

Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standards Version 4.0 Refresher

Suspected Adrenal Crisis Medical Directive Summary of Changes

The following is intended to provide you with a summary that reflects the changes to the ALS PCS v4.0. Please refer to the following additional resources for further clarification as needed:

- **Advanced Care Life Support Patient Care Standards v4.0**
Link: www.lhsc.on.ca/About_Us/Base_Hospital_Program/Medical_Directives/index.htm
- **Suspected Adrenal Crisis Refresher Podcast**
Link: <https://youtu.be/FFmfyqxrSTs>
- **SWORBHP – 2016-2017 Mandatory – PCP/ACP in the Paramedic Portal - Online Training**
Link: www.paramedicportalontario.ca

What has changed?

- A new medical directive has been added to the ALS PCS v4.0: Suspected Adrenal Crisis Medical Directive (for both PCPs and ACPs).

Why has it changed?

- There appears to be an increase in the prevalence of patients with adrenal crisis requiring assistance to administer medication.
- Clarity and direction was sought for paramedics faced with patients who require the administration of hydrocortisone but who are not able to self-administer or have a family member administer the medication.

How does it affect paramedic practice?

- Paramedics are now better able to provide appropriate emergency care for patients suffering from suspected adrenal crisis

REMINDER THAT THE IN-FORCE DATE IS JULY 17, 2017