interference while applying the pads to the patient's bare chest
- * Make sure nobody is touching the patient
- * If shock waves restart the heart, do not apply any more shock
- * CPR is necessary along with defibrillator; it provides oxygen rich blood to heart and brain

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Question # 7

What is Nebuliser?



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Answer:-

It is a device with a long pipe or a mask used to administer medication in the form of mist inhaled into the lungs.

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Question # 8

Tell me what do Paramedics usually carries with them?

Answer:-

Paramedics usually have

- * Drug dose reference card and a blank notepad
- * Blank notepad
- * Ambulance identification card
- * Pen torch
- * A pair of protective eye-care
- * Access to App for Medical dictionary and Language translator

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Question # 9

Tell me have you ever lost a patient en route to the hospital? What happened?

Answer:-

I have never lost a patient en route to hospital although I have experienced a patient going into cardiac arrest on scene, before transport to hospital. Full ALS protocol and swift transport followed.

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Question # 10

Explain me how you remain calm, in detail, during a crisis?

Answer:-

First of all I assess the situation. Danger is always first to be assessed, if danger is not present then we go in remembering that we have trained for these types of scenarios calming the patient and bystanders down. Once the patient is assessed we treat the patient accordingly and decide on an exit strategy either by ambulance or by family members.

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Question # 11

Tell me what is your greatest achievement so far as Paramedic?

Answer:-

My greatest achievement is my level of independence that I've acquired. At a younger age than most, I've become a paramedic, moved to isolated aboriginal land, and gained work experience. I am now demonstrating that exact independence by being ready to move on to the next step of my life with NEMS

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Question # 12

Tell me how would you rate your skills at creating a patient care report?

Answer:-

Not as good as I would like, my background is with the fire service and the pcrs I usually fill out are not as detailed as an ambulance pcr.

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Question # 13

Explain me what are the types of Paramedics?

Answer:-

Paramedics can operate in various fields

- * Air Ambulance Paramedics
- * Ambulance Community Officers
- * Bi-cycle Response Paramedics
- * Graduate Paramedics
- * Paramedic Community Support Co-ordinate

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Question # 14

Tell me to become a Paramedic professional what are the qualifications are required?

Answer:-

To become a Paramedic professional you must have following qualifications like:

- * Completing a paramedic training course
- * Certified as an EMT- basic, hold a current American Heart Association Basic Life Support for health care providers card
- * Six months experience working as an EMT
- * Pass the NREMT (National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians) certification exam

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Question # 15

What are your career goals as Paramedic?

Answer:-

I have the desire to progress as a paramedic afterwards as I enjoy working in a healthcaring environment, which brings me the opportunity where I can try out new challenges.

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Question # 16

Tell me how to respond to a crime scene as para medic?

Answer:-

- * While treating the patient Paramedic has to take care that they preserve the evidence at crime scene (Not touching suspicious element or any object)
- * Make a mental note of the location of a patient
- * Use a mask while entering crime scene as it may have hazardous chemical in air
- * Reporting to the hospital for any suspicious observation

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Question # 17

Tell me what do Paramedics do when they found somebody unconscious?

Answer:-

When they found somebody unconscious, they follow the following techniques

- * They will check the response for AVP (Alert, Verbal and Pain)
- * If the patient is not responding, any of this sign they will check for heart beat and airways (neck crooked, obstruction in their throat)
- * If patient is not breathing, they will put on ventilator and start CPR
- * Also, can give IV injection

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Question # 18

Explain what are some optional basic life support medication does Paramedics carries with them?

Answer:-

Some of the basic support medication are

- * Albuterol
- * Epi pens
- * Oral glucose
- * Nitroglycerin

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Question # 19

Explain what is the machine used by Paramedics to bring heart beat back in an emergency?

Answer:-

The machine that is used by Paramedics to bring heart beat back is referred as defibrillator.

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Question # 20

Explain how would you handle a situation where a patient has expired, and you have to cover their body and wheel them into the vehicle while a crowd of people watch?

Answer:-

I would first ask the crowd before leaving the address if they wouldnt mind showing some respect to the patient by turning away and giving ourselves and the family some space. Following this I would ensure the patient was covered to preserve dignity and make a quick transition to the ambulance, again asking people if they wouldnt mind turning away for a moment and offering a few words of comfort to anyone who appeared distressed by the situation.

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Question # 21

Suppose if you are the first on scene and notice 3 almost fatal injuries, how do you react to each patient before help arrives?

Answer:-

Triage the patients using triage cards that are clearly marked so that crews arriving can see them. Delegate once help arrives and in the mean time, attend to the most seriously ill patient, using ABC as a guide.

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Question # 22

As you know 24/7 operations are like relay races where you take the baton, run with it and then pass it on smoothly. How do you make seamless transitions on shift changes?

