

AUGUST 2006

TO: Atlantic Territory Training Network
(VA, MD, DC, NC, SC, PA, DE)

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SUBJECT: ECC Update

ECC RESOURCES AVAILABLE

With all of the new Educational Materials and Guidelines changes that been introduced since the beginning of 2006 we wanted to provide you with some resources that are available to you and your instructors that will be invaluable in helping to get answers, clarification, troubleshooting technical issues as well affording you the opportunity to voice your concerns or suggestions with regard to anything ECC.

****AHA Instructor Network**** – AVAILABLE TO ALL TCC's and AHA Instructors
<http://www.ahainstructornetwork.org>

What is on the network?

****Training Center Coordinators- ONLY**

****My Training Center Maintenance – TAB**

- ♥ Maintenance of Instructor Rosters
- ♥ Card Templates

Training Center Coordinators and Instructors

My Instructor Information – TAB

- ♥ Course Updates
- ♥ Resources for Instructors
- ♥ Training Updates

Instructor Tips and Tools – TAB

- ♥ Marketing Materials
- ♥ Instructor Tips

Instructor Education – TAB

- ♥ Instructor Education Archives

AHA Courses - TAB

- ♥ Products
- ♥ Course Matrix

Have a Question about ACLS, BLS, PALS, FA or anything ECC CLICK on the top right where it says "CONTACT US" Your questions or concerns will be routed to the appropriate AHA person for follow-up with you directly.

****CPR Product Support****

<http://americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=3037130>

The CPR Product Support site will provide you with CD specific information and a detailed Frequently Asked Questions section to help you troubleshoot any CD problems you may be experiencing.

****AHA WEBSITE**** – www.americanheart.org

PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACLS PRODUCTS AVAILABLE AUGUST 31

ACLS Course Materials will be available for purchase through all ECC Material Distributors on August 31, 2006. This product line will include: Provider/Instructor Manuals, ACLS Video (DVD/VHS formats), ACLS Instructor package, Pocket Reference Cards, Algorithm Emergency Cart Cards, ACLS 12-Lead ECG Poster, ACLS Treatment Sequences for Pulseless Arrest Poster and ACLS Poster Pack.

ACLS COURSE DISCUSSION

Get the perspective from fellow National Faculty members on how the redesigned American Heart Association ACLS course will help save more lives:

- Overview and discussion of improvements in content and teaching methods
- Excerpts from American Heart Association National Faculty training
- Preview of new ACLS instructor video

<http://www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=3040386>

INTRODUCING: HEARTSAVER FIRST AID ONLINE AVAILABLE AUGUST 28th (See attached)

PEDIATRIC WALLET CARD AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 5TH (See attached)

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ACTION ON AEDS

Ad Hoc Coalition To Save Lives Through Public Access To Defibrillation Colleagues:

Just wanted to let you know that the Senate Appropriations Committee concurred with the House Appropriations Committee in providing \$1.5 million for HRSA's Rural and Community Access to Emergency Devices Program. Both Committees disagreed with the President's proposal to terminate this lifesaving program. The \$1.5 million is the same as the FY 2006 level of funding for the program--before the across-the-board cut. Generally the Senate Appropriations Committee provided HRSA's rural health programs with the FY 2006 funding levels.

Our Coalition actively worked to secure the restoration of the FY 2005 level of funding for this program--\$8.927 million. Our Coalition will continue to work with other health, education and training groups to secure the additional \$3 billion in the House and the \$2 billion in the Senate that was promised by the Leadership for the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee. If that money becomes a reality, I look forward to working with you to target some of that money to the HRSA Rural and Community Access to Emergency Devices Program.

REGIONAL FACULTY VOLUNTEER RENEWAL TIME!

It's Regional Faculty Renewal time for **ALL** current EPA/DE and PA Regional Faculty members whose current RF term will **expire** on **November 30, 2006**. EPA/DE and PA Regional Faculty members will receive a communication from the Service Center requesting that they submit a RF Reappointment Application (*with requested verifications*) to continue serving as RF for another term. We are also **recruiting NEW Regional Faculty members** for those regions as well, and this invite will be communicated to the training network in a separate email from the Service Center. The **DEADLINE** to submit **RF Applications (Initial & Reappointment)** for the EPA/DE & PA regions to the Service Center is **October 16, 2006**.

The **DEADLINE** for Regional Faculty **RENEWAL AND RECRUITMENT** for the **NC & SC regions** has also been **extended until September 22, 2006**. Please continue to submit **RF Applications (Initial & Reappointment)** to the Service Center for these regions until the deadline.

REMINDER - NEW EXAMS FOR BLS, ACLS & HEARTSAVER COURSES

****ACLS EXAMS & TESTING****

NEW ACLS Exams were just released today and will be distributed by email from the ECC Service Center to **ALL ACLS training centers**. Be on the lookout for a separate communication from the Service Center concerning their release that will contain the new exams.

****HEARTSAVER EXAMS & TESTING****

As previously stated in the May 2006 ECC Monthly Newsletter, there are **no longer written Heartsaver exams according to the new guidelines**. CPR requires hands on practice for knowledge transfer; therefore, the testing of CPR and AED skills will be based on hands-on performance. The **new testing model** for CPR and AED, the Objective Skills Testing Instrument, focuses on skills evaluation and acquisition. Since CPR is not a cognitive skill, a written, cumulative test **will not be used** to evaluate skill acquisition in the CPR and AED portions of the Heartsaver courses. This change will increase the time available for practice and evaluation of student CPR and AED skills. The goal of this change is to help ensure that students can perform these skills rather than just answer questions about them in a test. **You may refer to the Heartsaver Instructor CD & Manual for additional information on the new skills testing procedure for ALL HS courses including HS First Aid.**

****BLS HCP EXAMS & TESTING****

The new BLS HCP exams were released and distributed to TCs in February 2006. If you are a TCC, and your TC has not received the newest version of the BLS HCP exams and answer sheets according to the new guidelines, **please contact the Service Center** and we will send you the new BLS HCP exams. **If you are an instructor**, and you have not received the latest BLS HCP exam, **please contact your TCC at your assigned TC** to receive the latest copies of the exam.

****BLS INSTRUCTOR EXAMS & TESTING****

There are no longer written BLS Instructor Exams. Due to the new science in the 2005 ECC Guidelines, **written BLS Instructor's exams will no longer be utilized for testing new BLS Instructor candidates**. Skills testing has been redesigned to ensure that instructors use a more uniform and objective approach to testing CPR skills. To ensure that instructors are able to effectively, accurately, and consistently evaluate skills, we created a BLS Skills Testing video to guide all instructors in evaluating student performance of BLS skills and using the skill checklists.

KEEPING COMMUNICATIONS FLOWING

One of the primary roles of the Glen Allen Service Center is to provide communications regarding anything dealing with ECC and AHA to the Training Network. It is very important that **changes to RF & TCC contact information** such as, email addresses, phone #s, fax #s, and mailing addresses be communicated immediately to the Service Center so as not to miss any communications that you receive from us. **To obtain TCF Cards**, please fax the **Request Form for TCF Cards (attached)** to the Service Center for processing.