



## NEW TRAINING PROTOCOLS

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**DID YOU KNOW** that St. John Ambulance is in the process of updating training materials as the result of the new protocols released in December 2005?

St. John Ambulance is revising all of its training material following the release of the new resuscitation protocols in December of 2005. CPR and first aid guidelines are reviewed every five years by ILCOR ( International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation) to make sure that protocols follow the scientific evidence proven to provide the best care for someone who is having cardiac or breathing problems. ILCOR also looks at first aid for other injuries and illness such as burns, severe bleeding etc. In addition, the major training agencies in Canada (St. John, Red Cross, Lifesaving ,Ski Patrol and Heart and Stroke Foundation) jointly discussed the impact of these changes on training and the changes are reviewed by the national SJA Professional Standards and Accreditation Committee. Based on these considerations, protocols revisions are made to all relevant audio-visual and written material offered by St. John Ambulance.

With regards to our core courses ( Emergency and Standard first aid and CPR) footage for new DVDs was shot over a three week period in Vancouver in January and includes animated sequences as well as live action. The student activity books are being revised to better function as reference guides while still maintaining self and instructor directed learning. The First on the Scene manual is also being revised with a new cover and material on automated external defibrillation. Instructor Guides will be rewritten to capture the protocol changes and also to reflect new ways to deliver the curriculum.

What does this mean to patient care providers/ medical first responders? It is important to note that there are differences in protocols depending on whether or not you are a lay rescuer or a health care provider. Because St. John volunteers are being trained to medical first responder level you will be taught skills such as pulse checks and artificial respiration ( without compressions)- techniques that will no longer be taught to members of the general public. We are revising the curriculum for the Medical First Responder program so stay tuned for updates to your skill and knowledge!!

A more comprehensive look at the protocol changes can be found at the following URL (simply copy and paste into your browser.)

[www.americanheart.org/downloadable/heart/1132621842912Winter2005.pdf](http://www.americanheart.org/downloadable/heart/1132621842912Winter2005.pdf)

Celebrate the role of volunteers in our organization. It's National Volunteer Week—April 23 to 29, 2006.

**A heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

AN INFORMATION SHEET FOR ST. JOHN AMBULANCE