



Update on paediatric resuscitation training for non-training grade anaesthetists

All trainees are encouraged to complete one of the national courses (EPLS/APLS) and this is usually included in job descriptions as essential criteria but senior anaesthetists attending the recertification days for these have commented that they are not particularly aimed at, or suitable for, anaesthetists. As a result APAGBI issued a statement in 2010, which underwent minor revisions in 2014, about suitable on-going resuscitation training for anaesthetists caring for children. We felt that scenario based training conducted in the local environment together with the local team would be more useful than simple completion of a recertification of APLS or EPLS. This gained immediate support from both the RCoA and AAGBI Councils when it was launched and was subsequently included in GPAS. A MEPA resuscitation scenario would certainly fit this model.

The Resuscitation Council (UK) has approved the following phrase to cover continuing resuscitation training updates for paediatric anaesthetists:

“Paediatric advanced life support training (EPLS/APLS or equivalent)”

This wording was also accepted by the CQC during the meeting on ‘aligning standards and guidance in children’s surgery’ held on the 13th April 2015.

The scenario training we have suggested is covered by this statement but has the potential problem of quality control, so we added that the training should be delivered by approved instructors, either as a full MEPA scenario or by qualified EPLS, APLS or MEPA instructors and approved by the Trust’s Resuscitation Committee, who should be best placed to assess the needs of their local staff.

The full statement is available on the APAGBI website at:

<http://www.apagbi.org.uk/publications/apa-guidelines>

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