

Resuscitation Council UK statement on “Following on from Saving Babies’ Lives Version Three and NHS England Core Competency Framework Version Two”

The statement is for organisations delivering in-house training for Neonatal Basic Life Support updates.

Resuscitation Council UK (RCUK) welcomes the “Following on from Saving Babies’ Lives Version Three and NHS England Core Competency Framework Version Two” documents, which provides key care delivery recommendations for those caring for mothers and babies during pregnancy and delivery.

RCUK recognises the potential challenges organisations may face when implementing Module 6: Neonatal basic life support sets out minimum standards. Specifically, within this document, it states:

“Only registered RC-trained instructors should deliver their local NLS courses and the in-house neonatal life support annual updates”.

RCUK advises organisations to consider the following:

- Annual neonatal resuscitation training should follow the RCUK’s Newborn resuscitation and support of transition of infants at birth Guidelines and Quality Standard recommendations (<https://www.resus.org.uk/library/2021-resuscitation-guidelines/newborn-resuscitation-and-support-transition-infants-birth>).
- Annual resuscitation training should be overseen by NLS instructors whilst Trusts expand their pool of NLS instructors. Oversight includes annual update content and delivery review. This is a good practice recommendation rather than a mandate for training.
- To expand their pool of NLS instructors, Trusts that use NLS instructors for annual updates must support their local staff who are nominated as potential instructors on RCUK courses to attend the Generic Instructor Course, instructor teaching practices and subsequently maintain their registration as an NLS instructor.
- Annual resuscitation updates delivered by NLS instructors represents best practice; however, a shortage of instructors and a lack of recognised, allocated and remunerated time to complete annual update training could make this challenging to achieve. In the interim, as a minimum, annual updates should be delivered by an NLS provider with teaching experience and access to guidance and support from an NLS instructor if needed.
- Local annual resuscitation updates should be recognised within individuals’ job plans/included as working hours.
- Annual internal NLS updates do not replace the need for staff who attend or support deliveries to maintain NLS provider accreditation.
- Responsibility for annual in-house Neonatal Life Support updates remains with local Trusts.

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