1. Policy Rationale & Purpose:
The federal government amended the Criminal Code and passed Bill C-14 in June 2016, providing legal protection for persons who aid physicians and nurses who provide services for medical assistance in dying (MAiD).

Under the Emergency Health Services Act, the Emergency Medical Assistants (EMA) Licensing Board is responsible for examining, registering and licensing all EMAs in British Columbia. The Board, under the authority of the Emergency Health Services Act, sets licence terms and conditions.

2. Policy Scope
This policy applies to all qualified EMAs that are licensed or endorsed to initiate intravenous lines.

3. Policy Statement:
A qualified EMA may initiate an intravenous line that has been ordered by a physician or nurse practitioner for MAiD.

An EMA may not administer medication for MAiD in any circumstance.

4. Legal Authority:
   - Emergency Health Services Act
   - Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation

5. Key Stakeholders:
   - British Columbia Emergency Health Services Corporation (BCEHS)

6. Definitions:
Medical assistance in dying is defined as:
   a) the administering by a medical practitioner or nurse practitioner of a substance to a person, at their request, that causes their death; or
   b) the prescribing or providing by a medical practitioner or nurse practitioner of a substance to a person, at their request, so that they may self-administer the substance and in doing so cause their death.
Bill C-14 defines a medical practitioner as a person who is entitled to practice medicine under the laws of the province (e.g. physician).

7. Resources:
   - Bill C-14

Reviewed by the EMA Licensing Board on: June 18, 2018

Approved: Amanda Saville, Director

Date approved: June 18, 2019

Drafted by: Kim Fiege