CRITICAL CARE EDUCATION SERVICES Pty. Ltd.
A.C.N. 078 182 975 A.B.N. 70 078 182 975

BASIC LIFE SUPPORT ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES

Please note that these objectives are based on the course content and the current Australian Resuscitation Council Guidelines.

1. Provide a definition of Cardiac Arrest.

2. If you found a person collapsed, how would you manage this situation?

3. If the patient was unconscious, what would you do?

4. List 5 causes of unconsciousness that may lead to an incorrect diagnosis of cardiac arrest.

5. List the signs that you may observe in a person who has suffered a cardiac arrest.

6. Differentiate between a respiratory and cardiac arrest. How would you manage a respiratory arrest?

7. When assessing the airway, what steps should be undertaken?

8. Describe and demonstrate the management of the airway and ventilation in a person who is not spontaneously breathing. Include in your answer artificial ventilation techniques such as mouth to mouth, mouth to mask, and use of manual resuscitation bags.

9. State the indications for insertion of an oropharyngeal airway, and given a range of airways, outline the process for selection the appropriate size and demonstrate correct insertion.

10. List the complications associated with artificial ventilation and for each complication describe an intervention to prevent or reduce that complication.

11. How would you assess that artificial ventilation is being performed effectively?

12. When assessing the circulation what steps should be undertaken?

13. Describe the management of the circulation in a person who has no spontaneous circulation. Include in your answer the position of the hands or fingers, and depth of compressions for adult, child, and infant patients.

14. State and demonstrate the rate per minute, and ratio of compressions to ventilation for both a single rescuer and two rescuers for adult, child and infants.

15. List the complications associated with external chest compression (ECC) and for each complication describe an intervention to prevent or reduce that complication.

16. How would you assess that ECC is being performed effectively?

17. When during the resuscitation attempt should you assess for the return of spontaneous activity?

18. In relation to Q 17, what would you assess for?

19. If a patient regurgitated during the resuscitation attempt, what would you do?

20. Describe the roles of staff members present at an arrest.

21. What documentation is required to be kept of the resuscitation attempt?

22. Describe the care of the patient post resuscitation.

23. What 3 drugs should be available at the scene of a cardiac arrest?

Please Note: The following objectives apply only to those candidates who are being assessed in the use of a Semi-Automatic External Defibrillator (SAED) also known as an AED or shock advisory defibrillator.

24. Describe the principles of defibrillation.

25. Demonstrate and explain the controls found on a defibrillator.

26. Demonstrate the correct application and positioning of the adhesive defibrillation pads on a manikin.

27. State five objects or structures that the adhesive defibrillation pads should not be placed over.

28. Describe/demonstrate the technique of defibrillation.

29. Outline troubleshooting of the defibrillator

30. Discuss and demonstrate electrical safety associated with defibrillation.

31. State at least three complications or hazards of defibrillation.

THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS.

Theoretical. A 20 question multiple choice test, with questions drawn from the areas listed above. You must achieve 80% in order to pass this section.

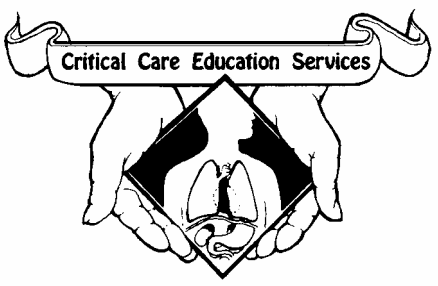
Practical. An assessment with an assessor and manikin, with the assessor providing a scenario and asking you to describe and demonstrate the techniques of BLS and answer questions relating to the sequence of activities that you would perform during an actual arrest situation. In order to pass this assessment you must not do or omit anything that will result in harm to the patient, or compromise the resuscitation attempt.

Time Frame. To complete the assessment will take around 40 - 45 minutes.

Feedback. This will be given by the assessor at the completion of each of the assessment components.

Note: You should arrive at the assessment venue at least 15 minutes before your allocated time to commence the Multiple Choice Examination. Please bring your lecture outlines from the course with you.

Ken Hambrecht.
Principal Consultant
Critical Care Education Services Pty. Ltd.
4/3/06.



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ADVANCED CARDIAC LIFE SUPPORT COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES

Please note that these objectives are based on the course content and the current Australian Resuscitation Council Guidelines.

1. Identify each of the following rhythms;

   * sinus rhythm
   * sinus bradycardia
   * sinus tachycardia
   * supraventricular tachycardia
   * ventricular tachycardia
   * ventricular fibrillation
   * asystole
   * electromechanical dissociation (EMD) or pulseless electrical activity (PEA)
   * ventricular ectopic beats
   * idioventricular rhythm
   * Torsade de Pointes

2. Outline the assessment of a patient with an arrhythmia.

3. Outline the management of a patient with an arrhythmia. Include in your answer the electrical and pharmacological treatment indicated as per the Australian Resuscitation Council Guidelines. Additional medications include Adenosine.

4. For each pharmacological agent selected, state the indications, actions, adverse effects, and precautions applicable to each agent, and which agents can be administered via an endotracheal tube.

5. Describe the principles of defibrillation; state the indications for defibrillation during a cardiac arrest; demonstrate and explain the controls found on a defibrillator; describe/demonstrate the technique of defibrillation; outline troubleshooting of the defibrillator; electrical safety associated with defibrillation; and complications/hazards of defibrillation. This objective will be applied to semi-automatic external defibrillators & manual external defibrillators as required.

6. Given a range of equipment to manage the airway, organise and assemble the equipment required for intubation and laryngeal mask airway insertion.

7. Where required during the scenario, demonstrate and describe the process of intubation, or assisting with intubation, or insertion of the laryngeal mask airway.

8. Describe the role of the team leader with specific reference to the process of ensuring appropriate assessment of the patient, safety and efficiency of CPR both basic and advanced, delegation during the arrest, decision making, and post arrest management.

9. Describe the care of the patient post resuscitation, and also your responsibilities following the resuscitation episode.

10. Discuss legal, ethical, and professional issues relating to the resuscitation attempt.

THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS.

Theoretical. A 30 question multiple choice test, with questions related to the areas listed above. You must achieve 80% in order to pass this test.

Practical. An assessment with an assessor, manikin, defibrillator, and arrhythmia simulator, with the assessor providing a scenario and asking you to describe and demonstrate the techniques of ACLS and answer questions relating to the sequence of activities that you would perform during an actual arrest situation.

In order to pass this assessment you must not do or omit anything that will result in harm to the patient, or compromise the resuscitation attempt.

Time Frame. To complete the assessment will take around 50 - 55 minutes.

Feedback. This will be given by the assessor at the completion of each of the assessment components.

Note: You should arrive at the assessment venue at least 15 minutes before your allocated time to commence the Multiple Choice Examination. Please bring your lecture outlines from the course with you.

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