

ADVANCED CARDIAC LIFE SUPPORT

Objectives for Initial Training and Retraining

Core Cognitive and Psychomotor Skills

- 1) Recognition of an emergency, initial proper response, and initiation and performance of one-person adult CPR.
- 2) Noninvasive airway management techniques, including:
 - a. Oropharyngeal airway device
 - b. Pocket facemask
 - c. Bag-valve mask
 - d. Oxygen supplementation
 - e. Basic suctioning equipment and techniques
 - f. Barrier devices for ventilation
- 3) Familiarization with automated external defibrillation including the proper operation of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) including:
 - a. Power "on" controls
 - b. Attachment methods to the patient using adhesive defibrillator pads and proper positioning
 - c. Activation of analysis mode
 - d. Operator safety
 - e. Delivery of shock
 - f. Performance of AED operator maintenance checklists
- 4) The operation of conventional defibrillator/monitors using hand held paddles or adhesive defibrillator pads. This includes:
 - a. Power "on" controls
 - b. Monitor controls
 - c. Monitor attachment
 - d. Appropriate techniques necessary to obtain a suitable, artifact-free rhythm tracing
 - e. Energy selection and charging controls
 - f. Proper defibrillation techniques using hand-held paddles or adhesive pads
 - g. Operator safety
 - h. Performance of conventional defibrillator operator maintenance checklists
- 5) Endotracheal intubation including verification of proper endotracheal tube placement
 - a. Use of Colorimetric CO₂ Detecting Devices
 - b. Use of Capnometry / Capnograph
 - c. Use of Esophageal Detecting Device
- 6) Initiation of a proper functioning peripheral intravenous infusion line
 - a. Describe Complications
 - b. Use of "Best Site" for condition
- 7) Recognition of the most frequent cardiac arrest rhythms, including:
 - a. Ventricular fibrillation
 - b. Pulseless Ventricular tachycardia
 - c. Asystole

- d. Pulseless electrical activity (PEA)
 - e. Tachycardias Stable/ Unstable
 - f. Tachycardias Good Heart/ Bad Heart
 - g. Bradycardias
- 8) The indications, mechanism of action, and dosing of the major resuscitation medications:
- a. Epinephrine,
 - b. Lidocaine,
 - c. Magnesium,
 - d. Bicarbonate,
 - e. Atropine
 - f. Amiodarone
 - g. Vasopressin
 - h. Adenosine
- 9) Post resuscitation management, including
- a. Knowledge of the indications,
 - b. Mechanism of action,
 - c. Dosing of the remaining algorithm medications:
 - a) Adenosine,
 - b) Aminophylline,
 - c) Amrinone,
 - d) Atropine,
 - e) Beta blocker,
 - f) Diltiazem,
 - g) Dobutamine,
 - h) Dopamine,
 - i) Epinephrine,
 - j) Furosamide,
 - k) Isoproterenol,
 - l) Morphine,
 - m) Nitroglycerin,
 - n) Nitroprusside,
 - o) Norepinephrine,
 - p) Oxygen,
 - q) Procainamide,
 - r) Thrombolytic agents,
 - s) Verapamil.
- 10) Proper control and direction of resuscitation attempts incorporates:
- a. Knowledge of advance directives and what they mean and how they should be responded to
 - b. The indications for ceasing resuscitation efforts
 - c. Techniques for “telling the living” and for critical incident briefings