



Designation: F1654 – 95 (Reapproved 2012)

Standard Guide for Training and Evaluation of Individuals Who are Responsible for or Perform Triage in a Prehospital Environment¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F1654; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This guide covers minimum requirements for the training and evaluation of individuals who perform triage at an emergency medical incident involving multiple casualties in a prehospital environment.

1.2 All training will be in accordance with Guide F1653.

1.3 Included in this guide is a standard for knowledge and skill evaluation.

1.4 Operating within the framework of this guide may expose personnel to hazardous materials, procedures and equipment. For additional information see Practice F1031 and Guides F1219, F1253, F1285, F1288, F1453 and F1489.

1.5 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.* For specific precautionary statements, see the document cited in Footnote 3.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:^{2,3}

F1031 Practice for Training the Emergency Medical Technician (Basic)

F1177 Terminology Relating to Emergency Medical Services

F1219 Guide for Training the Emergency Medical Technician (Basic) to Perform Patient Initial and Detailed Assessment (Withdrawn 2006)⁴

F1253 Guide for Training the Emergency Medical Technician (Basic) to Perform Patient Secondary Assessment (Withdrawn 1999)⁴

F1285 Guide for Training the Emergency Medical Technician (Basic) to Perform Patient Examination Techniques

F1288 Guide for Planning for and Response to a Multiple Casualty Incident

F1453 Guide for Training and Evaluation of First Responders Who Provide Emergency Medical Care

F1489 Guide for Performance of Patient Assessment by the Emergency Medical Technician (Paramedic) (Withdrawn 2003)⁴

F1653 Guide for Scope of Performance of Triage in a Prehospital Environment

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *first priority/immediate (RED)*—those patients with serious injuries that are life threatening but have a high probability of survival.

3.1.2 *fourth priority/dead/mortally wounded (BLACK)*—Those patients who are obviously dead as determined by local medical protocol or those patients with severe injuries and a low probability of survival, despite immediate care.

3.1.3 *injured, adj*—means both sick and injured patients.

3.1.4 *ongoing triage, n*—the continuing process of patient assessment and prioritization in a multiple casualty incident. (Also known as *secondary* and *tertiary*.)

3.1.5 *primary triage, n*—the initial process of rapid assessment, provision of life saving interventions and assignment of visual priority identification to each patient in a multiple casualty incident.

3.1.6 *second priority/delayed (YELLOW)*—those patients who are seriously injured and whose lives are not immediately threatened.

3.1.7 *third priority/minor (GREEN)*—those patients who are injured but do not require immediate medical attention and those apparently not physically injured.

⁴The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F30 on Emergency Medical Services and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F30.02 on Personnel, Training and Education.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Most recent "Standards and Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiac Care" as reprinted from the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, available from American Heart Association, 7272 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75231.