1. **PURPOSE**

   1.1 To provide staff with the knowledge and skills they require to initiate or support emergency resuscitation of patients.

2. **POLICY**

   2.1 Successful completion of Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers course and registration is a condition of employment for all licensed nursing staff (RN/GN/RPN/LPN/GPNs) in Saskatoon Health Region (SHR) - acute care.

   2.2 SHR acute care licensed staff who are assigned to direct patient care will renew their BLS for Healthcare Providers at least every 2 years in accordance with Heart & Stroke Foundation of Canada (HSFC) guidelines.

   2.3 SHR acute care unlicensed staff (e.g. Special Care Aides), who are assigned to direct patient care will be provided with the Heart Saver CPR training, with renewal every two years, in accordance with Heart & Stroke Foundation of Canada (HSFC) guidelines.

   2.4 SHR Staff who are not assigned to direct patient care are not required to have CPR training but should be aware of their role in assisting with medical emergencies.

   2.5 Managers are responsible to ensure that regular renewal programs are available to all appropriate staff.

   2.6 It is recommended that staff working in Critical Care areas in SHR have training in Advanced Life Support training as appropriate (ACLS, PALS, NRP). HSFC guidelines require renewal in ACLS & PALS at least every three years. Neonatal Resuscitation Program guidelines require renewal at least every 2 years.

   2.7 Staff assigned to direct patient care are responsible for ensuring they maintain their skills in CPR by attending appropriate renewal courses.
2.8 The Manager is responsible to ensure maintenance of records indicating staff renewal at cardiopulmonary resuscitation courses.

2.9 Medical Exception – Staff are expected to meet the standards of the appropriate HSFC course up to the limits of their physical condition.

3. **PROCEDURE**

3.1 Refer to appropriate Student and Instructor manuals supplied by the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada for all procedures and guidelines related to course requirements of Resuscitation Programs.

4. **REFERENCES**


   American Heart Association (2006) BLS for Healthcare Providers


   Heart and Stroke foundation of Canada (2006) Instructor Resource for Resuscitation Programs in Canada