



**Guam Memorial Hospital Authority
Education Department**



Authorized American Heart Association Training Center

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2020 PALS 2-Day Precourse Letter

Welcome to the 2020 Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) 2-Day Provider Course!

DATE: September 19 & 20

TIME: Saturday and Sunday @ 9am – 5pm

LOCATION: GMHA Classroom, 4th floor

Please plan to be on time because it will be difficult for late students to catch up once we start. Students are expected to attend and participate in the entire course.

How to Get Ready

The PALS Provider Course is designed to teach you the lifesaving skills required to be both a team member and a team leader in either an in-hospital or an out-of-hospital setting. Because the PALS Provider Course covers extensive material in a short time, you will need to prepare for the course beforehand.

Precourse Requirements

You should prepare for the course as follows:

1. *Precourse Preparation Checklist*: Complete the precourse checklist that came with your *PALS Provider Manual*. Bring the checklist with you to the course.
2. *BLS competency*: Be prepared to pass the 1- and 2-Rescuer Child BLS With AED and 1- and 2-Rescuer Infant BLS Skills Tests. You will not be taught how to do CPR or how to use an AED during the course. You must know this in advance. The resuscitation scenarios require that your BLS skills and knowledge are current. Review and understand all 2015 BLS guidelines, especially as they relate to pediatric patients. You may find this information in the *BLS for Healthcare Providers Student Manual* or in other publications based on the *2015 AHA Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care* (see www.heart.org/cpr).
3. *Precourse Self-Assessment*: Review, understand, and **complete the Precourse Self-Assessment (mandatory) on the Student Website (www.heart.org/eccstudent)**. You will find the code to access the student website at the beginning of the *PALS Provider Manual*. **Print your scores (certificate) for the Precourse Self-Assessment and bring them with you to class.** This test consists of 3 sections: ECG rhythm identification, pharmacology, and practical application. Use this assessment to identify areas where you need to increase your knowledge.

4. *PALS algorithms and flowcharts:* Be familiar with the PALS algorithms and flowcharts so that you can apply them to clinical scenarios. Note that the PALS Course does not present the details of each algorithm.
5. *Supplement your knowledge:* Review and understand the information in the *PALS Provider Manual* and on the Student Website. Pay particular attention to the systematic approach to pediatric assessment, the evaluate-identify-intervene model, and the management of respiratory and circulatory abnormalities.
6. *Course agenda:* Review the course agenda and note course activities where you might need to supplement your knowledge before attending the course.

What This Course Does *Not* Cover

The PALS Provider Course does not teach CPR, ECG rhythm identification, PALS pharmacology, or algorithms. ***If you do not review CPR and if you do not learn and understand the ECG and pharmacology information in the Precourse Self-Assessment, it is unlikely that you can successfully complete the PALS Provider Course.*** You will not be taught how to read or interpret ECG rhythm strips in the course, nor will you be taught details about PALS pharmacology. You must know this in advance.

It is required that you bring your PALS Provider Manual to class; you will need it during each lesson in the course.

You may refer to the *2015 Handbook of Emergency Cardiovascular Care for Healthcare Providers* (optional), and you may bring it to the course to use as a reference during some of the stations in the course.

What to Wear

Please wear loose, comfortable clothing to class. You will be practicing skills that require you to work on your hands and knees, and the course requires bending, standing, and lifting. If you have any physical conditions that might prevent you from engaging in these activities, please tell an instructor. The instructor may be able to adjust the equipment if you have back, knee, or hip problems.

The Guam Memorial Hospital Authority is accredited by the California Board of Registered Nursing to provide continuing education for nurses. Provider Number CEP10826. The 2-Day PALS Provider Course is approved for 14 contact hours;

If you need to reschedule, this must be done 10 days prior to the course. Course fees will not be refunded for cancellations made less than 10 days prior to the course.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any questions about the course, please call our Education Office at 647-2350.

Sincerely,

Cassandra Castro
AHA/GMHA ITC Coordinator