

## **ACLS for Medical Students Taught by Anesthesiology Residents: A Novel Approach to the Development of Residents as Teachers**

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**Learner Audience:** Educators of residents and medical students in anesthesiology.

**Background:** The concept of Physicians as educators is an idea that has existed since the dawn of medicine and remains one of the primary tenets and challenges of our profession. It is the obligation of modern residency programs to develop and foster teaching skills among its residents as part of their overall professional development. Recognizing the importance of residents as teachers, the ACGME included teaching by residents as a key component of the Interpersonal Skills and Communication core competency. We have developed a program to foster teaching skills for our residents while providing a valuable service to medical students enrolled at our university, a resuscitation and crisis management course taught by our residents.

**Needs Assessment:** Our program addresses three needs. First, to develop and foster the teaching skills of our residents in accordance with the ACGME core competencies. Second, it provides students with an opportunity to obtain ACLS certification within their fourth year curriculum. Third, by becoming AHA ACLS instructors, our residents meet and exceed hospital credentialing and residency program requirements.

**Hypothesis:** The development of a resident-taught medical student ACLS course will provide an opportunity for professional development among residents while providing a valuable service for medical students.

**Curriculum Design:** All CA1 residents in our program attend an ACLS instructor course and teaching academy as part of their orientation. The course includes core AHA curricula and emphasizes principles associated with adult education and simulation-based teaching and learning. After instructor training, residents maintain their AHA ACLS instructor credentials by teaching in our department's ACLS and resuscitation course for medical students.

**Outcome:** In previous years, residents with an interest in teaching have had the opportunity to become ACLS instructors, but this was not a requirement. Over the last two-years, all CA1's have received instructor training as part of their orientation. We are in the process of developing a mechanism for evaluating the impact of this program on the teaching skills and professional development of our residents.