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## **COURSE OVERVIEW**

*PCP-103, Clinical Practicum*, will take place in-hospital. The clinical practicum experience is intended to reinforce the concepts and skills learned in terms 1 & 2 of the program. This phase of the program will afford the learner the opportunity to integrate, refine and solidify practical skills by applying them in a practical patient contact situation, receiving constructive feedback from an experienced healthcare practitioner, and making necessary adjustments to their practice.

The clinical practicum phase of training will aid the student in acquiring a broader appreciation for the various phases of the patient care continuum that generally occur outside of the land ambulance Paramedic's purview. These insights will be acquired through observing and assisting clinical staff.

OLS Academy has a learning agreement in place with the Horizon Health Network and the Nova Scotia Health Authority. As a note for those wishing to complete their clinical practicum placements in Moncton, spots may be limited, and students may be required to relocate outside of Moncton for this experience.

Successful candidates will be informed of the allocation of their clinical practicum placement by the program. There is no guarantee that students will be placed at their desired clinical practicum location. Special considerations of personal circumstances will not be given in regard to assigning clinical practicum placements. Students will be responsible for fees associated with the clinical practicum such as entrance requirements, relocation, and travel costs.

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### **Shift Rotations**

Paramedic students will follow an assigned preceptor for multiple 12-hour shifts in various hospital departments.

Total shifts: 14

Total hours: 168

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## **REQUIRED MATERIALS & PREREQUISITES**

### **Electronics**

A device compatible with CompTracker software will need to be carried with the students at all times for the purposes of tracking the attainment of competency signoffs.



**OLS  
Academy**

**Primary Care Paramedicine 2023-24  
Term 3  
PCP-103 Clinical Practicum  
OLS Academy  
Course Outline**

### **Uniform**

Students will be expected to follow OLS Academy Student Dress Code Policy at all times during this phase of the program.

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of terms 1 & 2 of the program  
**Corequisites:** None

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### **Clinical Placement Coordinator**

**Instructor:** Joel Mattatall, ACP      E-mail: [joel.mattatall@omnilifesupport.com](mailto:joel.mattatall@omnilifesupport.com)  
Voice: (506) 830-4277

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### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this phase of the program, it is expected that students will have sufficiently honed skills outlined in the NOCP guidelines for Paramedics and necessary to safely and proficiently support patient care in the clinical environment. By the end of this phase of the program, the student will be able to:

- Describe the roles of the various interdisciplinary teams.
- Report patient issues using professional terminology.
- Perform adequate patient assessments and assist in the management of patient conditions according to facility guidelines and within the Primary Care Paramedic scope of practice.
- Communicate assessment findings with allied health professionals and correctly document findings.
- Demonstrate respect for clients, preceptor, and colleagues in all interactions.
- Demonstrate positive interpersonal skills with hospital employees, patients, and their families.
- Practice with cultural awareness and sensitivity to the influences of racial and ethnic diversity on health.
- Function both independently and as a member of the team.
- Integrate and apply knowledge to support allied healthcare team members.
- Practice according to legal, professional, and ethical requirements.
- Demonstrate clinical competence in the skills outlined for PCP in the National Occupational Competency Profile for Paramedics.



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**INTENDED LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

Learning objectives for PCP-103 Clinical Practicum are intended to support the learning objectives for term 1 and 2 courses and are guided by the *National Occupational Competency Profiles (NOCP)* for Paramedics. Each objective, indicated by the prefix “O”, is linked to the corresponding NOCP sub-competency with the matching alpha-numerical code (e.g., O1.1.a is the learning objective tied to sub-competency 1.1.a of the NOCP for Paramedics). As per the NOCP guidelines for Paramedics, to succeed in this course, you must demonstrate competence in the following areas.

<b>Learning Objectives</b>	<b>Embedded Knowledge and Skills</b>
<b>O4.3.n</b>	By the end of the course, the student will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>4.3.n.1 - Define</b>, “pediatric patient.”</li><li>○ <b>4.3.n.2 - Explain</b> developmental parameters.</li><li>○ <b>4.3.n.3 - Describe</b> the anatomical and physiological differences, between the adult and pediatric patient.</li><li>○ <b>4.3.n.4 - Explain</b> variations in assessment findings, between the adult and pediatric patient.</li><li>○ <b>4.3.n.5 - Modify</b> assessment approach for the pediatric patient.</li></ul>
<b>O4.4.c</b>	By the end of the course, the student will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>4.4.c.1 - Identify</b> sites where temperature may be assessed, by non-invasive methods.</li><li>○ <b>4.4.c.2 - Modify</b> temperature check, based on patient age.</li><li>○ <b>4.4.c.3 - Distinguish</b> between normal and abnormal temperature findings.</li><li>○ <b>4.4.c.4 - Discuss</b> factors that will influence body temperature.</li><li>○ <b>4.4.c.5 - Perform</b> a temperature assessment.</li><li>○ <b>4.4.c.6 - Adapt</b> techniques of obtaining a temperature, to patient situation.</li></ul>
<b>O4.4.f</b>	By the end of the course, the student will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>4.4.f.1 - Explain</b> rationale for measuring blood pressure, with a non-invasive monitor.</li><li>○ <b>4.4.f.2 - Describe</b> techniques to obtain a blood pressure, with a non-invasive monitor.</li><li>○ <b>4.4.f.3 - Distinguish</b> normal and abnormal findings of blood pressure, determined with a non-invasive monitor.</li><li>○ <b>4.4.f.4 - Perform</b> blood pressure, using a non-invasive monitor.</li><li>○ <b>4.4.f.5 - Perform</b> troubleshooting, when using a non-invasive blood pressure monitor.</li></ul>