Answer:-

Being a Paramedic is not like working a 9-5 job, it is not always possible to leave exactly at the time you should, although, I would ensure I was at my job at least 15-20 minutes early so if a call came in, I would take it rather than a crew member having to stay late.



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Question # 23

Tell me how would you handle working with a teammate with less experience that caused you to carry the workload?

Answer:-

I would do what had to be done at the time whilst ensuring im showing the teammate exactly what im doing in case it is down to lack of knowledge. The more the person knows, the more weight they can pull.

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Question # 24

Explain me how would you intervene with a frantic relative who is grieving over the injury of a child?

Answer:-

I would comfort them and reassure them the child get hurt and they generally recover better then adults. I would calm the relative as they aren't helping the the child as a child will react to our reaction more then they would if we didn't react. Having the person staying close by and watching the assessment of the child (if possible) to show them that we are confident and competent.

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Question # 25

Operational and Situational Paramedic Job Interview Questions:

Answer:-

- * Why did you decide to be a paramedic?
- * Describe the most challenging call you ever received as a paramedic.
- * How would you handle a multi-agency call?
- * What have you recently done to improve or update your skills as a paramedic?
- * What kinds of environments have you worked in as a paramedic?
- * How would you remove a heavy patient from a difficult or dangerous situation?
- * In as much detail as possible, describe the process of administering morphine through an IV. What would you do differently if the patient was a child?
- * In as much detail as possible, describe the process for treating broken bones.
- * What are some ways to treat drug overdose?
- * What are some ways to treat burns?
- * How would you treat a hypothermic patient?
- * How would you handle an epileptic seizure?
- * As a paramedic, what kinds of life support medication do you usually have with you?
- * Have you ever responded to a crime scene as a paramedic? What did you do?
- * Describe a time you had to act professionally, despite your personal feelings.
- * Describe a time you did the right thing, even though it was more difficult for you.
- * This job can be stressful. What do you do to stay calm?

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Question # 26

Tell me how can you stop bleeding in case of an accident or patient suffering from injuries?

Answer:-

Paramedics are aware of pressure points, and they can apply direct pressure to the injury from where bleeding occurs. The pressure points will lessen blood flow to the injury site, which causes slower haemorrhage from the site.

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Question # 27

Tell me how would you handle a shift when four emergency calls are made all within a two hour time?

Answer:-

I would focus mainly on patient treatment and fill out the paperwork later. I would make sure in the quick time between the calls I can get whatever supplies out that I can. In these instances there is really nothing else you can do but focus on the patient.

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Question # 28

Tell me have you ever suggested a improvement that was put into practice in the paramedic field?

Answer:-

They could have eac paramedic specialize in a certain area of incidents. This means the victims will be distributed the staff that are most experienced within the type of situation.

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Question # 29

Explain me what can you bring to the job that exceeds what other candidates can bring?

Answer:-

Firstly I am bilingual which is very convenient when patients are more comfortable speaking in their mother tongue. I also have a very unique work experience coming from an isolated community. I am used to having little to no resources, no allied services, working with language barriers. Since I was a part time paramedic I am also used to switching partners and adjusting to different team chemistry.



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Question # 30

Explain me how do you handle situations that could cause you to be tardy or absent?

Answer:-

By limiting their effect as far as possible, including obtaining the appropriate treatment for injuries and by keeping my employer fully informed of any impacts on my work.

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Question # 31

Tell me what medication you can give to an epileptic during attack as Paramedic?

Answer:-

As Paramedics, life threatening seizures of an epileptic person can be treated by giving them injections of Valium or Benzo-diazepine drugs till the patient reach to the hospital

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Question # 32

Tell me what are the advance optional does Paramedic carries with them?

Answer:-

- * Respirator
- * Blood Sample tubes
- * Automatic blood pressure device
- * Laryngoscope (Adult & Paediatrics)
- * Paediatric feeding tubes
- * Nasogastric tubes

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Question # 33

Tell me what are a few traits you think a paramedic needs to have?

Answer:-

Compassion, understanding, fitness, an ability to work as part of a team, and a great personality to face the public with.

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Question # 34

Explain me about a mistake you made at work. How did you handle it?

Answer:-

I attended an emergency at an airfield and due to the nature of the emergency I needed to see all of those people aboard the aircraft. They were all more superior than myself and did not consent straight away. I was under a lot of pressure first of all to attend the emergency quickly with all the kit I required. Secondly, I had a duty of care to those who refused my treatment so I managed to convince them to be seen.

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Question # 35

Explain some of the activities that Paramedics have to do in emergency condition?

Answer:-

- * Perform CPR on a person who has suffered a heart attack
- * Deliver a baby if it is not possible to reach a hospital
- * Stabilize car accident victims and move them to the nearest hospital

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Question # 36

Tell me what are the diseases for which Nebuliser is used?

Answer:-

Nebuliser is used for treating Cystic fibrosis, COPD, asthma and respiratory diseases

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Question # 37

Explain me what drew you to emergency medicine?

