Date and Time: 4th June 2019 19:00- 20:00

Subject:  Advanced Life Support

This chat will be moderated by Patricia McCready (@TrishMcCready) on behalf of the BACCN using @BACCNUK, using the following hashtag: #baccnals

BACCN Twitter Chat was launched during the #BACCNConf2016 in Glasgow and it’s been great in exploring all your views and opinions on subjects that matters to us all.

The aim of the Advanced Life Support certification is for healthcare professionals to acquire the essential knowledge and practical skills to treat any adult in cardiac arrest. The present ALS incorporates the Resuscitation Councils 2015 Guidelines. Within Critical Care areas across the UK there are variations on what level their nurses are educated to, the three main levels being Basic Life Support (BLS), Intermediate Life Support (ILS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS).

All Critical Care units have medical cover, there may be times when the doctors will be required to leave the unit to review deteriorating patients within the hospital, attend the maternity unit and attend patients within the Emergency Department.

Critical Care units house the sickest and most unstable patients. When a patient has a cardiac arrest the actions of healthcare professionals are time critical. Whether a nurse leads the arrest or assists during the arrest their role can be crucial.

Question 1: To what level should Critical Care nurses be educated to?

Question 2: Should all Critical Care shift leaders have the ALS? Or is the ILS sufficient?

Question 3: Who should pay for nurses to undertake the ALS?

So let’s talk #baccnals