



## NZRC Rescuer Framework – Information Sheet

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In the same way that knowledge and skills gained through life build on past learnings and experience, so too do knowledge and skills in resuscitation. Further, every rescuer has a given degree of practise with resuscitation and emergency care.

The New Zealand Resuscitation Council (NZRC) Rescuer Framework has used this philosophy to distinguish eight types of rescuer. This is not a prescriptive vocational guide, but rather a tool to help individuals see where they fit as a rescuer. Knowing this will allow you to find training in resuscitation and emergency care to meet your needs.

The NZRC Rescuer Framework is available at <http://www.nzrc.org.nz/training/rescuers/>.

### What is happening and when?

The NZRC Rescuer Framework redefines rescuers and replaces ‘Rescuer Levels’. It was released in January 2015 and is now in effect.

### Why has this happened?

The NZRC Rescuer Framework marks a change in the way we think and talk about rescuers. Rescuers are people with varying characteristics and roles. Skills and knowledge that might be required depends on who they are and what they do.

We believe that the NZRC Rescuer Framework more accurately reflects the involvement that an individual rescuer might have in a resuscitation attempt. This means that we are better able to suggest skills and knowledge that might be appropriate for a rescuer, and training that delivers such skills and knowledge.

### *From ‘Rescuer Levels’ to ‘Rescuers’*

Previous terminology, which classified people into ‘rescuer levels’, has been misused interchangeably with NZRC training and other curricula. Further, classifying people into ‘rescuer levels’ may not reflect their experience and exposure with resuscitation. This is undesirable and we wish to remove such ambiguities.

A schedule of the new terminology (‘rescuers’) is given below.

**Table 1: NZRC Rescuers**

Previous terminology	New terminology (‘Rescuers’)
Level 1: The untrained lay rescuer	Untrained rescuer
Level 2: Trained lay rescuers	Basic trained rescuer
Level 3: First responder	First responder
Level 4: The first health professional level	Health Professional – responder
Level 5: The second health professional level	Health Professional – early management
Level 6: The third health professional level	Health Professional – advanced rescuer
Level 7: The medical provider level	Medical Provider
Level 8: Advanced medical providers	Specialist Medical Provider

## Characteristics and people

For each rescuer, a set of likely characteristics is given. This is supplemented by people who may be represented by each type of rescuer.

Descriptions of characteristics and people are neither exclusive nor exhaustive.

## Skills, knowledge and training

For each rescuer, a relevant set of skills and knowledge in resuscitation is given. Descriptions of skills and knowledge are neither exclusive nor exhaustive. These are suggestions only and are not prescribed by the NZRC.

The NZRC Rescuer Framework aligns current NZRC training to the suggested set of relevant skills and knowledge. Training is not prescriptive; colleges, professional bodies and healthcare providers continue to mandate the professional and training requirements expected of their members or staff.

Existing NZRC course offerings are unchanged.

## What does this mean for you?

Some colleges, professional bodies and healthcare providers have mandated NZRC training as a professional requirement for their members or staff. The Certificate of Resuscitation and Emergency Care (CORE) is our qualification for health professionals.

- Colleges, professional bodies and providers that specify NZRC training to a CORE level (or equivalent) as a professional requirement do not need to do anything.
- Colleges, professional bodies and providers that refer to an NZRC 'Rescuer Level' in their material need to be aware that this terminology *has* changed but should not affect the NZRC training recommended for members, staff or clients.

## How can I find out more?

The NZRC Rescuer Framework is available at <http://www.nzrc.org.nz/training/rescuers/>.

If you require further information or advice, please contact Lachlan McKenzie, Communications Officer at [comms@nzrc.org.nz](mailto:comms@nzrc.org.nz) or on (04) 499 6692.