



REGIONAL PARAMEDIC PROGRAM  
FOR EASTERN ONTARIO

SERVING TOGETHER

## PROGRAM POLICY

<b>NUMBER:</b>	CLI 160
<b>TITLE:</b>	Physician on Scene
<b>CATEGORY:</b>	Clinical
<b>APPROVED:</b>	August 2008
<b>VERSION:</b>	1.1
<b>AUTHORITY:</b>	Medical Director
<b>LAST REVIEWED:</b>	July 2023
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**PURPOSE:** To clarify the actions that must be taken by the paramedic when a physician on scene is attempting to provide medical direction within the Regional Paramedic Program for Eastern Ontario (RPPEO) jurisdiction.

**POLICY:** Paramedics will advise an on-scene physician that they cannot take orders for controlled medical acts from any medical doctor other than the Base Hospital Physician.

**PROCEDURE:** If approached by a physician wishing to issue medical directives at a scene, the paramedic will advise the physician that they (the paramedic) may only treat the patient using scope of practice level-appropriate medical directives approved by the RPPEO Medical Director.

The paramedic will only initiate Regional Paramedic Program for Eastern Ontario-approved, level-appropriate medical directives and/or physician orders received directly from a Base Hospital Physician.

The paramedic will confirm that the individual alleging to be a physician qualifies to assume responsibility for patient care. The physician must agree to assume responsibility for continuity of patient care and be able to provide a license to practice medicine in Ontario.

If the on scene physician asks that the patient be treated outside of level-appropriate medical directives, then the paramedic should initiate a patch to the Base Hospital Physician (BHP) as soon as possible.

Advise the BHP that there is a physician on scene wanting to issue medical directives and have the two physicians consult with one another.

Confirm any orders with the Base Hospital Physician.

If the physician on scene wishes to initiate care above the level of paramedic, he/she must assume responsibility and accompany the paramedic to the hospital in the ambulance.

### Revision Record

Version number	Revision Date	Summary of Changes
1.0	August 2016	Pre-existing 2015 version reviewed as baseline for new versioning system.
1.1	July 2023	Removed outdated reference