

Ambulance Service Communicable Disease Standards

Version 2.1

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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.

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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.

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

Part B

No communicable diseases are prescribed

For communicable disease management requirements please refer to the document entitled "*Patient Care and Transportation Standards*", published by the Ministry, as that document may be amended from time to time.
