



# Custom Continuing Education

Munn, R; Beskind, D;  
 Gaither, J; Glenn, M; Hannan, P; Smith, J; Rice, A  
 Dept. of Emergency Medicine, University of Arizona, Tucson



## Problem Identification

All EMTs and paramedics are required to obtain continuing education (CE) to maintain licensure. While accessible, re-certification courses may be lengthy, expensive, and not representative of local protocol. This group created a two-year recertification curriculum now provided to Fire - EMS agencies participating in an auto-aid agreement in Southern Arizona.

## Needs Assessment

The current National Continued Competency Program curriculum was utilized as an initial guideline for curriculum development. Focus groups were held with EMS agency leadership and medical direction to identify topics that were locally relevant.

## Goals and Objectives

- Create a two-year rolling continuing education curriculum that:
- Meets requirements for NREMT recertification
  - Addresses topics identified in recent QI initiatives
  - Addresses locally relevant topics (e.g. rattlesnake bites in Southern Arizona)
  - Increases provider engagement with medical direction

## Charts

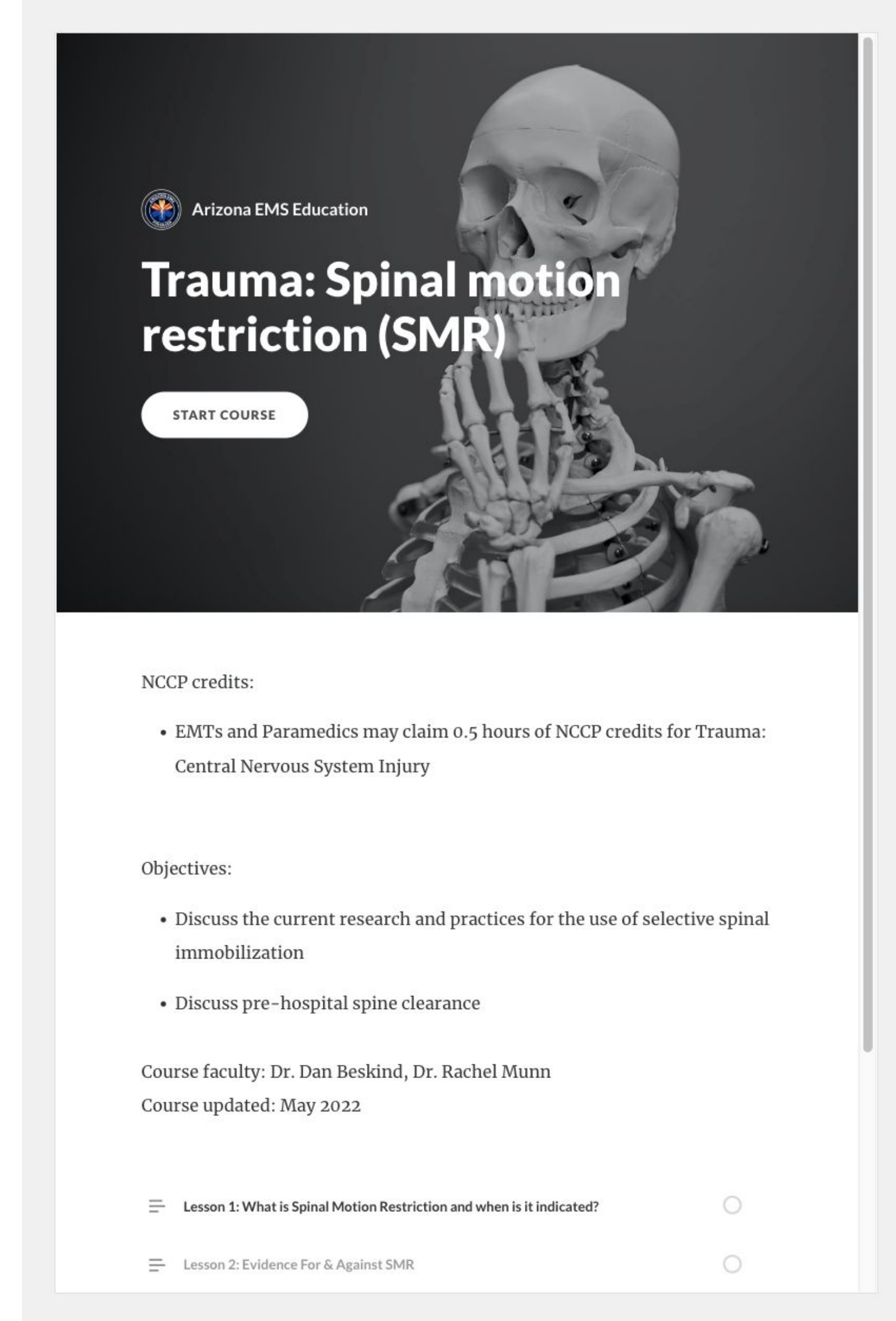


Fig. 1. Example title page for an online module created for this curriculum.



Fig. 2. Question form for each educational module, allowing direct to provider responses.

