

## **Blood Gas Interpretation (Global)**

**Course Description:** This module briefly surveys the physiology of gas exchange and partial pressures, and presents steps for doing rapid blood- gas interpretations. It will give you a clinical understanding of metabolic acidosis-alkalosis and respiratory acidosis-alkalosis, with exercises in differentiation. It also uses a case scenario to exercise the student's understanding.

### **Course Objectives:**

- Explain the physiology of gas exchange at the alveolar level
- Describe the process of lactic acidosis and the levels of compensation
- Describe the physiology, etiology, and causes of metabolic acidosis-alkalosis and respiratory acidosis-alkalosis
- Perform basic blood-gas interpretation, based on the steps described in this module
- Review potential corrective actions for a pH that is acidotic or alkalotic
- Describe procedures for Allen test, insertion, removal, and care of an arterial line