

Pediatric Emergency Assessment, Recognition and Stabilization (PEARS)

FACT SHEET

Introduction

PEARS teaches providers how to recognize respiratory distress, shock and cardiac arrest, and provide appropriate lifesaving interventions within the initial minutes of response until the child is transferred to an advanced life support provider. The goal of PEARs is to improve the quality of care provided to seriously ill or injured infants and children, resulting in improved outcomes.

Who should attend this course?

PEARS is designed for healthcare providers such as emergency medical technicians (EMTs), medical and surgical nurses, school nurses and any other healthcare provider who infrequently sees critically ill infants and children.

PEARS Course Features:

Improves competency in pediatric basic life support.
Learning stations and practice reinforce essential skills.
Course video allows students to actually see and hear critically ill children.
Enhances skills in recognizing shock, respiratory failure and cardiopulmonary emergencies.

The **PEARS** training program covers:

- Key changes in advanced cardiovascular life support, reflecting the 2010 Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Emergency Cardiovascular Care (ECC).
- Basic life-support skills, including effective chest compressions, use of a bag-mask device and an automated external defibrillator (AED)

- Recognition and early management of respiratory and cardiac arrest using a manual defibrillator and equipment commonly found on a crash cart
- Recognition and early management of peri-arrest conditions such as symptomatic bradycardia
- Airway management
- Related pharmacology
- Management of acute coronary syndromes (ACS) and stroke
- Effective communication as a member and leader of a resuscitation team
- Effective resuscitation team dynamics

Course format/ time: **PEARS** is a classroom-based, Instructor-led course.

Course Times

Full course:

Option 1: following the BLS Competency Lesson = approximately 7 hours. Course time based on 1 instructor: 6 student: 1 manikins.

Option 2: with CPR testing during Team Dynamics practice = approximately 8 hours. 1 Instructor and 2 manikins for 6 students per station

End of course assessments: Written exam and skills test
Certification

Upon successful course completion, including demonstration of skills competency in all learning stations and passing skills test, students receive an AHA PEARs Provider course completion card, valid for two years.

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