**Name \***

**Agency \***  
 Select your agency so we can appropriately route your question!

**Email**  
 If you would like a direct response, please submit your email address.

**Module**  
 Please include the name of the module your question references.

**Question \***  
 Please type any questions that you have for our medical directors after completion of the education.

Send me a copy of my responses

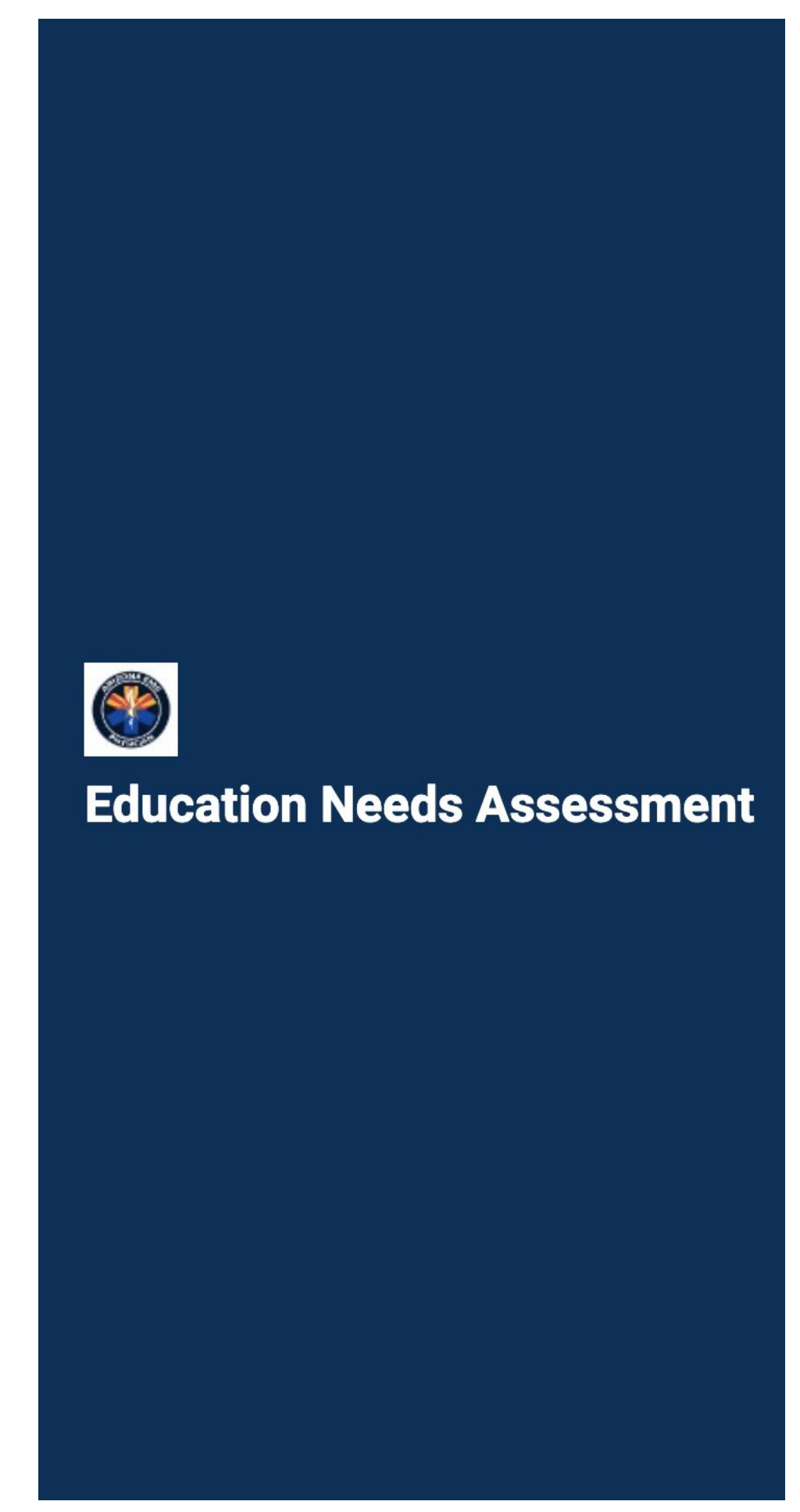


Fig. 3. Needs assessment form slated for use after the first recertification cycle utilizing this curriculum.

**Name**

**Date \***

**Agency \***  
 Please select your EMS agency.

**Certification \***  
 Please select your licensure / certification.

**Education Type \***  
 Generally, what method do you prefer for delivery of primary education materials?

**Supplemental Education Type \***  
 Which of the following do you feel are most valuable to add to continuing education? More than one may be selected.

**Comfortable Topics \***

**Uncomfortable Topics \***

**New Ideas or Topics \***  
 Are there other topics you would like to see in upcoming education? Any additional feedback regarding the continuing education curriculum?

Send me a copy of my responses

## Educational Strategies

The program utilizes asynchronous and live discussion formats for material delivery. Online modules are created which include text, audio/visual, interactive, and “knowledge check” components. They are distributed via a learning management system (LMS). A “live discussion” is held by each station Captain monthly utilizing a prepared form to supplement the core material and increase engagement.

## Implementation

The educational program was implemented in a step-wise fashion to three local EMS agencies who participate in auto-aid with each other. The modules were released and tracked on a LMS with a direct-email form embedded to ask questions and provide feedback.

## Evaluation

Each module is distributed with a direct-email form for feedback regarding the material. A larger-scale, survey-based assessment of the program is planned for Fall of 2022.

General feedback regarding the material and delivery model has been positive. Providers enjoy that the content is specific to their local protocol and is shared among the auto-aid agency group.