



SCST

Award in Practical Electrocardiography

Course information: The aim of The Society for Cardiological Science and Technology (SCST) Award in Electrocardiography is to develop proficiency in recording an accurate, artefact free resting 12 lead ECG. In addition the course will develop your understanding and basic interpretation of ECGs. The two day course covers the normal ECG, morphological abnormalities and rhythm abnormalities.

This is a 6 month course with 2 study days and 1 assessment day taught by Cardiac Physiologists aimed at any health care professional that has to perform a routine ECG as part of their daily task i.e. Healthcare Assistants, Practice Nurses, Doctors, Ambulance Service, Specialist Nurse, Accident and Emergency staff.

On completion of the two day course there will be a practical assessment of ECG recording including a short oral examination. Successful candidates will be awarded The SCST award in Practical Electrocardiography. The qualification is recommended by the British Cardiovascular Society and this has to be renewed every five years.

Learning Outcomes:

- Basic anatomy and physiology of the heart
- The conduction system of the heart
- Why, how and when an ECG is needed
- The normal ECG
- Morphological abnormalities
- Arrhythmias
- When to pass on or alert the "expert"
- Check the equipment is safe to use and know how to report faults
- Correctly position chest and limb electrodes in accordance with SCST consensus guidelines
- Correctly attach recording wires to electrodes and obtain an accurate artefact recording
- Recognise common recording errors
- Explain how to check calibration and standard recording settings
- Recognise the limits of operational responsibility and when to seek assistance.

Outline content:

- Cardiac A&P revision
- Cardiac conduction & the ECG
- Electrocardiography acquisition
- Limb leads, Chest leads. ECG paper, speed, calibration & how the filters work
- The normal ECG

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