

Training Memo: Skills Testing for HeartCode ACLS, 2006 version

TO: American Heart Association Training Centers and Instructors
REVISION DATE: April 30, 2008 **Original Release:** January 9, 2007

Purpose To provide updated direction for skills testing of students taking an ACLS Course via the HeartCode ACLS Anywhere and HeartCode ACLS manikin system. This testing information replaces that released in the ECC Training Memo dated February 16, 2004.

General Information HeartCode ACLS is a self-directed learning program using microsimulation technology. This program is delivered through the HeartCode ACLS Anywhere product, which can be used on most computers; it is not Macintosh-compatible. It is also available through the HeartCode ACLS Self-Directed Learning System.

Course completion consists of two parts: the computer-based cognitive portion and the skills testing portion, which can be completed either with an AHA ACLS Instructor or on the HeartCode System manikin.

Skills testing must be completed within 60 calendar days of completing the computer-based portion indicated as the completion date on the certificate.

Validating Certificates Training Center Coordinators and ACLS Instructors can verify the validity of a HeartCode ACLS Anywhere certificate presented to them. The certificate from the 2006 version of HeartCode ACLS will have an anatomical heart watermark as the background. Instructions on how to verify the validity of a certificate are posted on the AHA Instructor Network, accessible to all registered instructors.

Course Completion Requirements

1. Successful completion of all core cases
2. Achievement of 84% or greater on the written test
3. Successful completion of the required CPR skills test administered by an AHA ACLS Instructor or by computerized manikin. The BLS Skills Testing Checklist to be used in measuring the skills is attached.
 - Correct bag-mask ventilation for 1 minute
 - CPR 1-rescuer test (AED testing is not required)

Continued on next page

Training Memo: Skills Testing for HeartCode ACLS, 2006 version, Continued

Course
Completion
Requirements
(continued)

A current Healthcare Provider card is not an alternative to taking the CPR skills test.

Megacode Test

A TC **may** provide an instructor-conducted Megacode Skills Test if the competence of the student is uncertain or if such testing is required for purposes of documentation or applicable regulations. This option applies to students completing HeartCode ACLS using either method.

This assessment is to be conducted according to Lesson 15 of the ACLS Provider Course, using the specified tools and check sheets. This test must be conducted by an AHA ACLS Instructor. In this situation the test can be administered with one student or in a team setting as described in Lesson 15.

April 30, 2008

HeartCode ACLS BLS Skills Testing Checklists

Name: _____ Date of Test: _____

1-Rescuer Bag-Mask Ventilation Skills Test		
Skill Step	Critical Performance Steps	<input type="checkbox"/> if done correctly
1	Places mask in proper position on the victim's face	
2	Squeezes the bag to give breaths (1 second each) while watching for chest rise	
3	Gives one breath every 5–6 seconds for 1 minute	
STOP THE TEST		
PASS		NR

Adult/Child 1-Rescuer CPR Skills Test		
Skill Step	Critical Performance Steps	<input type="checkbox"/> if done correctly
1	Checks for response	
2	Activates emergency response system/calls for AED	
3	Opens airway using head tilt–chin lift	
4	Checks breathing <i>Minimum 5 seconds; maximum 10 seconds</i>	
5	Gives 2 breaths (1 second each)	
6	Checks carotid pulse <i>Minimum 5 seconds; maximum 10 seconds</i>	
7	Locates CPR hand position	
8	Delivers first cycle of compressions at correct rate <i>Acceptable <23 seconds for 30 compressions</i>	
9	Gives 2 breaths (1 second each)	
10	Delivers second cycle of compressions at correct hand position <i>Acceptable >23 compressions</i>	
11	Gives 2 breaths (1 second each)	
<i>The next step is done only with a manikin with a feedback device, such as a clicker or light. If no feedback manikin, STOP THE TEST.</i>		
12	Delivers third cycle of compressions of adequate depth with full chest recoil <i>Acceptable >23 compressions</i>	
STOP THE TEST		
PASS		NR

Test Summary			
PASS = Steps all checked (done correctly) NR = Needs remediation Indicate PASS or NR:			
1R CPR		Bag-Mask Ventilation	
PASS	NR	PASS	NR

Instructor's signature affirms that skills tests were done according to AHA guidelines.

Instructor's Signature: _____

Print Instructor's Name: _____

Date: _____