

Phase Five Begins

Competence Framework and Regulatory Standards Ready for Final Approval



In early April both the Canadian Paramedic Competence Framework (CPCF) and the Canadian Paramedic Regulatory Practice Standards (CPRPS) of the Pan-Canadian Essential Regulatory Requirements (PERRs) will go to the Project Steering Committee and COPR Board of Directors for approval.

Phase Four Completed – Validation Survey Results

Late in 2022, a validation survey in both English and French was conducted to verify that the draft content of the competence framework and regulatory practice standards reflected current practice expectations of paramedics across the four designations¹.

The survey's five parts gathered information on several areas:

- A. Participant demographics.
- B. Eight proposed paramedicine competence areas or roles in the draft competence framework and their perceived importance to respondents.
- C. Competencies by designation. Participants chose from one of four designations (EMR, PCP, ACP, and CCP) and rated the importance and frequency in which the participants are asked to perform these competencies as an essential part of safe, effective paramedic practice.
- D. Regulatory practice standards. Participants reviewed the expected outcomes for minimal

¹ Emergency Medical Responder (EMR); Primary Care Paramedic (PCP); Advanced Care Paramedic (ACP); Critical Care Paramedic (CCP)

performance and rated the outcomes' importance in the delivery of safe, effective paramedic practice.

E. Knowledge, skills, and activities by designation.

Approximately 38,000 paramedics and stakeholders across Canada were invited to participate and 2,600 completed and submitted the survey for a response rate of 7%. Response rates by designation or jurisdiction corresponded well with the total population as reported by the regulatory bodies.

The survey results showed very high or high agreement for seven of eight areas of competence (87% across all areas, low = 79%, high = 91%). There was also very high or high agreement for the outcomes of nine of 10 regulatory practice standards (84% across all participants, low = 75%, high = 86%). None of the areas of competence or regulatory standards fell below 75%.

The validation survey results were reviewed with the following PERRs consultation groups and committees:

- Critical Care Paramedics Consultation Group
- Healthy Professional Consultation Group
- Project Steering Committee
- Stakeholders Advisory Committee
- Subject Matter Expert Committee

Following careful analysis, the Subject Matter Expert Committee considered designation-specific data and hundreds of comments in the refinement and completion of the competence framework and regulatory practice standards.

The competencies and standards were refined and edited. These will be translated into French pending COPR Board approval in April.

Educational and Exam Resources

This third document in PERRs is well underway with an expected delivery in Summer 2023. A workshop with paramedic regulators, subject matter experts and stakeholders was held from March 1–3, 2023 to review and refine initial drafts of these documents which had emerged out of the competencies and regulatory standards development. Based on the input from the workshop, revisions are being completed to the first set of resources related to the competence area of paramedic care. Educational and Exam Resources will be developed for the other seven competence areas with an expected delivery date of Fall 2023.

The Educational and Exam Resources will describe the knowledge and skills required in performing the competencies. These will also support COPR in developing, defining, and describing each of the entry to practice examinations and assist educators and accreditors in developing and evaluating curricula to ensure that students graduate with the competencies necessary to provide safe and effective care for their intended designation (EMR, PCP, ACP, or CCP).

Timelines and Key Milestones

Phase One: Governance Established	Phase Two: Model Approved	Phase Three: PERRs Drafted	Phase Four: Validation Consultation	Phase Five: PERRs Approved
DONE	DONE	DONE	DONE	April 2023

For further information on the project contact COPR Executive Director [Chelsea Wilker](#).