Course Description:

This is a comprehensive advanced cardiac life support (ACLS) course with an emphasis on airway management. The course is designated to develop skills for resuscitation of the adult. It will include strategies for managing and stabilizing the cardiopulmonary arrested patient. The course may include certification based on American Heart Association standards.

Text, References and Supplies:


Mistovich, *Advanced Cardiac Life Support*, Brady/Prentice Hall. 1998


Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon the conclusion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Discuss the primary ABCD survey
2. Discuss the secondary ABCD survey
3. Describe management of each step of the ACLS approach
4. Describe the principles and adjuncts of supplemental oxygen
5. Describe the techniques of airway control and management
6. Describe the techniques of ventilation
7. Perform ventilation to endotracheal tube, LMS, Combitube
8. Perform endotracheal tube intubation
9. Explain primary and secondary tracheal tube confirmation and protection from dislodgment
10. Discuss the human issues associated with CPR and ACLS
11. Discuss the ethical issues associated with CPR and ACLS
12. Discuss the legal issues associated with CPR and ACLS
13. Review basic cardiac life support BCLS/CPR
14. Describe what an automated external defibrillator (AED) does
15. List the four (4) universal steps of operating an AED
16. Describe in detail the universal steps above
17. Identify cardiac arrest (lethal) rhythms
18. Identify non cardiac arrest rhythms
19. Perform intermediate rhythm interpretation (i.e. bradycardia, blocks, atrial tachycardia, tachycardia)
20. Provide appropriate therapeutic intervention for cardiac arrhythmias
21. Explain the safe and effective use of a defibrillator to deliver shocks to VF
22. Explain the safe and effective use of cardioversion for unstable VT
23. Explain the safe and effective use of an external pacer
24. Describe major advantages and disadvantages of peripheral and central IV
25. Describe the techniques of intravenous therapy
26. Explain the use of appropriate resuscitation medications to:
   a. Correct hypoxemia
   b. Restore circulation and blood pressure
   c. Promote optimal cardiac function
   d. Prevent or suppress significant arrhythmias
   e. Relieve pain
   f. Correct electrolyte abnormalities
   g. Adjust acidosis
   h. Counteract effects of prescribed medications or illicit agents
   i. Treat congestive heart failure
27. Analyze trauma situations
28. Provide appropriate therapeutic intervention for trauma situations

Student Contributions, Responsibilities and Class Policies:

Each student will spend at least 6 hours per week preparing for class. Attendance is critical in this class and is outlined in the Midland College Catalog, the student handbook and the Respiratory policy handbook. All classroom performance and behavior will be considered academic.

Evaluation of Students:

A minimum of one comprehensive test will be given. Test questions will come from lecture, reading assignments and CD information. The test will be objective in nature. The mock code will incorporate all the knowledge and skills the student has acquired during the course. They will be responsible for directing the code to a successful conclusion.

1. Test 45%
2. Attendance, participation and attitude 10%
3. Skills exam (Mock code) 45%
Total 100%

Course Schedule:

The class meets for 1 lecture hour per week. Wednesdays from 10:00 am – 11:00 am.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the Shep Grinnan as soon as possible. Mr. Grinnan’s office is located in the Scharbauer Student Center Building. These conditions may include documented physical or educational disabilities. Please be aware that services or accommodations are not automatic. Each student must request them and secure the proper authorizations/documentation.

Last Updated: 12/29/2016
Division Information: Health Sciences

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