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Instruction ASI-001

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To: The Medical Office

Subj: Provide guidelines in the medical office for Emergency Medical Education (CEU/CME) courses.

The medical community is held to the highest standards in patient care. Most medical offices are not attached to medical centers, such as hospitals, and urgent care clinics. For this reason, the staff must be prepared to handle medical emergencies in the office and ensure that their patients are transported to a definitive level of care. This instruction provides guidelines for the level and type of education for each person in the medical Office. Currently there is a misconception as to the type of courses that are recommended for CE and CME. This pertains to courses like those offered by the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, National Safety Council, etc. Examples of these CE and CME courses are: BLS/ACLS/PALS, and PEARS.

The misconception is that all levels of patient care providers are required to attend and complete the two ALS courses, i.e. ACLS and PALS. As noted above. These courses require the participant to comprehend advanced medical processes, i.e. advanced airway treatments, pharmacology, and electrical therapy modalities. The processes and algorithms taught in these ALS courses are not in the scope of their practice.

The following are basic descriptions of courses that office staff should attend outside of their respective medical training. Some of these courses are as follows:

- **BLS (Basic Life Support):**

Basic Life Support (BLS) involves immediate, life-saving care for cardiac arrest, respiratory distress, or obstructed airways, focusing on high-quality CPR, ventilation, and the use of an AED, until advanced medical help arrives. BLS the foundation for healthcare professionals and first responders, covering adult, child, and infant skills, with certification typically lasting two years through organizations like the American Heart Association or American Red Cross.

Note: The intended audience of this course is for ALL healthcare professionals, regardless of their patient role.

- **ACLS (Advanced Cardiac Life Support):**

Advanced Cardiac Life Support is a set of emergency protocols and skills for healthcare professionals, extending beyond basic CPR to treat severe cardiac and respiratory emergencies like cardiac arrest, stroke, and heart attack. Focusing on high-quality CPR, advanced airway management, medications, and teamwork to improve patient survival, as well as electrical, and advanced airway therapies. ACLS is for those professionals that must diagnose, treat respiratory and cardiac emergencies.

Note: The intended audience of this course is for all healthcare professions, who provide advanced airway, drug, and electrical therapies. EMT-P, RN, PA, NP, and MDs.

- **PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support):**

Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) is a set of emergency protocols and skills for healthcare professionals, to manage critical emergencies in infants and children. These programs focus on respiratory issues, shock, and cardiac arrest, high-quality CPR, algorithms, and teamwork to improve patient outcomes. This course covers recognition of shock, the use of the “length-based resuscitation tape” drug doses, interosseous access, electrical and oxygen therapy, with hands-on skills stations and worksheets. PALS is for those professionals that must diagnose and treat respiratory and cardiac emergencies.

Note: The intended audience of this course is for all healthcare professions, who provide advanced airway, drug, and electrical therapies. EMT-P, RN, PA, NP, and MDs.

- **PEARS (Pediatric Emergency Assessment Recognition, and Stabilization)**

PEARS provided education in the recognition, and management of respiratory failure, shock, and cardiac arrest in infants and children, providing critical initial care until advanced help arrives. It focuses on early, life-saving interventions using videos, simulation, and hands-on practice. This course focuses on the recognition and treatment of pediatric shock, and the support of advanced (ALS) providers.

Note: The intended audience of this course is for all healthcare professionals, who would assist ALS providers in advanced airway, drug, and electrical therapies. CNA, LVN, RDA, and EMTs.

(This course may be conducted during the PALS course, with both the PALS and PEARS students working together. This builds on teamwork and displays all of the steps that each care provider conducts during an emergency)

Only those that provide the level of care requiring emergency medication, advanced airway support, and electrical therapy should attend the ALS courses, i.e. ACLS, and PALS.

Note: The PALS course is for those providing care to patients under 36K g or 8 years of age. Any patient over 36 Kg or 8 years of age, the ACLS is applicable for these applications. An Example of the professions that should attend the ALS courses would be EMT-P, RN, PA, NP, RT, and MDs.

Note: The PEARS course is for those providing care to patients under 36K g or 8 years of age. The PEARS course may be taught in conjunction with the PALS course. This allows the entire team in attendance to learn their respective roles while working in a team concept.

All professions that provide patient support should attend the BLS training as well as the use of the Office First Aid kit, Airway devices such as the portable O2 tanks, O2 Masks, and BVMs and the basic medications used for ACS, Allergic Reactions, Airway, Diabetic, Bleeding Control, and other office emergencies. CNA, LVN, RDA, EMT, RN, PA, NP, MDS