

2005 ACLS and BLS HCP Exams February 2005

These FAQs address anticipated questions and inquiries about the revised ACLS and BLS HCP exams.

Do these exams replace the previous exams?

Yes, the 2005 revised exams replace previous exams.

Why revise the exam now, aren't the new guidelines coming out?

There are no new guideline changes that necessitated changes in questions. The ACLS exams now use the term *fibrinolytic* rather than a generic drug name.

Do the EMS versions target EMT-B, EMT-I, or Paramedic levels?

No, the exams are not targeted for a specific EMT level. Of course, the ACLS provider exam is geared towards a Paramedic scope of practice.

Which version should I give to someone with both a nursing and an EMS background?

Instructors may have students who have dual-professions (EMTs and Paramedics who work in an Emergency Department, persons with nursing and EMS credentials, etc.) In these situations, the instructor and student should discuss which exam version would be suitable and acceptable to both. Since the exams test the same objectives, deciding which exam to take in such situations is really more of a preference, rather than a necessity.

How do we know which exam was given?

The student answer sheet has a blank under or next to the student's name where the student should write in the version of the exam they are taking. This way, the instructor will know which answer key to use.

Are there now BLS HCP or ACLS provider cards for EMS?

The course cards will not be affected by the changes to the exams.

What are the changes?

Key changes include scene setting, scope of practice and terminology. The order of questions has also been changed. We are not issuing a document listing the question-by-question changes.