

**Ministry of Health**

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**Ministère de la Santé**

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December 20, 2021

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

**FROM:** **Steven Haddad**  
**Director**  
**Emergency Health Regulatory and Accountability**  
**Branch**

**RE:** **Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standards**  
**version 4.9, and Provincial Equipment Standards for**  
**Ontario Ambulance Services version 3.6.**

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I am pleased to announce the publication and release of the *Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standards* (ALS PCS), version 4.9 and *the Provincial Equipment Standards for Ontario Ambulance Services* (PES OAS) version 3.6.

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.

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.

Version 4.9 of the ALS PCS and Version 3.6 of the PES OAS represents "partial updates" as per the *Living Document Framework*. The PES OAS v3.6 will come into

force December 20, 2021, and The ALS PCS v 4.9 will come into force February 1, 2022.

Revisions to these standards have involved collaboration among the branch, the Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs, and the Ontario Base Hospital Group Medical Advisory Committee.

The ALS PCS v4.9 includes minor updates to existing directives designed to require minimal training while reflecting current evidence based medical practice.

The PES OAS v3.6 includes changes to accommodate reusable Personal Protective Equipment and align to the 2020 American Heart Association's (AHA) Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Guidelines.

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 both documents for further versioning history. The Standards, along with a complete Summary of Changes for both documents, are enclosed.

If you have any questions regarding the ALS PCS or PES OAS, please contact [ParamedicStandards@ontario.ca](mailto:ParamedicStandards@ontario.ca).

Regards,



Steven Haddad  
Director  
Emergency Health Regulatory and Accountability Branch

Enclosures

c: Senior Managers/Managers, EHRAB  
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