



RECOMMENDATION FOR CONSIDERATION

Board Meeting Date: June 10, 2015

Subject: PHRN and PHPE ALS Skills Verification

VTR#: 0615-03

Committee/Task Force: EMS Education Task Force

☐ Recommended Goal

☒ Recommended Policy Change

☐ Other:

Recommendation:

ALS psychomotor skills verification should be integrated into the PHRN and PHPE certification testing process.

Rationale [Background]:

Currently certified Prehospital Registered Nurses and Prehospital Physician Extenders are allowed to practice as advanced life support personnel in the prehospital setting. However, despite working within the same scope of practice as a paramedic, the testing standards are different, and they are not required to demonstrate the same proficiency in invasive advanced life support skills such as intubation, intravenous/intraosseous access prior to certification. With the varied clinical and educational background of PHRNs and PHPEs the task force feels it is prudent to ensure that PHRN and PHPE candidates have the psychomotor skills necessary to perform as an ALS provider in a prehospital setting prior to certification.

This is not the first time this discussion has occurred in a PEHSC committee, a similar VTR was presented to, and approved by, the Board of Directors from the Nursing Advisory Committee in 1999. That VTR recommended PHRNs complete BLS and ALS skills verification through an ALS Service Medical Director or a training institute. The EMS Education Task Force would like to emphasize that this is still an important issue and the processes should be modified to ensure that all providers are able to show minimum competencies prior to certification. Members of the Nursing Advisory Committee were consulted and they reaffirmed their support for this concept.

Educational Concerns:

No educational concerns with adoption of this recommendation were identified as worksheets already exist for ALS psychomotor skills verification.

The PEHSC Committee/Task Force offers consultation to the Department in regard to the content of this Vote to Recommend (VTR) and its attached documents. The PEHSC Committee/Task Force specifically offers staff or member support to participate in Department deliberations regarding this recommendation in an effort to convey committee/task force discussions.

Board Meeting Comments/Concerns:

The ALS Skill Examination is not being recommended, only the verification of the skill sheet by the medical director.
VTR passed unanimously.

Signed: J David Jones
President JAS

Date 6/30/15

For PEHSC Use Only – PA Department of Health Response

Accept: _____

Table: _____

Modify: _____

Reject: _____

Comments:

Date of Department Response: _____