

Advanced Life Support Patient Care Standards Version 4.0 Refresher

Opioid Toxicity Medical Directive Summary of Changes

The following is intended to provide you with summary notes that reflect the changes to the ALS PCS v4.0. Please refer to the following additional resources for further clarification as needed:

- **Advanced Care Life Support Patient Care Standards v4.0**
Link: www.lhsc.on.ca/About_Us/Base_Hospital_Program/Medical_Directives/index.htm
- **Opioid Toxicity Refresher Podcast**
Link: <https://youtu.be/7pl6Ky9FVcs>
- **SWORBHP – 2016-2017 Mandatory – PCP/ACP in the Paramedic Portal - Online Training**
Link: www.paramedicportalontario.ca

What has changed?

- No mandatory patch point for the administration of naloxone to patients ≥ 18 years of age
- Up to three doses of naloxone with dosing interval of 10 minutes (SC, IM, IN) or immediately (IV)

Version 4.3 Update (In force date: July 17, 2017)

- Updates the “Age” Condition for naloxone from >18 years to >12 years (PCP/ACP)

Why has it changed?

- Increase in opioid overdoses and deaths across Canada
- Potency of opioids being used recreationally has increased

How does it affect paramedic practice?

- Paramedic clinical judgment replaces the mandatory patch for patients ≥ 18 years of age.
- Medical directive is the same for PCP and ACP.
- In force date: December 23, 2016.