

Mark Your Calendar With These Important Dates!



NRP<sup>®</sup>

Regional Trainer Bulletin

- Publication of the revised American Academy of Pediatrics/American Heart Association Guidelines for Neonatal Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care



OCTOBER 14th 2015

2015 OCTOBER 23rd



- NRP Current Issues Seminar in Washington, DC

- Launch of new NRP Database and Learning Management System



- NRP 7th edition *Textbook of Neonatal Resuscitation*, reference materials, online examination, instructor application, and online instructor course



SPRING 2016

2016 OCTOBER 21st



- NRP Current Issues Seminar in San Francisco, CA

- 7th edition mandatory implementation date
- NRP Regional Trainer title retirement



JANUARY 1st 2017

Spring 2015



*Dear NRP Regional Trainer:*

You have been a vital link between the Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP<sup>®</sup>) Steering Committee and local NRP efforts that have reached more than 3.4 million trainees in the last 28 years. Together, Regional Trainers and Hospital-based Instructors have conducted more than 741,000 courses in the United States since 1987.

The NRP Steering Committee began planning in 2012 for the upcoming seventh edition of the program by developing a strategic plan, focusing on instructor quality, and improving instructor education. Since then, the NRP Steering Committee has conducted a series of instructor surveys and focus groups. An NRP Instructor Development Task Force, consisting of Regional Trainers, Hospital-based Instructors and NRP Steering Committee members, was also formed.

**Based on survey and focus group results, these are the top items requested by instructors.**

- A standard approach to Hospital-based Instructor training
- Tools and resources to assist in NRP provider course planning
- Continuous and ongoing education experiences for instructors and providers
- Opportunities to network with other NRP instructors

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Instructors across the country also noted wide variations in the role of the Regional Trainer. This is largely because the original concept of perinatal regional care has changed dramatically since its inception in the late 1980s. NRP Regional Trainers were originally based in university medical centers to act as resources and advocates for Hospital-based Instructors within their perinatal region. Wide variation in what is now considered a “region” makes it nearly impossible to define the role and responsibilities of a Regional Trainer. In addition, instructors note that while there is a strong Regional Trainer presence in some regions, many areas have few, if any, Regional Trainers, making it a challenge to access instructor training and networking.

**As a result of these findings, the NRP will implement the following recommendations of the Instructor Development Task Force:**

1. Retire the Regional Trainer role. All active Regional Trainers will become Hospital-based Instructors effective January 1, 2017. This title change should not change the leadership and resource role you hold within your hospital, hospital network, or region.
2. Develop a standardized training program for new NRP instructor candidates, including an application process through the American Academy of Pediatrics and an online instructor course. The NRP instructor training process will incorporate mentorship with experienced instructors.
3. Provide new, better, and more up-to-date resources to support ongoing development of all NRP instructors.

The NRP Steering Committee understands that these are major changes in NRP instructor processes. Please be assured that these decisions were not made lightly. The goal is to continue improving instructor quality and educational resources for the seventh edition and beyond.

Sincerely,

Myra Wyckoff, MD, FAAP  
Co-Chairperson  
NRP Steering Committee

Steven Ringer, MD, PhD, FAAP  
Co-Chairperson  
NRP Steering Committee

## How Will Regional Trainers Continue to Support NRP®?

**BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2017, ALL REGIONAL TRAINERS WILL BECOME HOSPITAL-BASED INSTRUCTORS. HOWEVER, EACH INSTRUCTOR WILL RETAIN HIS OR HER EXISTING EXPIRATION DATE.**

The retirement of the title “Regional Trainer” should not change the current leadership role you hold within your hospital, hospital network, or region. Some Regional Trainers act as resources and advocates for the Hospital-based Instructors in the community hospitals of their “region,” while other Regional Trainers have no defined responsibilities within any network.

For Regional Trainers who function in a pivotal role as NRP resources and experts, the American Academy of Pediatrics title change to “Hospital-based Instructor” should not affect those job descriptions. If it is necessary to differentiate the expert role from that of other NRP instructors, your institution may decide on a title that suits that specific job description.

**When does this change take effect? How does it affect a current Regional Trainer's expiration date?**

Beginning January 1, 2017, all Regional Trainers will become Hospital-based Instructors. However, each instructor will retain his or her existing expiration date.

For example,

- A Regional Trainer with an expiration date of February 12, 2017, will become a Hospital-based Instructor on January 1, 2017, and must meet all renewal requirements to maintain instructor status by February 12, 2017. The next expiration date would be February 12, 2019.
- A Regional Trainer whose status expires December 3, 2016, must meet all requirements necessary to maintain Regional Trainer status by December 3, 2016. The NRP title still changes from Regional Trainer to Hospital-based Instructor on January 1, 2017. The next expiration date would be December 3, 2018.

