



PROGRAM POLICY

NUMBER: CERT 110

TITLE: Consolidation

CATEGORY: Certification

APPROVED: February 1, 2017

VERSION: 1.1

AUTHORITY: Program Director

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1. Purpose

Consolidation is the support mechanism for transition to independent practice in the clinical setting. This period provides the opportunity for a paramedic to safely integrate all components of assessment, treatment planning, critical thinking, skills, mentorship, and confidence.

The **Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standards (ALS PCS)** require Consolidation for all paramedics who are newly certified. It may also be required after a patient care concern has been identified or during a return to clinical practice.

This policy describes the Consolidation period, the RPPEO's expectations for paramedics and other stakeholders during the period, and the path toward successful completion of the Consolidation period.

2. Policy

2.1 Crew Configuration

Paramedics in Consolidation may practice to the level of their **Certification and Authorization** only when they are partnered with a paramedic of the same or higher level of Certification and Authorization.

2.2 Number of Hours and Expected Length of Time to Complete Consolidation

The minimum duration of Consolidation for new certifications is:

- **Primary Care Paramedics:** 36 hours
- **Advanced Care Paramedics:** 168 hours

In any other situation where the Medical Director requires a consolidation period, the Medical Director will determine the expected duration of the period in consultation with the stakeholder service.



2.3 Conclusion of Consolidation

After Consolidation, the stakeholder service will advise the RPPEO of the date of the completion of consolidation hours.

The RPPEO will then remove the **Consolidation condition** on the paramedic's Certification file, and authorize the paramedic to advance into independent practice at their certification level.

Following RPPEO authorization, the paramedic may practice independently at the appropriate level of Certification and Authorization.

3. Related Policies and Legislation

- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (2018). *Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standard (ALS PCS)*. Emergency Health Regulatory and Accountability Branch
- *Ontario Regulation 257/00* under the Ambulance Act



REVISION RECORD

Version number	Revision Date	Summary of Changes
1.0	February 2017	Creation of policy based on revised Maintenance of Certification Standard.
1.1	February 20, 2019	Review and revision based on ALS PCS v4.5
1.2	September 17, 2019	Corrected typos, grammar and removed mark-up