



ALERT™ HQ Newsletter

Summer 2018

Welcome to ALERT™ HQ Newsletter.

What's new?

Its been a busy year at ALERT™ HQ. We've welcomed some new course centres to our ALERT™ HQ Hub including:

- LV Home Care in Jersey who will be running both BEACH™ & ALERT™
- King Hamad University Hospital in Bahrain
- The Edinburgh Clinic who will be running BEACH™
- East Kent Hospitals who are running BEACH™
- Medway who have re-joined us after some time out. Welcome back.
- University South Wales

We also have made advances with BEACH™ into the Nursing Associate programmes at Bucks New University London who have incorporated BEACH™ into their curriculum.

New Scenarios

ALERT™ HQ has written two new scenarios that cover **Heart Failure** and **Delirium**. These will be available before the end of the summer for you to use and download from the management system. If you have anymore ideas for scenarios use the blank scenario template on the management system and send to us via email alert.course@porthosp.nhs.uk



Congratulations to the Royal Melbourne in Australia who have recently ran their first ACTION™ Train the Trainer Course. Well done to all involved.

Congratulations to Hamad International Training Centre, Qatar who entered their ALERT™ Course programme into quality of education public choice awards and came first. This is great news.



BEACH™ in Primary Care

The ALERT™ HQ team have made great progress introducing the BEACH™ Course into primary care by working in collaboration with Health Education England. Courses have already run across the Wessex Region and more are planned. Get in touch to find out how this course improves patient care in primary care and care homes.



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We recently welcomed some visitors from Tun Mun Hospital in Hong Kong for an ALERT™ course and TTT course. It was wonderful meeting them and showing them the ALERT™ concept to enhance patient safety for their hospital. We look forward to working with them in the future.



Course centre visits

With ALERT™ v5 update approaching ALERT™ HQ are planning on some course centre visits around the country. Our educators will be visiting to watch an ALERT™ course, chat to faculty and candidates and get your ideas on material for v5. We are looking for centres to get in touch and invite us to your centre, we want to hear from you.

Quality Assurance

Thank-you to everyone who submitted their course evaluations as part of the on going Quality Assurance process between April 2017—March 2018.

The results were very pleasing with the current themes stating the ALERT™ Course gave students more confidence and they would use the A-E assessment more in clinical practice .

We will continuing the QA process this year and will be randomly requesting one set of evaluations for one course per annum from each centre so please watch out for the email.

ALERT™ Administration

Please see attached updated ALERT™ Management System Guide where there is a new section added for requesting duplicate ALERT™ course certificates. We would also be grateful if you could inform us if there have been any recent changes to current Management System Users details so we can update our records.

[View Management System Guide](#)

ALERT™ is 20 years old in 2019

We will be celebrating ALERT™ 20th year anniversary next year, so there are plans for the network day to be held here in Portsmouth next summer where it all began. Date & venue to be confirmed. Please email us with your expression of interest in attending to alert.course@porthosp.nhs.uk





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NEWS2 Updated Scenarios & Observations Charts

The ALERT™ Suite of Courses are ready to help you implement NEWS2 within your healthcare setting. All existing and future scenarios will be available on the ALERT™ management system with a separate tab containing NEWS2 Observation charts and converted scenarios.

The updated version of NEWS2 includes:

- a new section on the NEWS2 chart for scoring oxygen saturation for patients with hypercapnic (often termed 'type 2') respiratory failure, to ensure the most appropriate prescription of extra oxygen if required
- recognition of the importance of new confusion (or delirium) as a sign of potentially important clinical deterioration
- a strong emphasis on the potential use of the NEWS to identify serious sepsis in patients with known or suspected infection, or at high risk of infection.

NEWS key	FULL NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF ADMISSION
0 1 2 3			
	DATE		DATE
	TIME		TIME
A+B Respirations Breathless	≥25		≥25
	21-24	2	21-24
	18-20		18-20
	15-17		15-17
	12-14		12-14
	9-11	1	9-11
	≤8	3	≤8
A+B SpO ₂ Scale 1 Oxygen saturation (%)	≥98		≥98
	94-95	1	94-95
	92-93	2	92-93
	≤91	3	≤91
SpO₂ Scale 2 Oxygen saturation (%) Use Scale 2 if target range is 92-95% or if patient has respiratory failure	≥97 on O ₂	3	≥97 on O ₂
	95-96 on O ₂	2	95-96 on O ₂
	93-94 on O ₂	1	93-94 on O ₂
	≤92 on air	3	≤92 on air
	≤90		≤90
	88-87	1	88-87
	84-85	2	84-85
	≤83%	3	≤83%
Air or oxygen?	A=Air		A=Air
	O ₂ L/min	2	O ₂ L/min
	Device		Device
C Blood pressure mean systolic BP only	≥200	3	≥200
	201-219		201-219
	181-200		181-200
	161-180		161-180
	141-160		141-160
	121-140		121-140
	111-120		111-120
	101-110	1	101-110
	91-100	2	91-100
	81-90		81-90
	71-80	3	71-80
	61-70		61-70
	51-60		51-60
	≤50		≤50
C Pulse beats/min	≥131	3	≥131
	121-130	2	121-130
	111-120		111-120
	101-110		101-110
	91-100	1	91-100
	81-90		81-90
	71-80		71-80
	61-70		61-70
	51-60		51-60
	41-50	1	41-50
	31-40	3	31-40
	≤30		≤30
D Consciousness Alert Confusion V P U	Alert		Alert
	Confusion		Confusion
	V	3	V
	P		P
	U		U
E Temperature °C	≥39.0°	2	≥39.0°
	38.1-39.0°		38.1-39.0°
	37.1-38.0°	1	37.1-38.0°
	36.1-37.0°		36.1-37.0°
	35.1-36.0°	1	35.1-36.0°
	≤35.0°	3	≤35.0°
NEWS TOTAL			TOTAL
Monitoring Frequency			Monitoring
Escalation of care (N/A)			Escalation
Initials			Initials

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National Early Warning Score 2 (NEWS2) © Royal College of Physicians 2017