


Title: Cardiac Monitoring & Defibrillation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Procedure <input type="checkbox"/> SOP
Category: Primary & Advanced Care Non-Clinical Dept/Prog/Service: Base Hospital Program	Distribution: NW Region Ambulance Operators & Paramedics, Thunder Bay Fire & Rescue Services
Approved: Program Medical Director Signature: 	Approval Date: February 2000 Reviewed/Revised Date: May 2017

1. PURPOSE

To outline paramedic requirements for cardiac monitoring and/or defibrillator implementation. As well, to outline the process for submitting ECG data to the NW Region Base Hospital Program.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

Paramedics will submit a paper ECG strip, Incident Log and/or a Summary Report *or* a full electronic ECG Report to the NW Region Base Hospital Program as indicated below.

3. DEFINITIONS

- i. Ambulance Call Report (ACR): is either a written or electronic and contains all the required documentation and information as per the Ontario Ambulance Documentation Standards
- ii. Controlled Act: as set out in subsection 27 (2) of the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991
- iii. Paramedic: as defined in subsection 1(1) of the Ambulation Act Ontario Regulation 257/00
- iv. Primary Care Paramedic (PCP): as defined in subsection 8 (1) of the Ambulation Act Ontario Regulation 257/00
- v. Advanced Care Paramedics (ACP): defined in subsection 8 (2) of the Ambulation Act Ontario Regulation 257/00

4. PROCEDURE

Cardiac Monitoring

A. Cardiac monitoring will be initiated as follows:

- In accordance with ALS Patient Care Standards and BLS Patient Care Standards;
- In accordance with the approved Provincial Medical Directives;

B. Any circumstance where the cardiac monitor has been applied the paramedic must submit the following documentation to the NW Base Hospital Program:

- Completed ACR
- 6 second ECG strip (*minimum of one strip per call*)
- Controlled Act or General Incident Report (*if required*)

C. Paramedics must interpret and document the ECG rhythm on the ACR.

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- D. Paramedics will provide a copy of the ACR and ECG strip to the receiving hospital's medical staff.
 - E. Defibrillation pads must not to be used in place of monitoring electrodes at any time.

Defibrillation

- A. Defibrillation will be initiated as follows:
 - In accordance with ALS Patient Care Standards
 - In accordance with the approved Provincial Medical Directives

- B. Any circumstance where analysis or defibrillation of a patient has occurred the paramedic must submit the following documentation to the Base Hospital Program within 24hrs:
 - Completed ACR
 - ECG Report*
 - Controlled Act or General Incident Report (*if required*)

Electronic ECG Data Submission

A full ECG Report will be made available to the Base Hospital Program. This report will be forwarded as a single file and secured communication media used only.

Paper Submission of ECG Data

An Incident Log and Summary Report will be submitted to the Base Hospital Program. These reports must be clearly labeled with

- i. patient's name,
- ii. call date, &
- iii. call number

5. RELATED PRACTICES AND/OR LEGISLATIONS

- i. *Ambulance Act (Ontario) and Ontario Regulation 257/00*

6. REFERENCES

- i. *American Health Association Guidelines Updates for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care (2015)*
- ii. *Base Hospital Program Event Report*
- iii. *Current EHSB MOHLTC Basic Life Saving (BLS) & Advanced Life Saving (ALS) Patient Care Standards(PCS)*

