

# Ambulance Service Communicable Disease Standards

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Emergency Health Services Branch  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care





# Ambulance Service Communicable Disease Standards

## Part A – Vaccine Preventable Diseases

The operator of each ambulance service shall ensure that:

1. Each EMA and paramedic hold a valid certificate signed by a physician that:
  - a. states that the EMA or paramedic is immunized against each of the diseases set out in Table 1 – Part A; **OR**
  - b. states that,
    - i. such immunization is 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 paramedic student, prior to commencing any clinical experience within the service, hold a valid certificate signed by a physician that:
  - a. states that the paramedic student is immunized against each of the diseases set out in Table 1 – Part A; **OR**
  - b. states that,
    - i. such immunization is 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 paramedic student shall be free from communicable diseases set out 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**

<b>PART A</b>	
<b>Disease</b>	<b>Schedule</b>
Tetanus Diphtheria	Primary series (3 doses) if unimmunized Tetanus diphtheria (Td) booster doses every 10 years
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
Varicella (Chickenpox)	2 doses if no evidence of immunity
Measles	2 doses if no evidence of immunity regardless of age
Mumps	2 doses if no evidence of immunity
Rubella	1 single dose if no evidence of immunity
Hepatitis B	2 – 4 age appropriate doses and serologic testing within 1 to 6 months after completing the series.
<b>PART B</b>	
No communicable diseases are prescribed	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.

