

# Basic Life Support Exam A Answers 2020

## **BASIC LIFE SUPPORT EXAM A**

*(25 questions)*

1. While performing high-quality CPR on an adult, what action should you ensure is being accomplished?

- A. Maintaining a compression rate of 90 to 120/min
- B. Placing hands on the upper third of the sternum
- C. Allowing the chest to recoil 1 inch
- D. Compressing to a depth of at least 2 inches**

*Use this scenario to answer the next 2 questions:*

*A 53-year-old woman collapses while gardening. She is unresponsive, is not breathing, and does not have a pulse. A neighbor, who is an emergency medical technician, rushes to her with an AED.*

2. When the AED arrives, what is the first step for using it?

- A. Apply the pads to the patient's chest
- B. Clear the patient
- C. Turn on the AED**
- D. Press the shock button

3. After the AED pads are attached to the victim's bare chest, the AED detects ventricular fibrillation.

What is the next step when using an AED?

- A. Check the victim for a carotid pulse
- B. Follow the AED prompts**

## **Basic Life Support Exam A Answers 2020**

Basic Life Support (BLS) is an essential skill set that all healthcare professionals should possess. It encompasses a series of lifesaving techniques that are critical in emergency situations. The BLS Exam A, as conducted in 2020, tested individuals on their knowledge of these techniques, including how to respond to cardiac arrest, choking, and other emergencies. In this article, we will explore the key aspects of the BLS Exam A, its answers, and the foundational concepts of BLS that are crucial for immediate intervention in life-threatening situations.

# Understanding Basic Life Support (BLS)

Basic Life Support refers to the initial steps taken to aid someone who is experiencing a medical crisis. This can include:

- Recognizing cardiac arrest
- Performing CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation)
- Using an AED (Automated External Defibrillator)
- Assisting individuals who are choking

BLS is vital not only for healthcare providers but also for laypersons who may find themselves in a position to assist during emergencies. Knowing how to perform BLS can significantly increase the chances of survival for an individual experiencing a cardiac event.

## The Importance of BLS Training

BLS training is crucial for several reasons:

1. Immediate Response: In emergencies, every second counts. BLS training equips individuals with the skills to act quickly and effectively.
2. Increased Survival Rates: Properly administered BLS can double or triple a victim's chance of survival.
3. Confidence: Training instills confidence in individuals, enabling them to act decisively in a crisis.

## Overview of the BLS Exam A Content

The BLS Exam A tests participants on their knowledge and skills related to performing BLS. The exam typically covers several key areas:

- Recognition of cardiac arrest
- Performing high-quality CPR
- Use of an AED
- Management of choking
- Team dynamics in resuscitation

## Exam Structure

The BLS Exam A is structured in a way that assesses both theoretical knowledge and practical skills. Participants must answer multiple-choice questions, fill in blanks, and demonstrate their ability to perform BLS techniques correctly.

# Key Concepts and Answers from BLS Exam A 2020

To help you prepare for the BLS Exam A, we will outline some of the key concepts covered in the exam along with their corresponding answers.

## Cardiac Arrest Recognition

One of the primary focuses of the BLS training is recognizing when someone is in cardiac arrest. The key indicators include:

- Unresponsiveness
- Absence of normal breathing
- Absence of a pulse

Answer: If a person is unresponsive and not breathing normally, you should immediately call for emergency help and begin CPR.

## Performing CPR

High-quality CPR is essential for increasing the likelihood of survival. The steps include:

1. Check responsiveness: Tap the person and shout to see if they respond.
2. Call for help: If there is no response, call emergency services.
3. Position the person: Place the individual on their back on a firm surface.
4. Open the airway: Tilt the head back slightly and lift the chin.
5. Check for breathing: Look, listen, and feel for normal breathing.
6. Begin chest compressions:
  - Place the heel of one hand on the lower half of the breastbone and the other hand on top.
  - Keep your elbows straight and use your body weight to compress at least 2 inches deep at a rate of 100-120 compressions per minute.
7. Rescue breaths: After 30 compressions, give 2 rescue breaths.

Answer: The compression-to-breath ratio is 30:2 for adults, and the depth of compressions should be at least 2 inches.

## Using an AED

An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is a crucial tool in cardiac emergencies. Steps for using an AED include:

1. Turn on the AED: Open the AED and press the power button.
2. Attach the pads: Place the pads on the bare chest as indicated on the device.
3. Follow prompts: Allow the AED to analyze the heart rhythm and follow its instructions.
4. Deliver a shock if advised: Ensure no one is touching the patient and press the shock

button if instructed.

Answer: The AED should be used as soon as it is available and should only be used on individuals experiencing cardiac arrest.

## Choking Management

Choking is another emergency situation where BLS knowledge is essential. Recognizing the signs of choking and knowing how to respond can save a life.

Signs of choking include:

- Inability to speak
- Difficulty breathing
- Clutching the throat

Steps to assist someone who is choking:

1. Encourage coughing: If the person can still cough, encourage them to do so.
2. Perform back blows: For a conscious person, deliver five firm back blows between the shoulder blades.
3. Perform abdominal thrusts: If back blows don't work, perform five abdominal thrusts (Heimlich maneuver).

Answer: If the person becomes unconscious, you should call for help and begin CPR, starting with chest compressions.

## Conclusion

The BLS Exam A answers from 2020 reflect crucial knowledge and skills that every healthcare provider and layperson should master. The ability to recognize emergencies, perform CPR effectively, use AEDs, and manage choking can mean the difference between life and death. Continuous training and practice are vital for maintaining these skills and ensuring readiness to respond in an emergency. As we move forward, it is essential for all individuals to be empowered with BLS knowledge, fostering a safer community where everyone can contribute to saving lives.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the primary purpose of basic life support (BLS)?

The primary purpose of basic life support is to maintain adequate blood circulation and oxygenation to the brain and vital organs until advanced medical help arrives.

## **What are the key components of BLS?**

The key components of BLS include chest compressions, airway management, and rescue breaths.

## **What is the recommended compression-to-breath ratio for adult CPR?**

The recommended compression-to-breath ratio for adult CPR is 30 compressions followed by 2 rescue breaths.

## **How deep should chest compressions be during CPR for adults?**

Chest compressions for adults should be at least 2 inches deep and allow full recoil between compressions.

## **When should you call for emergency help during a BLS situation?**

You should call for emergency help immediately if you encounter an unresponsive person who is not breathing or not breathing normally.

## **What is the correct hand position for performing chest compressions on an adult?**

The correct hand position for performing chest compressions on an adult is to place the heel of one hand on the center of the chest, with the other hand on top, interlocking the fingers.

## **What should you do if an adult is choking and becomes unresponsive?**

If an adult is choking and becomes unresponsive, you should call for help, begin CPR, and check the mouth for any visible obstructions before giving rescue breaths.

## **Is it necessary to perform rescue breaths in CPR for adults?**

While it's recommended to perform rescue breaths in CPR, it is acceptable to perform hands-only CPR (chest compressions only) if you are untrained or uncomfortable providing breaths.

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