

**Ministry of Health and  
Long-Term Care**

Emergency Health Regulatory and  
Accountability Branch

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**Ministère de la Santé et des  
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May 21, 2019

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

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

**RE:** **Basic Life Support Patient Care Standards, version 3.2**

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I am pleased to announce the publication and release of the *Basic Life Support Patient Care Standards* (BLS PCS), version 3.2.

Pursuant to clause 11(a) 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 *Basic Life Support Patient Care Standards* as published by the Ministry, as that document may be amended from time to time.

Version 3.2 of the BLS PCS represents a “partial update” as per the *Living Document Framework*, and addresses various feedback and recommendations received from system stakeholders. Please refer to the Document Control Matrix of the BLS PCS for further versioning history.

The BLS PCS v3.2 and a summary of changes are enclosed. Note, revisions include specific references throughout the standard regarding Patient Priority Systems (PPSs); additional communications clarifying the process to implement PPSs (including signatories) will follow. Please refer to your Regional Stroke Network with respect to the changes in the Acute Stroke Bypass Protocol (*e.g.* “most appropriate” Designated Stroke Centre).

The BLS PCS v3.2 comes into force as of **September 3, 2019**. Please ensure that your personnel are informed of, and become familiar with the changes and new requirements.

On May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (13:00-15:00) and June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (10:00-12:00), the Certification and Patient Care Standards unit will be offering webinars regarding the BLS PCS v3.2. To register, please email [ParamedicStandards@ontario.ca](mailto:ParamedicStandards@ontario.ca).

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

Regards,

**Original Signed By**

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Steven Haddad

Enclosures

c: BLS PCS Working Group  
Senior Managers/Managers, EHRAB  
Director, Senior Managers/Managers, EHPMDB  
I. Narula, Senior Manager, EESO  
N. Roberts, President, OAPC  
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Paramedic Program Coordinators  
Regional Training Coordinators  
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