



# Centre for Prehospital Care

Health Sciences North

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**To:** Northeast Paramedics  
**CC:** Northeast Paramedic Services; MoH Field Office  
**From:** Dr. Jason Prpic, Regional Medical Director, Centre for Prehospital Care & Trauma Services  
**Re:** Medication Shortages & ALS PCS Updates  
**Date:** January 26, 2023

memo

With the upcoming release of the updated Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standards on February 1, 2023, Ontario Base Hospitals have been made aware of difficulties securing certain medications, more specifically dexamethasone and oxytocin.

In the event a shortage impacts your ability to administer a medication, we request Paramedics document the reasoning it was not administered as follows:

| Date/Time           | Code | Procedure          | Results                                       |
|---------------------|------|--------------------|---|
| Jan. 25, 2023 11:11 | 020  | Patient Assessment | Oxytocin not administered due to availability |

This was discussed and supported by all Paramedic Services at the Northeastern Ontario Data Advisory Committee meeting on January 23, 2023.

We are committed to collaborating with our Paramedic Services to keep you informed and to provide direction in the event of medication shortages.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your service or us.

Thank you,

Jason Prpic, MD, CCFP (EM)  
Regional Medical Director  
Centre for Prehospital Care | Trauma Services  
Heath Science North | Horizon Santé-Nord