



ONTARIO BASE HOSPITAL GROUP

July 27, 2018

All Ontario Paramedics

Re: Certification Standard– Provision of patient care requirements for maintenance of certification

On February 1, 2017, an updated version of Appendix 6 – Certification Standard of the ALS PCS came into force by the Ministry of Health. Before and since that time, Ontario's Regional Base Hospitals (Ontario Base Hospital Group) have been working on standardized procedures and processes so that implementation of various components of the Certification Standard and other Base Hospital programming are consistent from region to region.

One of the significant changes to the requirements for Maintenance of Certification was the removal of the requirement for 144 hours of clinical practice per year which was replaced with a requirement to "...not have an absence from providing patient care that exceeds ninety (90) consecutive days", and "provide patient care to a minimum of ten (10) patients per year whose care requires assessment and management at that Paramedic's level of Certification."

While this data has been collected and collated locally, there are challenges with merging the information provincially and ensuring consistency and accuracy.

In the interim, the provision of patient care, for the purpose of maintenance of certification, was assessed for the period of April 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018, based on the number of patients for which a Paramedic was documented as being the Attendant(s), the Driver, or specified other roles on the ACR/ePCR. (Note: that return priorities 2, 8, 9 and 71 were excluded from all queries.) Two secondary assessments were also performed:

- 1) the number of times a Paramedic, during the provision of patient care, was attributed with the performance of advanced medical skills or interventions identified within the ALS PCS;
- 2) the number of times a Paramedic is documented as having been the Attendant on the ACR/ePCR.

At this time the Ontario Base Hospital Group continues to work with the Ministry of Health, Paramedic Services across the province and Paramedics in an effort to continue to meet the requirements of the Standard. Your Base Hospital will be providing further commentary on any interim actions or processes being implemented locally, pending the outcome of the larger provincial discussions.

Sincerely,

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