

# National ECC Training Memo

**November 12, 2003**

**From:** Jo Haag, RN, MSN, Director, ECC Training

**Subject:** New e-Learning Initiative

Over the past few years we have heard from our healthcare training network about the rising costs of traditional training programs and the increasing demands on patient care staff. There are times when learners, instructors, and administrators may find traditional training courses inconvenient due to the realities of everyday working life. The AHA e-Learning Initiative provides additional ways to deliver AHA educational and training programs. A product for each discipline (BLS-Healthcare Provider, ACLS and PALS) is currently in development. We are excited about the great opportunities this initiative brings to you, the AHA training network.

By definition, e-learning covers a wide set of applications and processes, such as Web-based learning, computer-based learning, virtual classrooms, and digital collaboration. It includes the delivery of content via Internet, intranet/extranet, audio- and videotape, DVD, satellite broadcast, interactive TV, and CD-ROM. From this definition, you can see that the AHA already offers e-learning in their traditional training and educational programs. (i.e. course videotapes and DVDs, Coping w/Death, HeartCode, etc.) This new e-Learning Initiative launches our ability to offer training using the Internet and CD-ROM.

We have offered a sneak-peak of our first e-Learning product at the AHA Scientific Sessions Conference, in Orlando, Florida, which began on November 8<sup>th</sup>. An advance release of the new ACLS e-learning product, **HeartCode ACLS Anywhere** CD, was distributed to conference participants who are primarily physicians. This ACLS program uses a new technology called microsimulation. A full launch of the product will not occur until early 2004.

The **HeartCode ACLS Anywhere** program consists of two parts. The first part is the CD based cognitive component that allows the user to work through the ACLS training curriculum at his/her own pace. The second part is the very important skills verification process that can only be performed at an ACLS Training Center by an AHA ACLS instructor. Within the next few days the specific information and forms to complete the skills checks will be distributed to the training network.

Existing HeartCode System customers will be receiving a software update that includes the new microsimulation used on the CD product. A letter explaining the details of the HeartCode System update and the new **HeartCode ACLS Anywhere** has been sent via regular mail to current HeartCode customers.

While the initial release of **HeartCode ACLS Anywhere** and the update to the HeartCode System software will use hospital-based images, in Spring 2004 additional versions and updates geared to pre-hospital providers and to the military will be available.

In addition to the **HeartCode ACLS Anywhere** program, we will be releasing an internet-based e-Learning program for the **BLS Healthcare Provider Renewal Course**. Initial release of this product is slated for January 2004. A PALS product is in development. Additional information on these two products will be shared in the near future.