

Brighton EMT Interview - September 11, 2013

1. Have you used a PEV before? How often?

Town of Brighton requires three months of training before certification; however, this does not include experience or knowledge on how to properly operate the device.

2. When would you decide to use a PEV over a manual hand pump? And vice versa. Why?

Since she has never personally used one this couldn't be answered. However, she expressed interest in the CPR mode. She believes that the PEV could help to alleviate stress in those situations which require two person CPR.

It was also interesting that 2 breaths are given per every 30 compressions. The PEV is programmed to give one breath per 30 compressions. A possible discrepancy was noted.

3. Do you like using a PEV? What do you like/dislike about it?

She wouldn't know because she does not have experience with it.

4. What kind of conditions do you use it in?

She has never used the PEV but mentioned it might be useful for practicing in the event of an emergency.

5. Where is it stored?

Not kept on the ambulance due to lack of space. If it was tiny it could be useful.

6. Do they need to be periodically calibrated? If yes, how often?

Most likely. The crew does regular calibration checks before every shift. Hence, if the device were to be readily available, calibration measures should be easy to perform.

7. Are you expected to ensure they are in working order? If not, who is?

Yes. The EMT team checks equipment frequently.

8. How are you trained to use a PEV?

Currently, no training is provided to use this device. This is most likely because the current state of the device is too bulky and impractical for situations that involve the EMT.

9. Is it used differently for children/adults/smokers/nonsmokers? If yes, why?

Yes. Patients who have asthma, COPD, or are smokers require constant pure oxygen. Hence, from what we can tell, the PEV would not be useful for these patients since the device at this time does not administer pure oxygen.

Additional feedback:

10. If the PEV were to include a display of electronic vitals, would it make the device more attractive?

Display of electronic vitals would be a good supplement to manual vitals; however, it would not

replace the action of manually taking vitals. In general, they don't prefer to use electronic vitals.

The state requires that the EMT administer high concentration oxygen to patients in need. This would be a disadvantage of the PEV since it cannot deliver this.

To her knowledge, the difference in administering air to neonatal or adult patients is a change in the rate of airflow. This is because children tend to have a faster heart rate and typically breath faster than adults.