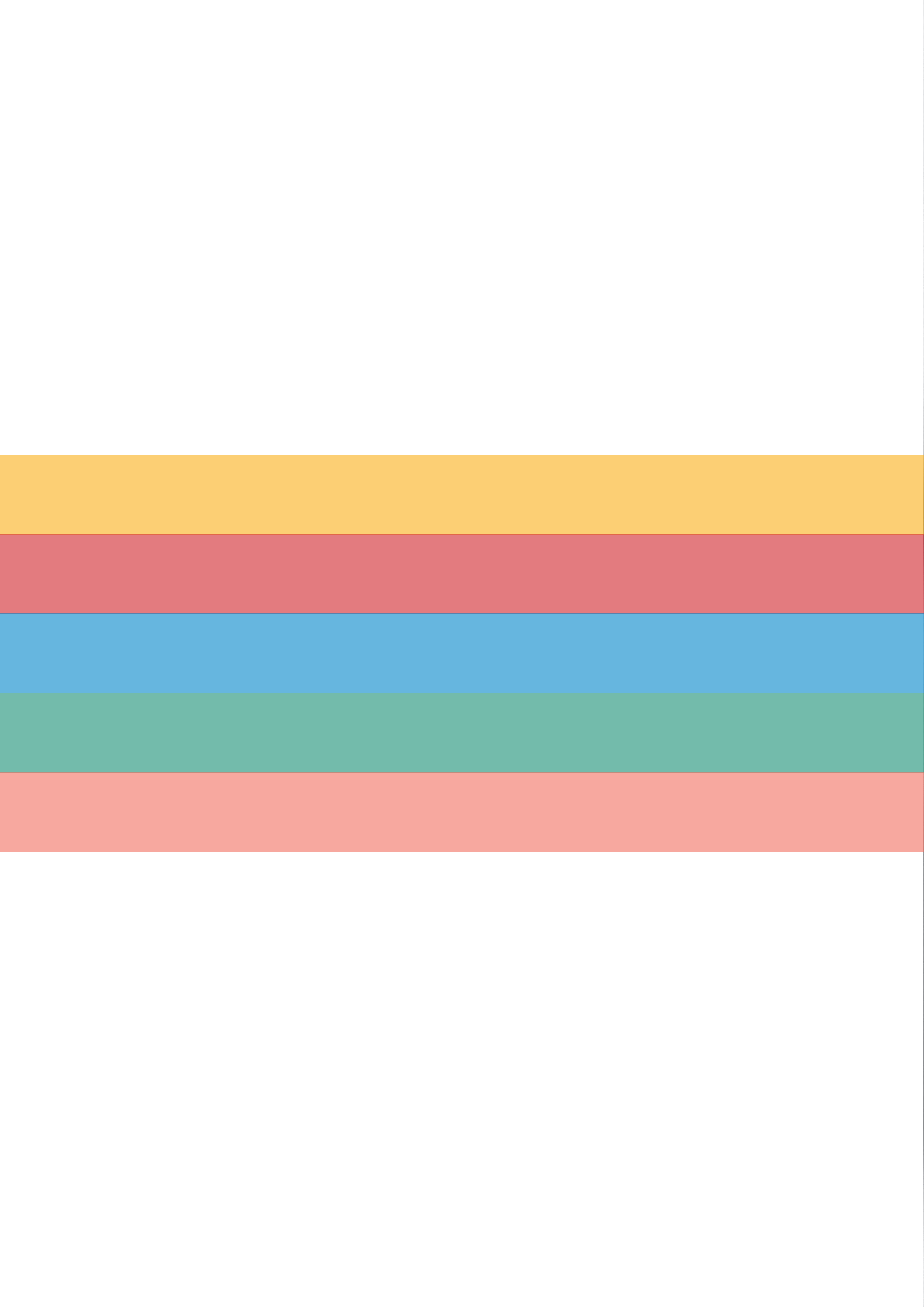


PORTFOLIO OF COURSES





A close-up photograph of a doctor's hand holding a silver stethoscope against a white lab coat. The stethoscope's tubing is coiled, and the chest piece is visible at the bottom. The background is a soft-focus view of the lab coat and the doctor's arm.

