

## National ECC Training Memo

**Date:** February 16, 2005

**From:** Jo Haag, RN, MSN  
Director, ECC Training Programs

**Subject:** 2005 ACLS Provider Exams

**Action:** Distribute exams to ACLS Course Directors

Periodically, exams are reviewed and revised in response to training needs and validation studies. The Advanced Cardiac Life Support provider exams have been revised and now include two EMS versions. These four exams replace the previous versions.

The ACLS Provider exams include a general pretest (not specialized towards EMS or hospital), four exam versions (two of which are specialized towards EMS scenarios), annotated answers for each exam, instructor answer keys for each exam, and a student answer sheet. Versions are labeled as A or B and EMS A or EMS B. Only the care setting changes between the two variations of each version (ie, Version A vs. EMS Version A.) These changes may alter the answer choices in regards to activating EMS, calling 911, calling for additional assistance or the provider's scope of practice. Each version tests the same objectives with the same level of difficulty. The ACLS EMS Versions have questions that vary from the other versions due to scope of practice. These variations however, do not alter the objectives tested between the exams.

When course participants come from varied professions, instructors may elect to administer the EMS version to students in the EMS professions/programs and the non-EMS versions to the other students during the same course. To aid the instructor during grading, the Student Answer Sheet has a space to write in the exam version. Instructors then select that version's specific answer key for scoring.

Training Center Coordinators and Regional Faculty should address questions to the ECC Service Center at 1-888-CPR-LINE. ACLS Instructors should address questions to their Training Center.