

Geriatric Education for EMS (GEMS)

Second Edition

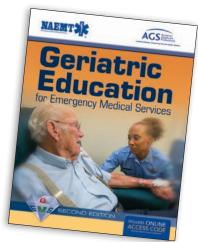
The United States is home to 46 million adults ages 65 and older, representing about 15% of the population, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Over the next 25 years, that number is projected to rise to nearly

80 million, with older adults making up nearly 27% of the population. The number of adults over 80 is expected to grow from about 12 million today to 27 million.

Geriatric Education for EMS (GEMS) provides EMS practitioners the skills and knowledge to handle the unique medical, social, environmental and communications challenges of older adults.

Developed by NAEMT in partnership with the American Geriatrics Society, **GEMS** empowers EMS practitioners to help improve medical outcomes and quality of life for geriatric patients. This course enhances the competence, confidence and compassion of EMS practitioners in responding to geriatric patients.

Features of the course include:



- Geriatric specific content on fall prevention, epidemiology, polypharmacy, end-of-life issues and do-not-resuscitate orders.
- Trauma care and disaster care for older patients.
- Case scenarios to encourage student interaction and discussion.
- An exploration of mobile integrated healthcare-community paramedicine (MIH-CP) and the EMS role in patient advocacy.
- Videos on MIH-CP, elder abuse and trauma care for the elderly, featuring real-world scenarios that demonstrate assessing, treating and communicating with older patients.
- Small group discussion and simulations including a station that allows students to experience vision, sensory and movement disorders, deepening their understanding of and compassion for geriatric patients.

Geriatric Education for EMS (GEMS)

Hours: 8

Course format: Classroom

Who is this class for? EMTs, paramedics, emergency medical responders, nurses, physician assistants and physicians. This course is appropriate for all levels of EMS practitioner.



Geriatric Education for EMS (GEMS)

Advanced Course

NAEMT's groundbreaking Geriatric **Education for Emergency Medical** Services (GEMS) Advanced course builds on the GEMS core course, delving into more complex, realistic scenarios and the unique technology EMS practitioners are likely to encounter when assessing, treating, and transporting older adults.

- Highly interactive, immersive educational format focuses on integrating critical thinking into real world application.
- Topics covered include caring for and transporting patients on home ventilators, LVADs (left ventricular assist devices), tracheostomies, PICC lines/invasive lines, and feeding tubes.
- Prepares EMS practitioners for the array of medical, mobility, psychosocial and communications issues found in older patients.
- Students are guided through a series of scenarios involving increasingly complex symptoms and situations.





GEMS is without a doubt one of my favorite NAEMT programs. Students receive so little geriatric education during their initial training, even though it is so much a part of what they will see as EMS providers. As we continue to see our aging population increase, it will become even more important to understand their special challenges and to function as their healthcare advocates.

— Elsa Tuttle, Kansas City, MO

Geriatric Education for EMS (GEMS) Advanced

Hours: 8

Course format: Classroom

Who is this class for? EMTs, paramedics, emergency medical responders, nurses, physician assistants and physicians.