

National ECC Training Memo

Date: October 1, 2004

Subject: Addition of Child AED Skills to the BLS for Healthcare Provider course

Action: Distribute to all BLS and Heartsaver Instructors by October 15, 2004

Purpose

This Training Memo gives instructors and training centers specific guidance on implementing the pediatric AED skills and video in the *BLS for Healthcare Provider*. BLS Instructors must add pediatric AED information to these courses beginning January 1, 2005.

Background

In June 2003 ILCOR issued an Advisory Statement titled, *Use of Automated External Defibrillators for Children: An Update* that was published in the journal *Circulation*.

In December 2003, the *Heartsaver AED* course materials were revised and pediatric AED information was added to the curriculum. The *BLS for Healthcare Provider* textbook was revised in August 2003 and June 2004 to include information on pediatric AED skills.

A video clip has been produced to support the instruction of pediatric AED skills during the HCP course and for BLS Instructor courses. This video is also appropriate for use in ACLS and PALS provider courses.

Each Training Center will receive the video in a DVD format free of charge. Training Centers may duplicate the video onto VHS or DVD formats. Training Centers are permitted to charge a nominal fee to recoup duplication costs, not to exceed the actual cost of the duplication service.

At this time, the BLS for HCP video will not be updated to include pediatric AED skill. Instructors may use the current HCP video and add the pediatric AED skill demonstration using either VHS or DVD formats.

Copyright Notice

The American Heart Association holds copyright on all materials and videos on the DVD. The American Heart Association grants permission to authorized Training Centers and instructors to duplicate, in whole, the *Pediatric AED for Healthcare Providers* video, the Heartsaver AED Webcast, and documents for the expressed use in American Heart Association ECC courses. Users may not claim copyright of these videos and documents nor add them to any course other than an American Heart Association course.

Implementation and Use of Child AED Video

The Program Administration Committee, PROAD, is requiring that pediatric AED information be added to the BLS for Healthcare Providers course. At a minimum, all HCP courses must have a discussion of the science and use of AEDs on children. Students in the BLS for HCP course are not required to practice the skill, although instructors should be prepared to accommodate practice when necessary. Teaching scenarios will be provided to enable practice. Check the American Heart Association website for teaching scenarios.

Agenda changes

BLS for HCP: Pediatric AED information is added to both initial and renewal courses. Teach the pediatric AED information immediately following child CPR practice.

BLS Instructor Course: BLS Training Center Faculty and Regional Faculty should add the pediatric skill to the skills practiced and evaluated during the BLS Instructor Course, including renewals.

Pediatric Pad Placement Picture

The Heartsaver AED instructor materials include a picture of pediatric AED pad placement (pink sheet with picture of child with AED pads.) This picture is available on the ECC website www.americanheart.org/CPR. The black and white picture should be printed on pink paper to distinguish child pads from adult pads. This picture cannot be used in place of pediatric AED pads, however. During adult AED practice stations the child pad picture can be used if enough pediatric pads are not available.

Pediatric Training Pads

Pediatric size training pads are recommended in the pediatric AED skill station. These pads are recommended so that the student learns to properly place the smaller pads on a child victim. Adult pads may be substituted for child pads during training.

Skill sheets

Skill performance sheets can be found in Appendix B of the BLS for Healthcare Provider student manuals with print dates (found on the back cover) of R8/03 and R6/04. The skill sheet is also in the Heartsaver AED Provider textbook, print date of 12/03.