<b>Learning Objectives</b>	<b>Embedded Knowledge and Skills</b>
<b>O4.5.a</b>	<p>By the end of the course, the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>4.5.a.1 - Identify</b> factors that affect accuracy of pulse oximeters.</li> <li>○ <b>4.5.a.2 - Describe</b> the physiologic properties of oxygen.</li> <li>○ <b>4.5.a.3 - Describe</b> the function of a pulse oximeter.</li> <li>○ <b>4.5.a.4 - Identify</b> normal and abnormal findings, when performing oximetry testing.</li> <li>○ <b>4.5.a.5 - Identify</b> indications for oxygen administration, relative to saturate oxygen values.</li> <li>○ <b>4.5.a.6 - Perform</b> oximetry testing.</li> <li>○ <b>4.5.a.7 - Adapt</b> technique of oximetry testing, to patient age.</li> </ul>
<b>O5.1.a</b>	<p>By the end of the course, the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>5.1.a.1 - Describe</b> methods of relieving the symptoms of airway obstruction.</li> <li>○ <b>5.1.a.2 - Describe</b> the types of airway opening maneuvers for various patients.</li> <li>○ <b>5.1.a.3 - Discuss</b> the indications, contraindications, and precautions, of performing airway maneuvers.</li> <li>○ <b>5.1.a.4 - Apply</b> problem-solving techniques required with various types of patients.</li> <li>○ <b>5.1.a.5 - Adapt</b> maneuvers and positioning for head, neck, and jaw positioning, which improve airway patency.</li> <li>○ <b>5.1.a.6 - Perform</b> manual airway maneuvers, under a variety of patient and environmental presentations.</li> <li>○ <b>5.1.a.7 - Adjust</b> to changes in patient's airway patency.</li> <li>○ <b>5.1.a.8 - Demonstrate</b> management of potential complications of airway maneuvers.</li> </ul>
<b>O5.3.a</b>	<p>By the end of the course, the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>5.3.a.1 - Identify</b> the purposes of and indications for the use of a nasal cannula.</li> <li>○ <b>5.3.a.2 - List</b> the steps for administration of oxygen by nasal cannula.</li> <li>○ <b>5.3.a.3 - Perform</b> oxygen administration using a nasal cannula.</li> <li>○ <b>5.3.a.4 - Adjust</b> to changes in patient presentation.</li> </ul>
<b>O5.3.d</b>	<p>By the end of the course, the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>5.3.d.1 - Identify</b> the purposes of and indications for the use of a high concentration mask.</li> <li>○ <b>5.3.d.2 - List</b> the steps for administration of oxygen by a high concentration mask.</li> <li>○ <b>5.3.d.3 - Perform</b> oxygen administration using a high concentration mask.</li> <li>○ <b>5.3.d.4 - Adjust</b> to changes in patient presentation.</li> </ul>