ALERT



®

ACUTE LIFE-THREATENING EVENTS RECOGNITION AND TREATMENT

The one-day ALERT® course is a multi-professional course created to teach clinical staff a structured and prioritised approach to the assessment and management of the acutely ill patient.

The ALERT® course was originally developed in 1999 by Professor Gary Smith and colleagues in Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust, with the most recent update having been launched in early 2020.

The course has now run successfully for over 20 years and has been delivered in over 100 centres in the UK and overseas, including Eire, USA, Middle East, Australia and New Zealand. More than 100,000 healthcare professionals have been trained worldwide. There is a body of evidence showing that recognition of the deteriorating patient by clinical staff is often delayed and/or not escalated to the appropriate person.

In the UK, national bodies have responded by recommending:

“Staff caring for patients in acute hospital settings should have competencies in monitoring, measurement, interpretation and prompt response to the acutely ill patient appropriate to the level of care they are providing. Education and training should be provided to ensure staff have these competencies, and they should be assessed to ensure they can demonstrate them...”

NICE clinical guideline 50
– Acutely ill patients in hospital July 2007.
www.nice.org.uk

“There is a strong body of evidence showing that delays in recognising deterioration or inappropriate management can result in late treatment, avoidable admissions to intensive care and in some cases, unnecessary deaths. Studies show that Hospital staff may not understand the disturbances in physiology affecting the sick patient; frequently ignore signs of clinical deterioration...”

Competencies for Recognising and Responding to Acutely Ill Patients in Hospital, UK Department of Health Guidelines March 2009.
www.dh.gov.uk

“People who use services can be confident that: Staff will quickly recognise when a person who uses services becomes seriously ill, physically and/or mentally, and requires treatment, and immediately respond to meet their needs.”

Outcome 4C Care Quality Commission's Essential standards of quality and safety March 2010.
www.cqc.org.uk

“Care before the cardiac arrest. Where patients continue to deteriorate after non consultant review there should be escalation of patient care to a more senior doctor. If this is not done, the reasons for non-escalation must be documented clearly in the case notes.”

NCEPOD. Cardiac Arrest Procedures
– Time to Intervene report June 2012.
www.ncepod.org.uk/cap



The course objectives are:

- To teach healthcare professionals a structured and systematic approach to the assessment and management of patients.
- By using a structured and systematic approach deteriorating patients will be identified earlier and care will be escalated to others when appropriate. This approach can reduce avoidable in-hospital deaths and cardiac arrests.
- To teach healthcare professionals that involving expert senior help early, such as Critical Care, will enable appropriate and timely intensive care unit admissions.
- To introduce tools to healthcare professionals which will improve team working and communication.

The course incorporates:

- A comprehensive reference manual which the candidates receive pre-course.
- Interactive presentations which are adapted to meet local policies and procedures.
- Practical demonstrations.
- Role-play of clinical patient based scenarios during which the candidates are encouraged to reflect on their actions and to consider 'What would I do next?'.

The course has:

- A blended, flexible, learning approach.
- A proven track record of delivery of more than 20 years.
- A multi-professional candidate applicability.
- A candidate course certificate that is recognised by deanery's, acute trusts and professional bodies in the UK and abroad.
- A straightforward programme to organise and deliver with minimal equipment required.

It is expected that the introduction of the ALERT® course will result in specific benefits to patients, their relatives and hospital staff, such as:

Improvements in the general ward care of patients.

A reduced number of cardiac arrest calls on general wards.

Earlier, and more appropriate referrals to the intensive care unit.

Fewer re-admissions to the intensive care unit.

Fewer avoidable in-hospital deaths.

Improved decision-making regarding the resuscitation status of patients.

Improved multi-professional teamwork.

Improved communication.

Fewer complaints from patients or their relatives.

Requirements to deliver the course

- Purchase of an annual license fee and manuals from Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust.
- Adherence to the course regulations which can be found on **www.alert-course.com**.
- Courses would be delivered locally by appropriately trained staff from your organisation.

Contact details

ALERT® Course Headquarters, 2nd Floor, QuAD Centre
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Email: alert.course@porthosp.nhs.uk

Website: www.alert-course.com







The one-day ALERT® course for Obstetric Patients is a multi-professional course created to teach clinical staff a structured and prioritised approach to the assessment and management of the acutely ill patient.

