

NOTICE OF MEASURE

to Achieve a Legitimate objective under Chapter 7 of the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA)

Approved by the GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

Regulated Occupation Name: Advanced Care Paramedics (ACP)

Province(s)/Territory(ies) whose workers are affected:

British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Please note, Yukon, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories do not have regulatory authorities.

Under which legitimate objective(s) is/are the measure(s) being filed:

Protection of human health

Rationale/Justification: Material Scope of Practice Difference

The practice of paramedicine in Alberta has exceeded the 2011 elements of the National Occupational Competency Profile (NOCP), requiring the Alberta College of Paramedics (the College) to implement its own standards. The educational curriculum of other provinces has not kept up to reflect three activities performed by advanced care paramedics in Alberta.

To ensure the safety of Albertans receiving health services from paramedics who obtained registration through labour mobility, the College has identified three restrictive conditions that will be placed on the practice permits of labour mobility applicants who are not educated or trained to perform the activities identified in the chart below. Upon successful completion of the required training, the College will remove the restrictions and allow the labour mobility applicant to practice to the full scope provided to their designation in Alberta.

For more information about the restricted activities in Alberta, please see Appendix A below.

Advanced Care Paramedic

Activities	NOCP Competency	Restrictive Conditions on Practice Permit	Required Training to Remove Restrictive Conditions on Practice Permit
Administration of Blood and Blood Products	5.5h	Administer blood and/or blood products	BloodTechNet, Transfusion Ontario – Bloody Easy
Facilitation of Endotracheal Intubation using paralytic pharmacological agents	5.1h, 5.8a, Appendix 5 - A.9	Facilitation and maintenance of intubation using paralytic pharmacological agents	Difficult Airway Management, Airway Interventions and Management in Emergencies
Umbilical Venous Access	5.5d, 5.8	Umbilical venous access	Neonatal Resuscitation Program

Additional Requirement(s):

The required training needed to remove the restrictions on a labour mobility applicant's practice permit are identified in the chart above.

The College would also accept proof of training from a labour mobility applicant's educational institution or employer to remove a restricted activity. For information about approved training courses in your jurisdiction that may be acceptable to remove restrictions on your practice permit prior to coming to Alberta please contact the College directly.

Alberta College of Paramedics
 Website: <https://abparamedics.com/>
 Telephone: 1-780-449-3114
 Email: info@ABparamedics.com

Anticipated Duration of the additional requirement(s):

This requirement will be in place until the restricted activities identified in the chart above are included in the scope of practice of Advanced Care Paramedics in all other jurisdictions.

Date Approved:	<u>2022 / 07 / 06</u> YY MM DD (*originally approved under the former AIT on 09/11/30)
Date(s) Reviewed and/or Updated	The scope of practice for Advanced Care Paramedics was reviewed and updated on November 2021.
Contact Information	Government of Alberta Email: LabourMobility@gov.ab.ca Telephone: 1-780-422-5450

Appendix A: Additional Information on Restricted Activities

Administration of Blood and Blood Products

Blood is given to correct blood loss, treat shock and increase blood volume. Administering blood products is a common practice for ACPs. Although, however common, this practice is not without risks. ACPs must understand and adhere to safe administration practice of blood products to reduce the risk of transfusion reactions.

Knowledge should include types of blood products, potential complications and steps to ensure safety throughout the process of blood administration. Blood products may include whole blood, packed red blood cells, platelets, plasma, granulocytes and cryoprecipitate.

Blood transfusion reactions can be non-hemolytic or hemolytic and there are a variety of signs and symptoms of blood transfusion reaction for both reactions. Understanding how to identify a transfusion reaction and understanding next steps is important in managing the reaction and should not be underestimated.

Facilitation of Endotracheal Intubation using Paralytic Pharmacological Agents

Rapid Sequence Intubations (RSI) involves the rapid administration of an induction agent and a neuromuscular blocking agent (paralytic) in quick succession to facilitate ETT placement. Widely available choices of neuromuscular blocking agents include depolarizing (succinylcholine) or nondepolarizing agents (rocuronium and vecuronium). These drugs block neuromuscular transmission at the neuromuscular junction, causing paralysis of the affected skeletal muscles, including those muscles required for breathing.

Loss of consciousness with resultant functional airway obstruction may be correctable with simple airway opening maneuvers, with or without brief ventilation support; however, when the obstruction cannot be corrected in a timely manner, the standard of care in Alberta for airway management is RSI.

The ability to recognize and effectively manage functional airway obstruction by administration of paralytic pharmacology is fundamental to the College's expectations of Advanced Care Paramedics.

Umbilical Venous Access

Umbilical vein catheterization may be a life-saving procedure in neonates who require vascular access and resuscitation. After proper placement of the umbilical line, intravenous (IV) fluids and medication may be administered to critically ill neonates. When critically ill newborns require prehospital care, peripheral access is preferred; however, if this is impossible, umbilical vein catheterization may be attempted.

The Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) and its concepts are part of the Advanced Care Paramedic educational programs in Alberta, and it is the expectation of the College for all applicants to understand these important concepts when faced with the resuscitation of a newborn.

Summary

For the paramedic profession within Canada, significant strides have been made to harmonize practice, and ongoing efforts by COPR and PAC continue to bring practice into further alignment.