

Ministry of Health

Emergency Health Regulatory and
Accountability Branch

Emergency Health Services Division

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Ministère de la Santé

Direction de la réglementation et de la
responsabilisation des services de
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February 9, 2024

MEMORANDUM TO: Paramedic Service Chiefs, First Nations and Ornge

**FROM: Adam Langley
Director (A)
Emergency Health Regulatory and Accountability Branch**

**RE: Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standard (ALS PCS) 5.3
and Provincial Equipment Standards for Ontario Ambulance
Services version 3.7.1**

I am pleased to announce the publication and release of the *Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standards* (ALS PCS), version 5.3 and *the Provincial Equipment Standards for Ontario Ambulance Services* (PES OAS) version 3.7.1.

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.

Version 5.3 of the ALS PCS and version 3.7.1 of the PES OAS represent “partial updates” as per the *Living Document Framework*. Version 5.3 of the ALS PCS and version 3.7.1 of the PES OAS will come into force February 9, 2023. Version 5.3 of the ALS PCS and version 3.7.1 of the PES OAS have been updated to include Intranasal Glucagon Powder.

The Ministry is aware that some Ambulance Service Operators are experiencing supply chain issues in securing medications which are a part of the ALS PCS and listed in the PES OAS. In dealing with any supply chain issues, it is expected that ASOs will:

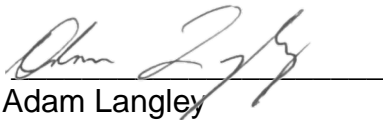
- a) report the supply chain issue to the Paramedic Standards email listed below (please include severity of the issue and expected resolution date if available);
- b) continue to make reasonable attempts to acquire necessary medications outlined in PES OAS v3.7.1 and maintain records of such in accordance with O.Reg.257/00 s17;
- c) maintain regular communication with their Regional Base Hospital Program with regards to supply chain issues (if any), and;
- d) have a service roll out plan including communication to paramedics when medications become available.

Please ensure that your personnel are informed of and become familiar with the changes and new requirements.

Please refer to the Document Control Matrix in the document for further versioning history.

If you have any questions regarding the ALS PCS, please contact ParamedicStandards@ontario.ca.

Regards,



Adam Langley
Director (A)

Emergency Health Regulatory and Accountability Branch

- c: Senior Managers/Managers, EHRAB
Director, Senior Managers/Managers, EHPMDB
OBHG MAC Co-Chairs
Paramedic Program Coordinators
OAPC Executive Director
Ornge SA Carriers