

**Ministry of Health and
Long-Term Care**

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**Ministère de la Santé et des
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February 23, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: Municipal EMS Directors and Managers
First Nation EMS Directors and Managers
CAOs of Upper Tier Municipalities and Designated Delivery Agents
Ornge

FROM: Malcolm Bates
Director
Emergency Health Services Branch

RE: **Amendment to the Basic Life Support Patient Care Standards**
Section 2 – Medical Patient Categories
Cerebrovascular Accident – (CVA, “Stroke”)
Conscious Patient – No Known History of Trauma

An amendment regarding the assessment and transport of patients with suspected stroke has been made to the *Basic Life Support Patient Care Standards* incorporated by reference in Regulation 257/00 under the Ambulance Act.

The specific changes made to Section 2 – Cerebrovascular Accident – (CVA, “Stroke”) Conscious Patient – No Known History of Trauma, are bolded below.

Page 2-21. Assessments, revised Bullet #6

6. Make a transport decision if still at the scene.

With the introduction of the Ontario Stroke Strategy, Regional, District and Telestroke Centres have been established in many areas. For areas with Designated Stroke Centres, patients who present with one or more signs and symptoms of an acute stroke may be eligible for transport to a stroke centre as outlined in the MOHLTC EHS Acute Stroke Protocol. CACC/ACS will authorize the transport once notified of the patient’s need for redirect or transport under the Acute Stroke Protocol.

Page 2-22. Assessments, Guidelines (top of page)

Previous Guidelines deleted

Amendment to the Basic Life Support Patient Care Standards

Section 2 – Medical Patient Categories

Cerebrovascular Accident – (CVA, “Stroke”) Conscious Patient – No Known History of Trauma

Page 2

This amendment to the *Basic Life Support Patient Care Standards*, January 2007, Version 2.0 Section 2 – Medical Patient Categories will be considered effective immediately.

EMS Directors and Managers need to ensure that all paramedics are advised of this change to the *Basic Life Support Patient Care Standards*.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Cathy Francis, Manager of Education and Patient Care Standards at (416) 327-7843.



Malcolm Bates

- c: Dr. A. Campeau, Senior Manager, Operations
- Senior Field Managers/Field Managers, EHSB
- C. Francis, Manager, Education and Patient Care Standards
- R. Nishman, Manager, Policy and Operational Assessment
- R. Brady, Manager, Investigation Services
- M. Hull, Manager, CACC Programs and Standards
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- M. Huiskamp, Chair, Education Subcommittee
- Regional Training Coordinators
- Paramedic Program Coordinators