

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

Emergency Health Regulatory and  
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**Ministère de la Santé et des  
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July 12, 2017

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Paramedic Service Chiefs, First Nations and Ornge

**FROM:** Tanzeel Merchant  
Director  
Emergency Health Regulatory and Accountability Branch

**RE:** **Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standards,  
version 4.3 and 4.4 and Provincial Equipment Standards  
for Ontario Ambulance Services, version 3.2 and 3.3**

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I am announcing the publication and release of amendments to the *Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standards* (ALS PCS) and the *Provincial Equipment Standards for Ontario Ambulance Services* (Equipment Standards).

Revisions to these standards have involved collaboration among the ministry, the Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs, the Ontario Base Hospital Group – Medical Advisory Committee, Toronto Paramedic Services, and Ornge.

Pursuant to clause 11(b) of O. Reg. 257/00 under the *Ambulance Act* each ambulance service operator and every paramedic shall ensure that patient care is provided in accordance with the *Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standards* as published by the Ministry, as that document may be amended from time to time.

Pursuant to subsection 3(1) of O. Reg. 257/00 under the *Ambulance Act* the operator of a land ambulance service shall meet the certification criteria set out in the *Land Ambulance Certification Standards*. In accordance with Part III - Operational Certification Criteria under the *Land Ambulance Certification Standards*, (d.1) each vehicle used as an ambulance in the service shall contain as a minimum the accessory and patient care equipment set out in the document titled “*Provincial Equipment Standards for Ontario Ambulance Services*”, published by the Ministry as may be amended from time to time.

### **ALS PCS v4.3**

- Amends the previously published Version 4.0.1, updating the version number to Version 4.3
- Revokes and replaces the Opioid Toxicity Medical Directives
  - Updates the “Age” Condition for naloxone from  $\geq 18$  years to  $\geq 12$  years (PCP/ACP)
- Updates the concentration listings for epinephrine in various Medical Directives
- Version 4.3 of the ALS PCS comes into force as of **July 17, 2017**.

### **ALS PCS v4.4**

- Amends the previously published Version 4.2, updating the version number to Version 4.4
- Revokes and replaces the Opioid Toxicity Medical Directives
  - Updates the “Age” Condition for naloxone from  $\geq 18$  years to  $\geq 12$  years (PCP/ACP)
- Updates the concentration listings for epinephrine in various Medical Directives
- Version 4.4 of ALS PCS comes into force as of **December 11, 2017**.

### **Equipment Standards v3.2**

- Amends the previously published Version 3.0, updating the version number to Version 3.2
- See Summary of Changes for additional amendments
- Version 3.2 of the Equipment Standards comes into force as of **July 17, 2017**.

### **Equipment Standards v3.3**

- Amends the previously published Version 3.1, updating the version number to Version 3.2
- See Summary of Changes for additional amendments
- Version 3.3 of Equipment Standards comes into force as of **December 11, 2017**.

Please refer to the Document Control Matrix of the ALS PCS and Equipment Standards for further versioning history.

The table below has been updated to reflect the upcoming in force dates of revised standards.

<u>Paramedic Practice Document</u>	<u>In Force As Of*</u>
<i>Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standards (ALS PCS)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Version 3.4</b></li> <li>• <b>Version 4.3</b> (replaces Version 4.0.1, which has been amended prior to the in force date)</li> <li>• <b>Version 4.4</b> (replaces Version 4.2, which has been amended prior to the in force date)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently in force</li> <li>• July 17, 2017</li> <li>• December 11, 2017</li> </ul>
<i>Basic Life Support Patient Care Standards (BLS PCS)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Version 2.0</b> (including amendments communicated through various training bulletins, e.g. <i>Training Bulletin No. 118 – STEMI Hospital Bypass Protocol</i>)</li> <li>• <b>Version 3.0.1</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently in force</li> <li>• December 11, 2017</li> </ul>
<i>Provincial Equipment Standards for Ontario Ambulance Services (Equipment Standards)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Version 2.3</b></li> <li>• <b>Version 3.2</b> (replaces Version 3.0, which has been amended prior to the in force date)</li> <li>• <b>Version 3.3</b> (replaces Version 3.1, which has been amended prior to the in force date)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently in force</li> <li>• July 17, 2017</li> <li>• December 11, 2017</li> </ul>

\*once a new version of a standard comes into force, it replaces the existing in force version.

If you have any questions regarding the ALS PCS or the Equipment Standards, please contact Denise D'Souza, Paramedic Standards and Certification Coordinator, at (416) 327-1580 or [denise.dsouza@ontario.ca](mailto:denise.dsouza@ontario.ca).

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY**

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Tanzeel Merchant

Enclosures

- c: ALS PCS/Equipment Standards Working Group  
 Senior Managers/Managers, EHRAB  
 Director/Senior Managers/Managers, EHPMDB  
 S. Haddad, Senior Manager, EESO  
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