

FAQ Repeated Skills Practice with Coaching.

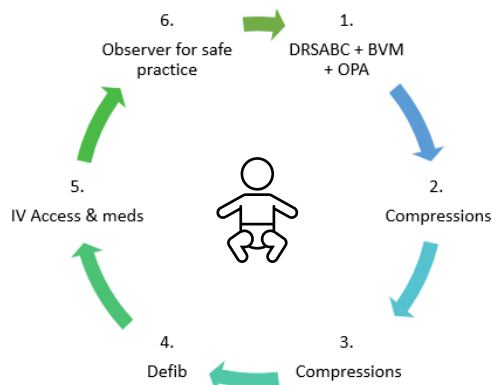
In 2024 APLS courses will transition to replace the skills assessments (BLS, Airway skills and Defib) at the end of Day 1 to a session called "Repeated skills practice with coaching". The aim of the session is that candidates will get further opportunity to practice these skills as a group until safe practice is achieved. Coaching, both peer to peer and instructor led, will provide candidates with supported practice to achieve safe practice of BLS, Airway opening manoeuvres, BVM & Defibrillation.

Some questions you may have:

What is the recommended order?

The first responder # 1 starts, responders 2 & 3 come into the left side of patient, responder 4 and 5 comes in be right side of patient. At the end of each practice candidates will rotate clockwise - responder 1 then becomes responder 2 and so on.

Repeated Skills Practice – clockwise rotation



Is there an allocated "team leader" or is this an organic process?

No allocated Team Leader - roles assigned as per above.

Is Responder 4 responsible for recognising and acting upon the rhythms on the defib?

Yes - the person on Defib would be responsible for recognizing & acting on rhythm.

Is Responder 4 responsible for recognising medications to be given when?

As with current practice either the person on Defib (responder 4) or Responder 5 or Instructor could initiate.

Does the same process occur during the cardiac scenarios on Day 1 - namely do all candidates in the group participate in each scenario, same questions about leadership and decisions etc...

No - we will conduct cardiac scenarios as we currently do. The slight modification would be the person doing compressions should swap at each defib check & provide effective CPR (not pretend).

Is there a safe defib reference for R6 and instructors?

The same reference we currently use Defib (COACHED/APLS), BLS (incorporating Airway opening maneuvers & BVM) assessments can be used as a guide.

There is a " Repeated Skills Safe Practice Guide" for the Observer R6 to use.

Why are we doing Practice with coaching vs single assessment.

Underpinning the APLS course is a basic assumption; that APLS candidates are practicing clinicians who are intelligent, capable, and interested in learning to provide the best possible care of critically ill and injured children.

Following the BLS/ALS and airway teaching in the morning of day 1 – further practicing of skills with coaching provides maximum opportunity for learners to refine techniques. It also gives opportunity to further clarify the criteria needed to self assess performance.

Educational research that supports this approach include those that

- promote deliberate practice with feedback/reflection to facilitate better skill attainment and retention,
- improved retained knowledge from group learning
- high levels of stress prior to retrieval impairs memory recall with single assessments
- spaced learning theory - the concept that learning is enhanced when knowledge and skills are repeated after certain intervals – hence repeating skills practice later in the day

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