

Adult Cardiovascular Assessment

Course Description: This module discusses the fundamental components of a basic cardiovascular assessment, including an evaluation of the skin, capillary refill, heart rate, and blood pressure. It also reviews signs and symptoms associated with hypertension and hypotension, as well as indications for orthostatic blood pressure testing. Treatment of chest pain and the role of cardiac accessories (pacemakers, implantable defibrillators, etc.) are also discussed. This course has the goal of facilitating knowledge and confidence in your daily cardiovascular assessments.

Course Objectives:

- Explain the fundamental components of a basic cardiovascular assessment
- Describe the significance of the skin and capillary refill assessment in relation to cardiovascular assessment
- List the pulse sites and normal parameters
- Describe how blood pressure works
- Differentiate the signs and symptoms of hypertension and hypotension
- List the two different types of heart valves and their locations
- Discuss the heart sounds and relate the sites of auscultation to the underlying cardiac valves
- Discuss chest pain interview techniques
- Describe the role of the various cardiac accessories
- Provide tips for documenting your daily cardiovascular assessments