



# MEDICAL CONTROL DIRECTIVE

## 2023-09

**DATE:** May 15, 2023

**TO:** Pinellas County EMS Agencies  
Pinellas County Emergency Communications  
Pinellas County Certified EMTs and Paramedics  
Pinellas County Certified Advanced Practice Paramedics, Nurses  
Pinellas County Online Medical Control Physicians  
Pinellas County Ambulance Billing and Financial Services  
ED Nurse Managers

**FROM:** Dr. Angus Jameson, EMS Medical Director 

**RE:** 2023 Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Recertification Process for Paramedics and Nurses

**DISTRIBUTION/TRAINING PERIOD:** May 17, 2023 - May 31, 2023

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 17, 2023

### ACLS Recertification Attendance Requirement

- All PCEMS ALS Clinicians must recertify ACLS during the recertification period regardless of their current ACLS expiration date.
  - Expires prior to the beginning of the recertification process
    - Must attend an ACLS class prior to the expiration date **AND**
    - Attend another ACLS class during the regular recertification process
    - This will align with the County's recertification cycle
  - Expires after the start of the recertification process (May 30, 2023) but before September 1, 2023
    - Must attend a regular recertification class prior to the expiration date

### ACLS Pre-course Self-Assessment

- A clinician must complete the pre-course self-assessment prior to attending the face to face testing date.
- The ACLS Pre-course Self-Assessment is accessed at <https://elearning.heart.org/course/423>.
  - A minimum passing score of 84% is required for the pre-course self-assessment.

- A paper copy of the pre-course self-assessment results, that reflects the clinician's name and score, **MUST** be brought to the face to face testing date
  - Cell phone pictures/screenshots will NOT be permitted

#### ACLS Face-to-Face Training

- All system Paramedics and RNs are required to successfully complete an 8-hour PCEMS taught ACLS Refresher class as required CME.
- Any Paramedic or Nurse who does not attend and successfully complete this refresher class prior to September 1, 2023, will be required to attend a full 16-hour PCEMS taught ACLS Provider class in September 2023 and may be subject to Clinical Restriction pending completion.

#### Remediation Opportunities:

- In the event a student is unsuccessful on either the written or practical, they will be allowed to retest the failed component one (1) time on the initial day.
  - Instructors will review the written or practical test deficiencies with the student prior to a retest.
- If the student is unsuccessful at two (2) total combined attempts (i.e., two written tests, one written and one practical, or two practical's), they will be required to attend the 16-hour full ACLS course.
- System clinicians who do not successfully complete PCEMS ACLS Training by September 30, 2023, may be subject to Clinical Suspension due to state requirement for ACLS certification.

#### Attachments:

- None

#### Distribution:

- EMSChiefs e-mail distribution group
- Vector Solutions
- Pinellas County EMS Office of the Medical Director Webpage [www.pcemsomd.com](http://www.pcemsomd.com)