Answer:-

Variety, and the ability to practice pretty much autonomously within certain guidelines, and the fact that I enjoy meeting a people from all different backgrounds.

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Question # 38

Tell me how do you handle death?



Answer:-

I have had loss in my life and personally I believe that death needs to be treated with a huge amount of respect and dignity. However I understand that in this profession death can play a big part and understand that there cannot be anything that gets in the way of doing the job and so I have and would face death with a brave and professional face but also make sure that my empathy for relatives is felt.

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Question # 39

Explain me what would your previous co-workers say about your work performance?

Answer:-

Yes. I remember missing many IVs, but especially one on a critical patient that had huge veins. I then heard from my preceptor a tip for putting in the IV and since then I have been able to get the IV nearly every time. It pays off to listen to constructive criticism.

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Question # 40

Tell me as a Paramedic what should be your approach for treating broken bones?

Answer:-

- * Safety first: Make sure that victim is in a safe location.
- * Check for ABC: Airway, Breathing and Circulation
- * Stop Bleeding
- * Look for other injuries: Head, Neck or Back
- * With sterile dressings cover broken skin if there is any
- * Wait for an ambulance, while shifting make sure the joints remain immobilize
- * To reduce swelling you can use ice-bag, put towel between ice and skin surface to avoid frostbite
- * If leg is broken, keep it elevated above the level of the heart
- * Lay the victim on his or her back to reduce the chance of shock

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Question # 41

Explain me how do you treat an epileptic patient after a seizure?

Answer:-

After seizure:

- * Check the person for injuries
- * Turn the person in a position that is more relaxed and easy for him to breath
- * If person is having trouble breathing, use your finger gently to clear any obstruction in his mouth
- * Loosen tight clothing around the person's neck and waist
- * Take the victim to a safe and spacious area where he/she can rest
- * Until the person is not fully awake don't give them to eat or drink

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Question # 42

Tell me what are responsibilities of a Paramedics?

Answer:-

- * Paramedics often work in emergency scenes to provide immediate medical attention to injured individuals
- * The operate heart monitors, defibrillators and other equipment's, transport patients to medical facilities and interpret reading recorded by heart monitoring devices
- * Perform endotracheal procedures and give important information to emergency staff
- * Clean areas that become contaminated from patients
- * Make sure equipment is functioning properly

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Question # 43

Explain me how do you resolve conflict with co-workers?

Answer:-

I would analyse what was happening to make an assessment of what was happening . This would enable me to be focused on the task and reduce my stress. In the past I have had to deal with major accidents on the water. The worst being when a chentleman fell over board with a rope around his leg. This was dragging him face down. If I had panic he would of drowned instead I stopped the boat and got his head above water. Then checking his legs dealt with the major bleeding that had happened.

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Question # 44

Why do you want to work for our organization as Paramedic?

Answer:-

You are an NHS Trust organisation, you cover a massive geographical area that includes urban and rural areas, as well as busy motorways. Yo respond to half a million calls per year.

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Question # 45

Tell me what is the difference between EMT and Paramedics?



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Answer:-

The main difference between EMT and Paramedics is that, basic EMT training receives 120-150 hours of training while paramedics get anywhere from 1200 hours to 1800 hours of training. Paramedic degree course duration is about two years.

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Question # 46

Tell me how do you build relationships when you join a new team?

Answer:-

I would prove my worth and let them know when I need help and not pretend to know everything and admit my faults. I would let them know I am will to help with whatever they need without being abused, for lack of a lighter term.

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Question # 47

Tell me how you can treat a person suffering from burn?

Answer:-

If it is a minor burn, then cool the burn by immersing it into the cold water.

First-degree burn:

- * Cooling will reduces swelling by conducting heat away
- * Use sterile gauze bandage to cover the burn
- * Give over-the-counter pain killer

Third-degree burn:

- * Do not expose large severe burns in cold water or running tap
- * Don't remove burned clothing it could make burn more severe
- * Check for signs of circulation and begin CPR if there is no sign
- * Cover the area of the burn
- * Give a tetanus shot

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Question # 48

Explain about your experience working in teams as Paramedic?

Answer:-

I enjoy teamwork, I value other peoples ideas and enjoy making group decisions as much as I enjoy making my own. I feel as though I work well in the group dynamic as I can also bring new ideas to the table and I feel as though my personality helps me to work in harmony with other members of staff.

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Question # 49

What part of your duties as a Paramedic do you dislike the most?

Answer:-

Away from the patients, there has recently been an increase in form filling with procedures a little complicated and ill thought out. Streamlining these would be most welcome.

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Question # 50

Explain me how rural Paramedic is different than urban Paramedic?

Answer:-

- * Rural paramedics focus on the whole community rather than case dispatch approach
- * Rather than operating solely with ambulance teams, it operates with multidisciplinary team members
- * It has extra responsibilities

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