Vasopressors Learning Objectives

Vasopressor Indications
- Understand the importance of hypotension and tissue hypoperfusion as an indication for pressor therapy
- Calculate mean arterial pressure and understand its relationship to cardiac output and systemic vascular resistance
- Recognize the four major types of shock and their causes
- Understand the roles of vasopressors and volume in the treatment of shock

Physiologic Effects of Vasopressors
- Describe the effects of different types of adrenergic receptors
- List the effects of specific vasopressors on the different adrenergic receptors
- Recognize the net physiologic effects of specific vasopressors
- Understand the actions of vasopressin

Vasopressors for Shock States
- Understand the pathophysiology of cardiogenic shock and septic shock
- Appropriately utilize vasopressors and other cardioactive medications in cardiogenic shock
- Appropriately utilize vasopressors in management of septic shock
- Monitor and target the use of vasopressors in shock states
- Utilize appropriate dosing of specific vasopressor agents

Vasopressor Complications
- Describe potential complications associated with alpha-1 adrenergic stimulation
- Describe potential complications associated with beta-1 adrenergic stimulation