

Feedback Devices



By January 31, 2019, the AHA will require the use of an instrumented directive feedback device or manikin for practice and testing in all AHA courses that teach the skills of **adult CPR**. This requirement will impact AHA BLS, ACLS, ACLS for Experienced Providers, and Heartsaver® Courses.

To meet the AHA's requirement, at a minimum, the device must measure and provide real-time audio feedback or visual feedback (or both) on compression rate and depth. This audio or visual information allows students to self-correct their skills in real time during both practice and testing.

Why is this change being made?

The 2015 AHA Guidelines Update for CPR and ECC highlighted research showing the benefit of feedback devices that provide learners with real-time, audio-visual corrective feedback on aspects such as chest compression rate, depth, and recoil.

Definition & Descriptions: Instrumented Directive Feedback Devices

An instrumented directive feedback device measures compression rate, depth, and provides real-time audio or visual feedback (or both) on these critical CPR skills. Optimally, feedback devices for CPR can also measure hand position, recoil, and chest compression fraction. A feedback device can be integrated into a manikin or serve as an accessory to a manikin.

There are many types of instrumented directive feedback devices available for AHA Training Centers to meet this requirement, including

- Those that can be added to and used with existing manikins;
- Those that are part of manikins;
- Monitors or defibrillators used with manikins; or
- High-fidelity manikins

Please note: The AHA cannot review or recommend specific equipment. AHA Training Centers should contact equipment manufacturers for any questions regarding the capability of equipment to meet requirement criteria.

What AHA Instructors Are Saying

“I think the feedback devices have helped students better understand and perfect their skills. They also are a tremendous aid to the instructor.”

“I think implementing the requirement is great! Students have told me that they were surprised to realize how deep they really needed to compress in order to be effective.”

“Great idea, it makes it so much easier to get the students to learn how to perform good effective CPR when they are getting instant feedback from the manikin”