



ONTARIO BASE HOSPITAL GROUP MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Considerations for Paramedics Managing Patients during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Summary of Changes

TO: Ontario Paramedics
FROM: Ontario Base Hospital Group—Medical Advisory Committee (OBHG MAC)
DATE: February 22nd, 2021
RE: **Considerations for Paramedics Managing Patients during the COVID-19 Pandemic:
Summary of changes**

The following changes/updates have been made to the May 6th, 2020 Considerations document and the recently released January 4th, 2021 memo.

Introduction

A paragraph has been added to reinforce the availability and opportunity to consult with a Base Hospital Physician regarding these complex situations.

Part A – ALS PCS Medical Directives with COVID-19 Treatment Considerations

3. Bronchoconstriction Medical Directive

Salbutamol:

The document has been updated to withhold the administration of MDI salbutamol **ONLY** in the setting of mild respiratory distress. Previously the restriction was for mild to moderate respiratory distress.

Salbutamol:

The restriction regarding a cough has been removed. In the setting of moderate or severe respiratory distress, MDI salbutamol may be administered in the presence of a cough or not.

Epinephrine:

This was updated in the January 4th, 2021 memo and remains in place that IM epinephrine is to be withheld for patients ≥ 50 years old. The rationale is based on the risk of increasing risk related to cardiovascular complications. The complete rationale and reference document is provided in the updated, February 10th considerations document under the Bronchoconstriction Medical Directive (Section 3, Page 4).

A clarification is provided regarding the indicated use for IM epinephrine in bronchoconstriction – ie: less than 50 years old, BVM ventilation required and a history of asthma.



ONTARIO BASE HOSPITAL GROUP MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sincerely,

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