The ALERT® course was originally developed in 1999 by Professor Gary Smith and colleagues in Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust.

In the last few years, there has been call to build on this and introduce a course with the same basic principles into obstetric practice. The aims are simple: to identify organ failure at an early stage, to initiate simple treatments and to improve the communication skills of those involved to facilitate the escalation of care. Whilst the principles were founded in adult practice, many of these are still relevant to the obstetric patient. There is a body of evidence showing that recognition of the deteriorating patient by clinical staff is often delayed and/or not escalated to the appropriate person.

In the UK, national bodies have responded by recommending:

“Staff caring for patients in acute hospital settings should have competencies in monitoring, measurement, interpretation and prompt response to the acutely ill patient appropriate to the level of care they are providing. Education and training should be provided to ensure staff have these competencies, and they should be assessed to ensure they can demonstrate them.”

NICE clinical guideline 50
– Acutely ill patients in hospital July 2007.
www.nice.org.uk

“People who use services can be confident that: Staff will quickly recognise when a person who uses services becomes seriously ill, physically and/or mentally, and requires treatment, and immediately respond to meet their needs.”

Outcome 4C Care Quality Commission's Essential standards of quality and safety March 2010.
www.cqc.org.uk

“Care before the cardiac arrest. Where patients continue to deteriorate after non consultant review there should be escalation of patient care to a more senior doctor. If this is not done, the reasons for non-escalation must be documented clearly in the case notes.”

NCEPOD. Cardiac Arrest Procedures
– Time to Intervene report June 2012.
www.ncepod.org.uk/cap

The recent MBBRACE-UK Saving Lives, Improving Mothers' Care Report in December 2014 states:

“The reviews clearly illustrate that timely recognition of risk, the severity of the condition, accurate diagnosis, involvement of the correct senior staff from multiple disciplines, escalation and prompt treatment and action can make the difference between life and death.”

www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/mbrance-uk

“Staff who work together must train together:
Multidisciplinary training must integrate the local handover tools such as SBAR

All trusts must mandate Human Factors Training
On site training for the management of common obstetric emergencies, including haemorrhage, hypertension, deteriorating patients.”

Ockenden Report March 2022.
www.gov.uk



The course objectives are:

- To teach healthcare professionals a structured and systematic approach to the assessment and management of patients.
- By using a structured and systematic approach deteriorating patients will be identified earlier and care will be escalated to others when appropriate. This approach can reduce avoidable in-hospital deaths and cardiac arrests.
- To teach healthcare professionals that involving expert senior help early, such as Critical Care, will enable appropriate and timely intensive care unit admissions.
- To introduce tools to healthcare professionals which will improve team working and communication.

The course incorporates:

- A comprehensive reference manual which the candidates receive pre-course.
- Interactive presentations which are adapted to meet local policies and procedures.
- Practical demonstrations.
- Role-play of clinical patient based scenarios during which the candidates are encouraged to reflect on their actions and to consider 'What would I do next?'.

The course has:

- A blended, flexible, learning approach.
- A proven track record of delivery of over 20 years in adult patients.
- A multi-professional candidate applicability.
- A candidate course certificate that is recognised by deanery's, acute trusts and professional bodies in the UK and abroad.
- A straightforward programme to organise and deliver with minimal equipment required.

It is expected that the introduction of the ALERT® Obstetrics course will result in specific improvements in quality indicators including:

Improvement in the general care of the obstetric patient, from the first trimester to post delivery.

Earlier referrals to the intensive care unit.

Learning from previous national reports; lower mortality and morbidity of the obstetric patient.

Improved multi-professional teamwork.

Improved communication.

Fewer complaints from patients or their relatives.

Requirements to deliver the course

- Signing of an EULA and purchase of an annual license fee to deliver the ALERT® suite of courses.
- Purchase of the relevant course manuals from Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust for each candidate.
- Adherence to the course regulations which can be found on www.alert-course.com.
- Courses would be delivered locally by appropriately trained staff from your organisation.

