

Northwest Arkansas Community College
Division of Health
Paramedic Science Program

Discipline Code

EMTA

Course Number

1102

Course Title

Cardiac Dysrhythmias

Catalog Description

An introductory course in the recognition and interpretation of cardiac dysrhythmias. The course covers basic anatomy, normal cell function and properties, electrical activity of the heart and ECG wave forms, followed with a discussion of the mechanisms of cardiac dysrhythmias by their site of origin, e.g.: atria, junctional, etc. Recognition and interpretation are facilitated by the use of actual ECG strips in class and as part of homework assignments.

Prerequisite

None

Credit Hours

2

Contact Hours

30

Load Hours

2

Semesters Offered

S, F, Sum

ACTS Equivalent

A Non-Transferable Course

Grade Mode

A-F

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of course the student will be able to:

1. Describe the basic electrophysiological path of impulse conduction in the heart
2. Identify the key anatomical tissue along the cardiac electrophysiological pathway
3. Correctly label basic cardiac anatomical structures and vasculature
4. Understand automaticity and conductivity of cardiac cells
5. Describe the process of depolarization and repolarization of cardiac cells
6. Recognize basic cardiac wave forms as represented in a monitoring lead
7. Develop an effective system of step-wise dysrhythmia interpretation.

8. Accurately interpret common cardiac dysrhythmias as seen in adult patients
9. Demonstrate correct use of both automatic and manual cardiac defibrillators
10. Explain common signs and symptoms typically present in patients experiencing myocardial injury or ischemia

General Education Outcomes Supported

- Students develop higher order thinking skills.
- Students can employ a variety of sources to locate, evaluate, and use Information

Standard Practices Topics List

N/A

Learning Activities

N/A

Assessments

N/A

Grading Guidelines

Grades are derived from chapter exam scores.

Junctional Rhythms
Ventricular Rhythms
Atrioventricular Blocks
Pacemaker Rhythms
12 Lead

Forms of Assessment

Written Exams and dynamic exams using heart simulator.