

# Ambulance Service Communicable Disease Standards

Version 2.1

Comes into force  
March 2, 2022

**Emergency Health  
Regulatory and  
Accountability  
Branch**

**Ministry of Health**

To all users of this publication:  
The information contained in this standard has been carefully compiled and is believed to be accurate at date of publication.

For further information on the *Provincial Equipment Standards for Ontario Ambulance Services*, please contact:

Emergency Health Regulatory and Accountability  
Branch  
Ministry of Health  
5700 Yonge Street, 6th Floor  
Toronto, ON M2M 4K5  
416-327-7900

© Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2022

## Document Control

Version Number	Date of Issue	Comes into Force Date	Brief Description of Change
2.0	N/A	August 1, 2015	Existing document
2.1	February 28, 2022	March 2, 2022	Wording broadened to accord with recent regulatory amendment to enable non-physician health care professionals to sign immunization documentation. Updated visual identity.

# Ambulance Service Communicable Disease Standards

Version 2.1

# Part A – Vaccine Preventable Diseases

The operator of each ambulance service shall ensure that:

1. Each EMA and paramedic hold:
  - a. a valid certificate signed by a physician, nurse practitioner or other person authorized to administer the relevant vaccine that states that the EMA or paramedic is immunized against diseases listed in Table 1 – Part A; **OR**
  - b. a valid certificate signed by a physician or nurse practitioner that such immunization is,
    - i. medically contraindicated,
    - ii. there is laboratory evidence of immunity (applicable only for Varicella [Chickenpox], Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Hepatitis B), or
    - iii. there is medically documented diagnosis or verification of history (applicable only for Varicella [Chickenpox]).
2. Each student in nursing, medicine, psychology, respiratory therapy, midwifery or a paramedic program, who attends, assists or renders first aid or emergency medical care to a patient of the operator's ambulance service, hold:
  - a. a valid certificate signed by a physician, nurse practitioner or other person authorized to administer the relevant vaccine that states that the student is immunized against diseases listed in Table 1 – Part A; **OR**
  - b. a valid certificate signed by a physician or nurse practitioner that such immunization is,
    - i. medically contraindicated,
    - ii. there is laboratory evidence of immunity (applicable only for Varicella [Chickenpox], Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Hepatitis B), or
    - iii. there is medically documented diagnosis or verification of history (applicable only for Varicella [Chickenpox]).

Table 1 – Part A outlines the mandatory immunization requirements for each EMA, paramedic or paramedic student as required by clause 6(1)(h) of O. Reg. 257/00 under the *Ambulance Act*.

# Part B – Communicable Diseases

The operator of each ambulance service shall ensure that:

1. Each EMA, paramedic and student in nursing, medicine, psychology, respiratory therapy, midwifery or a paramedic program, shall be free from communicable diseases listed in Table 1 – Part B.

Table 1 – Part B outlines the communicable diseases from which each EMA, paramedic or paramedic student must be free as required by clause 6(1)(g) of O. Reg. 257/00 under the *Ambulance Act*.

## TABLE 1

### Part A

Disease	Immunization Schedule
<b>Hepatitis B</b>	2-4 'age appropriate' doses and post -immunization serologic testing
<b>Measles</b>	2 doses if no evidence of immunity regardless of age
<b>Mumps</b>	2 doses if no evidence of immunity
<b>Polio</b>	Primary series (3 doses) if previously unimmunized or unknown polio immunization history
<b>Pertussis</b>	1 single dose of tetanus diphtheria acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine regardless of age if not previously received in adulthood
<b>Rubella</b>	1 single dose if no evidence of immunity
<b>Tetanus/Diphtheria</b>	Primary series (3 doses) if unimmunized Tetanus diphtheria (Td) booster doses every 10 years
<b>Varicella (Chickenpox)</b>	2 doses if no evidence of immunity

### Part B

<b>No communicable diseases are prescribed</b>	For communicable disease management requirements please refer to the document entitled " <i>Patient Care and Transportation Standards</i> ", published by the Ministry, as that document may be amended from time to time.
--	--

