

Policy:	PCP vs PCP Expanded Scope Crew Configuration – Division of Responsibilities	
Owner of Policy:	Regional Medical Director, Regional Program Manager	
Department/Program	Southwest Ontario Regional Base Hospital Program	
Approval By:	Director, Emergency Services & Base Hospital	Approval Date: May 2011

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POLICY

This policy details the procedures for establishing division of responsibilities for Primary Care [Paramedics](#) (PCP) in a PCP vs PCP expanded scope (i.e. IV [certified](#)), combined crew configuration on scene.

PROCEDURE

1.0 In a PCP vs PCP expanded scope combined crew configuration:

- 1.1. A PCP is accountable for patient care within their scope of practice as certified by the Regional [Medical Director](#) of the [Regional Base Hospital Program \(RBHP\)](#).
- 1.2. A PCP with expanded scope and [certified](#) in auxiliary medical directives is accountable for patient care within their [authorized](#) scope of practice as [certified](#) by the Regional [Medical Director](#) of the [RBHP](#).

2.0 In a combined crew configuration on scene, the PCP may attend to any patient:

- 2.1. who, at the point of transport, does not require the initiation of treatment beyond the PCP scope of practice; or
- 2.2. who, prior to transport, has not received treatment beyond the PCP scope of practice; or
- 2.3. who is improving after receiving treatment included in the PCP scope of practice; or
- 2.4. situations where treatment beyond the PCP scope of practice is not anticipated.

3.0 The PCP with expanded scope and [certified](#) in auxiliary medical directives **MUST** attend any patient when the patient has received, requires, or is anticipated to require an intervention or treatment requiring the expanded scope of the auxiliary medical directives.

4.0 The PCP with expanded scope and [certified](#) in auxiliary directives transferring care to a PCP:

- 4.1. The PCP with expanded scope and [certified](#) in auxiliary directives will not perform auxiliary medical directives of expanded scope and then transfer patient care to a PCP crew for transportation to hospital unless there are extenuating circumstances. These must be reported through one of the following:
 - Online SWORBHP IQEMS Communication Form for Paramedic Services currently on the Interdev platform
 - Online SWORBHP Communication Form for Paramedic Services not currently on the IQEMS platform
 - Via our Communication Hotline at: 1-888-997-6718
- 4.2. In cases where an PCP with expanded scope and [certified](#) in auxiliary directives is attending, transfer of care to a PCP crew can occur in hospital offload delay as long as treatment beyond the PCP scope of practice has not occurred.

- 5.0 If there is doubt whether the patient would benefit from an expanded scope medical directive and the [Paramedics](#) on scene disagree as to the level of care required in the best interest of patient care, then a Base Hospital Patch (BHP) to the [RBHP](#) Physician should be initiated. In these patch situations, both [Paramedics](#) will report the incident through one of the reporting systems identified in 4.0. It is expected that [Paramedics](#) will work as a team in offering the best care to our patients and these patches will be the exception rather than the norm.

DEFINITIONS

Authorization

Means written approval to perform Controlled Acts and other advanced medical procedures requiring medical oversight of a Medical Director.

Certification

Means the process by which Paramedics receive Authorization from a Medical Director to perform Controlled Acts and other advanced medical procedures in accordance with the ALS PCS.

Paramedic

Means a Paramedic as defined in subsection 1(1) of the Ambulance Act, and for purposes of this Standard a reference to the term includes a person who is seeking Certification as a Paramedic, where applicable.

Medical Director

Means a physician designated by a RBH as the Medical Director of the RBHP.

Regional Base Hospital (RBH)

Means a base hospital as defined in subsection 1(1) of the Ambulance Act, and provides an RBHP pursuant to an agreement entered into with the MOH.

Regional Base Hospital Program (RBHP)

Means a base hospital program as defined in subsection 1(1) of the Ambulance Act.

REFERENCES

[Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standards Version 4.9](#)

Emergency Health Services Branch Ministry of Health, February 1, 2022