

This algorithm is intended to be a guide and is not to replace the content of the AHS policy Consent to Treatment/Procedure(s) and its five related procedures or legal advice. Examples herein are for illustrative purposes only; the application of the AHS policy/procedure and legislation may vary depending on circumstances unique to each situation. Readers are encouraged to view the policy/procedure documents and legislation directly and should consult with Clinical Policy (clinicalpolicy@albertahealthservices.ca) if in need of clarification.

Determination of what constitutes an emergency health care situation is at the discretion of clinician*.

Criteria:

Health care is required to

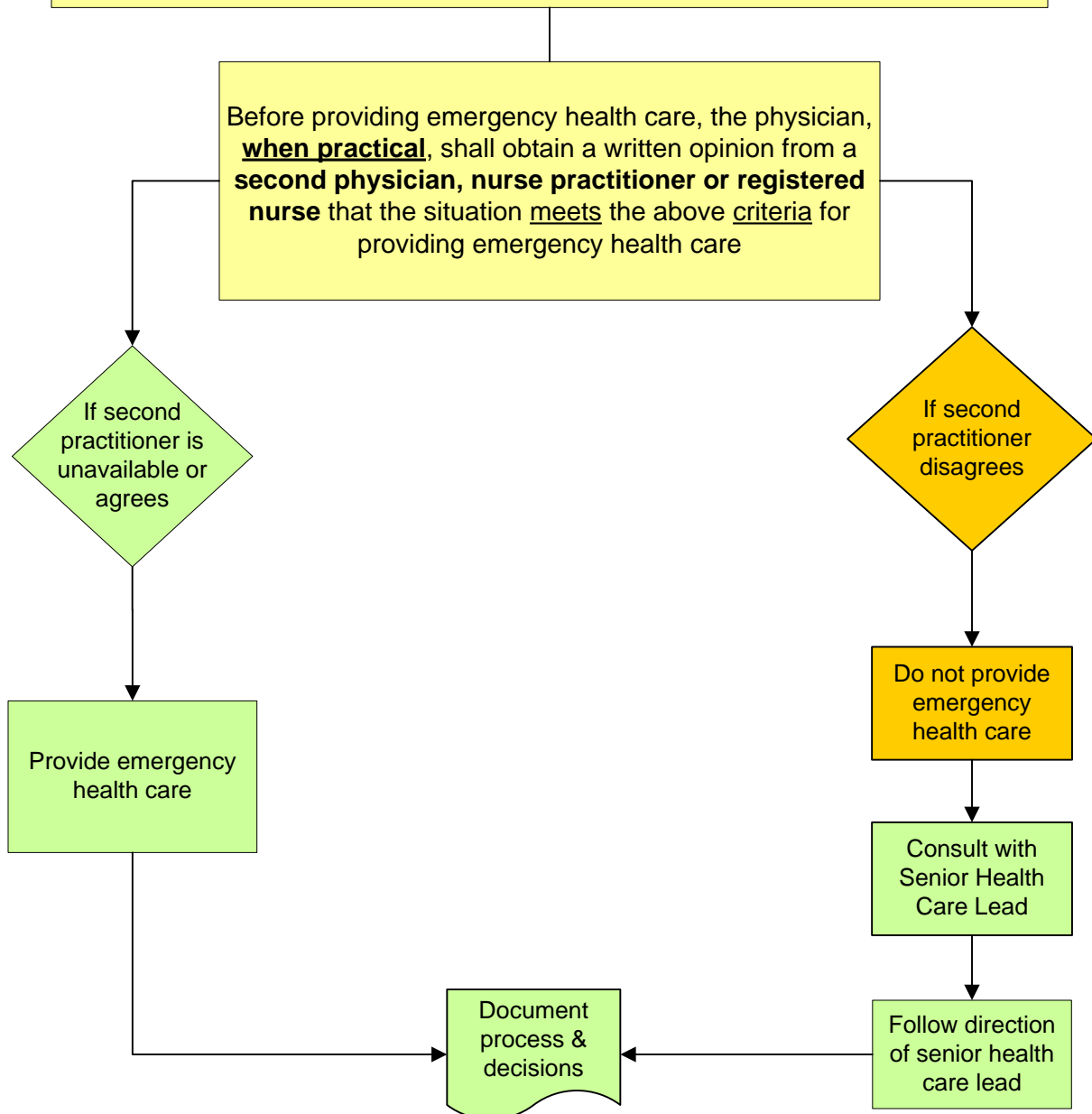
- Preserve the adult's life or
- Prevent serious physical or mental harm to the adult; or
- Alleviate severe pain

And

- Physician is satisfied adult lacks capacity to consent/refuse tx

And

- Physician has no reason to believe the adult expressed a wish/instruction to the contrary when previously capable.



***if time allows**, seek consent of alternate decision maker (e.g., if adult is known to have a guardian/agent contact them for decision; utilize Specific Decision Making, contact family, etc.).

Resources

AHS Legal: 1-888-943-0904

Clinical Ethics (regular business hours only): 403-943-2821

OPG: The Office of the Public Guardian may be contacted (24/7).
Toll Free Help Line: 1-877-427-4525 Monday-Friday
After Hours Crisis Line: 1-866-262-9731

If you require a language interpreter, you can contact a **Certified Health Care Interpreter** at: **1-866-874-3972**. Note: you must be registered to use this funded service. You can register during regular business hours by calling 403-955-1181.