Contact details

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BEACH

®

BEDSIDE EMERGENCY ASSESSMENT COURSE FOR HEALTHCARE STAFF

The BEACH® course is an educational programme designed to give clinical staff increased skills, knowledge and confidence in using a structured and prioritised approach in the initial recognition, assessment, care, escalation and handover of a deteriorating person within any healthcare setting.

The BEACH® Course is one of the suite of courses from the ALERT® Headquarters at Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust (PHUT).

The BEACH® Course is designed to give clinical staff who work in any health care environment where their role may require them to recognise and escalate the care of people who have deteriorated, increased confidence, skills and knowledge to:

- assess a person using a structured approach, including observing and interpreting the softer signs of clinical deterioration such as changes in behaviour or routine
- recognise, respond and interpret physiological changes of deterioration in terms of their vital signs
- understand the principles of using an Early Warning Score (EWS) to detect deterioration
- act quickly to prevent further deterioration
- call for appropriate help and escalate in a timely manner
- effectively handover using a structured communication tool such as SBAR to appropriate help

The BEACH® Course can be applied to any clinical member of staff working in any health care environment. Roles within healthcare which may be suited to attend BEACH® include any clinical person working in an assistant or an associate role or any personal who has direct patient contact who could potentially act in a 'recogniser role'. These roles for example could include:

- Health care support worker
- Physiotherapy assistant
- Occupational therapy assistant
- Associate practitioner
- Nursing associate.

The 'responder' could be a registered nurse or other clinical member of staff who would be expected to respond to the deterioration and they are more suited to attend the ALERT® Course. The National Patient Safety Agency, (NPSA), have identified a series of links which contribute to deterioration in a person.

These include; not taking observations, not recognising early signs of deterioration, not communicating observations causing concern and not responding to these appropriately. In support of this The National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcome and Death, (NCEPOD), report in November 2015 ('Just Say Sepsis!') has most recently argued that an early warning score should be used in both primary and secondary care.

Early warning scores are increasingly being used as the basis for communication about physiology between all health care providers, enhancing and focusing the handover of technical information about patients, especially those at risk of deterioration.



The course objectives are:

- A structured and systematic approach to the assessment of at risk people.
- The physiology and importance of vital signs monitoring, prompts to initiate and how and when to recognise and respond promptly using an early warning scoring system.
- To undertake an A–H patient assessment using a ‘look’, ‘listen’, ‘feel’ approach.
- To understand the importance of your feelings and family when looking after a person who is deteriorating.
- To understand and interpret the ‘softer signs’ of clinical deterioration in people.
- The importance of a prioritised approach in the assessment, management and escalation of a person who is deteriorating, within their individual scope of practice.
- Their role in emergency situations and improved knowledge of key emergency equipment.
- To use a structured communication tool to handover effectively to the responder.

The course incorporates:

- A comprehensive BEACH® manual which the candidate receives at least four weeks before the course. This manual is then used as a workbook on the course.
- The manual can be used as evidence for continuing professional development and link to their career framework.
- Interactive workshops which can be adapted to meet the local patient safety agenda.
- Content which provides evidence to demonstrate skills and knowledge to support a number of the Care Certificate standards as recommended following the Cavendish Review (2013).

The course has:

- A blended, flexible learning approach with the ability to run the course as a half day or expand to a full day to enable bespoke topics, i.e. embedding organisational learning from incidents and human factors training.
- A nationally recognised candidate course certificate.
- A straightforward programme to organise and deliver with minimal equipment required.
- Endorsed by the intensive care society
- BEACH® record of learning which is a set of learning outcomes which are used as evidence of learning Comments from BEACH® candidates:

“Confidence in taking vital signs and reading them”;
“Extra knowledge of what to look for in a sick patient”;
“I like the look, listen and feel approach”;
“100% would highly recommend course - very good, should be mandatory

Requirements to deliver the course

- An ALERT® Course licence, which enables use of all of the suite of courses, and purchase of manuals from Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust
- Purchase of a BEACH® Course only annual licence and manuals from Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust
- Adherence to the BEACH® course regulations which can be found on **www.alert-course.com**.

Contact details

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AWARE



®

AWARENESS WHY ANTICIPATING AND RESPONDING IS ESSENTIAL

The AWARE® course aims to provide a clinically specific development programme for HCA's to improve recognition and management of the deteriorating patient through exploring roles and responsibilities, and developing underpinning knowledge and skills.

