



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY  
2300 E STREET NW  
WASHINGTON DC 20372-5300

IN REPLY REFER TO

APR 15 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE EAST  
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE WEST  
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA  
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE SUPPORT COMMAND

SUBJECT: The Sugar, Temperature, Airway, Blood Pressure, Lab and Emotional Support  
(S.T.A.B.L.E.) Program for Healthcare Providers Caring for Newborns and Infants

Infants born at non-tertiary care facilities without a Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) have a potential for an increased risk of developing complications after birth due to suboptimal resuscitation or poor access to specialist support. Infant clinical outcomes are optimized by the speed and efficiency of initial stabilization after birth, as well as transfer to appropriate tertiary care. The S.T.A.B.L.E. Program provides guidelines for resuscitation and stabilization at non-tertiary care facilities providing healthcare to sick newborns and infants and promotes the consistent use of clinical guidelines to achieve positive patient outcomes. More information is available at the following websites: [www.stableprogram.org](http://www.stableprogram.org) and [www.marchofdimes.com/professionals/682\\_11793asp](http://www.marchofdimes.com/professionals/682_11793asp).

The S.T.A.B.L.E. program was developed in accordance with research evidence-based guidelines, and is endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the March of Dimes, with program oversight by the Perinatal Advisory Board. S.T.A.B.L.E. training is recommended for all health care providers in labor and delivery or health care staff providing or potentially caring for newborns or infants. Additionally, all credentialed perinatal, pediatric, and labor and delivery staff complete the training regardless of platform assignment status.

Regional Commanders, Commanding Officers and Residency Training Program Directors will encourage maximum participation in training. Regional Commanders will ensure widest dissemination of training course times and locations to Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs). Naval Medical Manpower Personnel Training and Education (NMMPT&E) Staff Education and Training (SEAT) Liaison Department Head will act as a conduit for information and policy distribution between program managers and MTF SEATs. Local MTFs will ensure S.T.A.B.L.E. courses are scheduled and coordinated with the S.T.A.B.L.E. Program Manager and that health care staff will have training opportunities for patient safety concerns during resuscitation and stabilization. Funding for the S.T.A.B.L.E. program and training materials has been centrally funded by BUMED for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008.

The S.T.A.B.L.E. Lead Instructor Course will be offered once to each Medical Center in FY 2008. Course information, date, and scheduling will be coordinated through the local MTF's SEAT Department. Lead Instructors will be required to teach a minimum of two courses at local MTFs to maintain certification as Lead Instructors. Lead Instructors will instruct the S.T.A.B.L.E. Learner Course to their hospital staff caring for newborns or infants.

My point of contact is LCDR Vanessa Richards, M3C2, at (202) 762-0564 or [vanessa.richards@med.navy.mil](mailto:vanessa.richards@med.navy.mil).

  
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