<b>Learning Objectives</b>	<b>Embedded Knowledge and Skills</b>
<b>O5.4.a</b>	By the end of the course, the student will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>5.4.a.1 - Identify</b> the purposes of and indications for the use of a manual positive pressure device.</li> <li>○ <b>5.4.a.2 - List</b> the steps for administration of oxygen by a manual positive pressure device.</li> <li>○ <b>5.4.a.3 - Discuss</b> rate, rhythm, volume, compliance, and positive end expiratory pressure.</li> <li>○ <b>5.4.a.4 - Perform</b> ventilation using a manual positive pressure device.</li> <li>○ <b>5.4.a.5 - Distinguish</b> between one person and two-person application of a manual positive pressure device.</li> <li>○ <b>5.4.a.6 - Evaluate</b> the effectiveness of ventilation.</li> <li>○ <b>5.4.a.7 - Adjust</b> to changes in patient presentation.</li> </ul>
<b>O5.5.c</b>	By the end of the course, the student will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>5.5.c.1 - Describe</b> equipment for peripheral IV infusion.</li> <li>○ <b>5.5.c.2 - Identify</b> factors that affect the flow rate.</li> <li>○ <b>5.5.c.3 - Demonstrate</b> the ability to discontinue an infusion following sequential steps.</li> <li>○ <b>5.5.c.4 - Adjust</b> devices as required to maintain flow rates.</li> </ul>
<b>O5.5.d</b>	By the end of the course, the student will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>5.5.d.1 - Identify</b> the purposes of and indications for peripheral IV cannulation.</li> <li>○ <b>5.5.d.2 - List</b> the steps of peripheral IV cannulation.</li> <li>○ <b>5.5.d.3 - Perform</b> peripheral IV cannulation.</li> <li>○ <b>5.5.d.4 - Discuss</b> potential complications of peripheral IV cannulation.</li> <li>○ <b>5.5.d.5 - Adapt</b> to changes in patient presentation.</li> </ul>



<b>O5.8.b</b>	By the end of the course, the student will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>5.8.b.1 - Explain</b> the “Five Rights” of medication administration.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.b.2 - Distinguish</b> between the different drug administration routes.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.b.3 - Distinguish</b> between the different drug administration routes.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.b.4 - Describe</b> how medication administration protocols are applied to specific patient presentation.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.b.5 - Apply</b> policies when medication administration errors occur.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.b.6 - Explain</b> the role of the paramedic in medication administration.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.b.7 - Demonstrate</b> how to provide medications using a sequential step method of administration.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.b.8 - Demonstrate</b> how to prepare a patient for medication administration.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.b.9 - Demonstrate</b> how to measure the required quantity of medication.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.b.10 - Set up</b> the supplies required for the specific route of drug administration.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.b.11 - Receive</b> consent before administration of medications.</li></ul>
<b>O5.8.m</b>	By the end of the course, the student will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>5.8.m.1 - Evaluate</b> medical conditions, and indications for inhalation administration of a medication.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.m.2 - Apply</b> proper calculations for correct medication requirement for the patient presentation.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.m.3 - Distinguish</b> those approved drugs that are given via inhalation.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.m.4 - Discuss</b> the benefit of medication administration via inhalation in comparison to other routes.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.m.5 - Demonstrate</b> how to provide inhalation medications using a sequential step method.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.m.6 - Demonstrate</b> how to prepare a patient for inhalation administration of a medication.</li><li>○ <b>5.8.m.7 - Demonstrate</b> how to measure the required quantity of inhalation medication.</li></ul>
<b>O6.2.b</b>	By the end of the course, the student will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>6.2.b.1 - Identify</b> possible abuse or neglect of the pediatric patient.</li><li>○ <b>6.2.b.2 - Integrate</b> variations to approach, treatment and transport for the pediatric patient.</li><li>○ <b>6.2.b.3 - Justify</b> variations in approach, treatment and transport decisions of the pediatric patient.</li></ul>



<b>Learning Objectives</b>	<b>Embedded Knowledge and Skills</b>
<b>O6.2.c</b>	By the end of the course, the student will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>6.2.c.1 - Identify</b> possible abuse or neglect of the geriatric patient.</li><li>○ <b>6.2.c.2 - Integrate</b> variations to the approach, treatment and transport methods for the geriatric patient.</li><li>○ <b>6.2.c.3 - Justify</b> variations in approach, treatment and transport decisions of the geriatric patient.</li></ul>

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## **GRADING**

Students will be evaluated through their adherence to treatment guidelines, patient communication abilities, and attainment of competency signoffs. A mastery of all skills designated as a “C” (clinical setting), not attained during the ambulance preceptorship phase, must be attained in the clinical environment to receive a passing grade for PCP-103 Clinical Practicum.

In cases where a student’s clinical preceptor feels that the student is not performing at an adequate level, an investigation into the matter will take place. In cases where the student is found to be underperforming, the student will be offered remedial training and subsequently receive a second opportunity to complete the clinical practicum phase of their training.

In cases where the student has been found to be performing at an appropriate level or it is unclear the student will receive an opportunity to complete the experience(s) in the applicable department(s) with an alternate clinical preceptor.

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## **EXPECTATIONS & TIPS FOR SUCCESS**

**Absence Due to Special Circumstances or Illness:** Let Mr. Mattatall know in advance if you need to be away due to special circumstances. Arrangements will need to be made to make up the lost time.

**Communication Methods:** Most communications regarding PCP-103 will be done via the CompTracker messaging function. Students wishing to email the clinical placement coordinator can do so at [joel.mattatall@omnilifesupport.com](mailto:joel.mattatall@omnilifesupport.com).

*This outline is subject to change at the discretion of academy administrators.*