About the AWARE® Course

This course focuses on integrating basic skills with the overall role of the HCA, is linked to specific practice based competencies and provides evidence to support the 15 Care Certificate Standards and content mapped to reflect these standards. It aims to develop skills and knowledge that underpin competent performance.

It links to changes in work force demographics, increasing the effectiveness of workforce to enhance patient safety and promote high quality nursing care.

The course objectives are:

- Demonstrate understanding of principles and correct technique when monitoring physical observations
- Recognise and respond to physiological signs of deterioration in patients' condition
- Discuss use of 'track & trigger' systems, and the importance of accurate record keeping
- Explore strategies for effective communication
- Recognise key emergency equipment

The course incorporates:

- Accountability of the HCA
- Monitoring physiological observations
- Understanding blood glucose monitoring
- Fluid and hydration
- Record-keeping
- Importance of the use of an Early Warning Score (EWS), track and trigger systems and early escalation
- Effective communication and use of a communication tool SBAR
- Responding effectively in emergency situations

The course is supported by:

- Workbook
 - supports participation in class activities
 - supports learning activities in practice
 - can link to local competency frameworks
 - action plan for learning
- Practice based supervisor – locally arranged
- Monthly blood pressure workshops to provide additional coaching and opportunity for practicing skill – locally arranged
- Teaching manual for instructors

Requirements to deliver the course

- An ALERT® Course licence, which enables use of all of the suite of courses, and purchase of manuals from Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust
- Purchase of a AWARE® Course only annual licence and manuals from Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust
- Adherence to the AWARE® course regulations which can be found on **www.alert-course.com**.

Contact details

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PEACH



®

PAEDIATRIC EMERGENCY ASSESSMENT COMMUNICATION HANDOVER

The PEACH® Course will teach you simple assessment skills on how to recognise an unwell child and have confidence to know what to do.

The PEACH® course will give you the confidence and knowledge to be able to carry out a simple assessment on a child who is unwell.

There is nothing more scary than an unwell child and having the knowledge about what to do and knowing the best course of action to take.

On the PEACH® course you will learn:

- How to assess a child's airway, breathing and circulation using a structured assessment method which is used in all healthcare settings – particularly acute hospitals.
- How to recognise the softer signs of deterioration, using a look, listen and feel approach.
- How to evaluate common childhood illness and understand at what point it goes from treating at home to getting help.
- How to give the most appropriate escalation for the child, what help is needed and at what point. GP, 111 services or hospital.
- How to communicate your concerns. PEACH® will teach you a structured way to communicate your concerns so the receiver will understand the urgency of the situation.

PEACH® is a half day course and has been designed for anyone who looks after children, whether this be your own, your grandchildren, childminders, nursery staff, school teachers, playgroups or junior staff in clinical areas.



The course objectives are:

- A structured and systematic approach to the assessment of at risk children.
- To undertake an A–H patient assessment using a ‘look’, ‘listen’, ‘feel’ approach.
- To understand the importance of your feelings and family when looking after a child who is deteriorating.
- To understand and interpret the ‘softer signs’ of clinical deterioration in children.
- The importance of a prioritised approach in the assessment, and escalation of a child who is deteriorating, within their individual scope of practice.
- To use a structured communication tool to handover effectively to the responder.

The course incorporates:

- A comprehensive PEACH® manual which the candidate receives at least four weeks before the course. This manual is then used as a workbook on the course.
- The manual can be used as evidence for continuing professional development and link to their career framework.
- Interactive workshops which can be adapted to meet the local patient safety agenda.

• The course has:

- A blended, flexible learning approach with the ability to run the course as a half day or expand to a full day to enable bespoke topics, i.e. embedding organisational learning from incidents and human factors training.
- A nationally recognised candidate course certificate.
- A straightforward programme to organise and deliver with minimal equipment required.



Requirements to deliver the course

- An ALERT® Course licence, which enables use of all of the suite of courses, and purchase of manuals from Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust
- Purchase of a PEACH® Course only annual licence and manuals from Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust
- Adherence to the PEACH® course regulations which can be found on **www.alert-course.com**.

Contact details

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