

AED Usage Guide

This guide provides a step-by-step procedure for using an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) during sudden cardiac arrest situations. It covers preparation, proper pad placement, and aftercare to ensure safety and effectiveness.

Step 1: **Preparation**

Ensure the environment is safe for you and the victim. Call emergency services immediately or instruct someone else to do so. Retrieve the AED unit.

Step 2: **Power on**

Turn on the AED device by pressing the power button, or by opening the lid, depending on the model.

Step 3: **Expose chest**

Remove any clothing covering the victim's chest to ensure proper pad placement. If necessary, quickly wipe the chest dry.

Step 4: **Place pads**

Attach the AED pads to the victim's bare chest, following the diagrams provided on the pads. One pad should be placed on the victim's upper right chest, and the other on the lower left side.

Step 5: **Clear area**

Ensure that no one is touching the victim or is within close proximity. Announce loudly that a shock is about to be delivered.

Step 6: **Analyze rhythm**

Allow the AED to analyze the cardiac rhythm. If a shock is advised, wait for the AED to charge if necessary.

Step 7: **Deliver shock**

Once the AED is charged and ready, and after confirming everyone is clear of contact with the victim, press the 'shock' button.

Step 8: **Perform CPR**

After delivering the shock, or if no shock is advised, begin CPR immediately, following the AED's voice instructions for compression rate and depth.

Step 9: **Repeat analysis**

Follow the AED prompts. The AED will indicate when to pause CPR and will check the heart rhythm for changes, repeating the analysis and shock cycle if needed.

Step 10: **Aftercare**

Continue following the AED and dispatch instructions until emergency personnel arrive and take over. If the victim recovers, keep them calm and still until help arrives.

General Notes

Battery Check

Regularly check the AED battery and replace it according to the manufacturer's guidelines to ensure the AED is always ready for use.

Training Recommended

Proper AED training is recommended to enhance efficiency and confidence during an emergency situation.

Device Maintenance

Perform regular maintenance checks as indicated by the AED manufacturer to ensure the device is in working condition.