



Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) Awareness Program

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED)

Research studies have proven that a cardiac arrest victim's chance of survival increases with early defibrillation. For every minute that defibrillation is delayed the victim's chance of survival decreases by 7 – 10%. With this in mind defibrillators are being placed in high risk sites such as recreation centres, arenas, senior's centres and airports. At each site there are trained responders who will respond in the event of a cardiac arrest in order to provide early defibrillation. If there are no trained responders near by, YOU, as a GOOD SAMARITAN, may also use the public access defibrillator, which should be located in an easily accessible spot.



PRINCIPLE OF EARLY DEFIBRILLATION

The AED is used to deliver an electrical stimulus to the heart in order to stop all abnormal electrical activity temporarily. This may allow the heart's natural pacemaker to begin providing regular and effective electrical impulses. This will hopefully lead to a return of a pulse. The AED will only shock one of two (2) abnormal heart rhythms, which are VF (ventricular fibrillation) and pulseless VT (ventricular tachycardia). The sooner a shock is delivered the better chance of a full recovery for the victim.

If defibrillation is delayed by 10 minutes or longer the victim's chances of survival approaches zero. In most cities the time to emergency medical services arrival falls between 6 – 10 minutes therefore, you can see the importance of public access defibrillators in high risk facilities.

WHEN AN AED SHOULD BE USED

When a victim is found to be unconscious and without a pulse/ signs of circulation a first responder, such as yourself, may use an AED where it is available.

HOW TO USE AN AED

Be sure that 911 is activated early and then follow the instructions located on the case of the AED as well as the voice prompts once the AED is turned on.



- If possible the victim should be placed on his/ her back with their chest exposed.
- Turn on the AED
- Connect the AED cables to the AED pads
- Apply the defibrillation pads following the diagram on the package and/ or the pads themselves (check the expiry date first)
- You may be required to press the “Analyze” button depending on the type of AED, but listen for and follow the voice prompts
- Everyone should remain still and do not touch the victim while the AED is analyzing
- Before depressing the “Shock” button be sure that no one is in contact with the victim
- Continue to follow the AED voice prompts until help arrives



Legalities


A “Good Samaritan” law was passed in Ontario on April 27, 2001. This law protects individuals from liability if they “provide first aid assistance to a person who is ill, injured or unconscious as a result of an accident or other emergency, if the individual provides the assistance at the immediate scene of the accident or emergency.”

To date, no individual or organization has ever been the target of a lawsuit as the result of using an AED or implementing an AED program. The PAD program in our community meets and or exceeds all guidelines established by the Canadian

Heart and Stroke Foundation. The Cardiac Safe Community Program is managed by Lakeridge Health Corporation and Dr. Rudy Vandersluis provides medical oversight for this program.

The AEDs placed in Durham Region have instructions on the front of the response case that direct citizens in what will happen when the AED is removed from the rescue case. There is also directions on the response case that directs citizens to act as "Good Samaritans" in the performance of an AED application.

**IF A VICTIM HAS COLLAPSED,
OR HAS NO PULSE:**

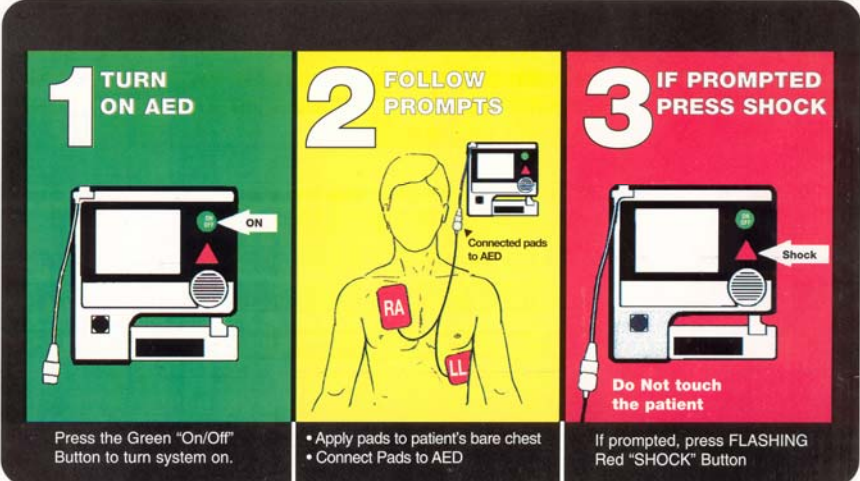


FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS

- **OPEN RESCUE CASE DOOR**
- **AN ALARM WILL SOUND TO INDICATE AN EMERGENCY SITUATION EXISTS**
- **REMOVE THE DEFIBRILLATOR FROM THE CASE**

THIS WILL AUTOMATICALLY CALL 911 AND EMERGENCY RESCUE PERSONNEL WILL BE DISPATCHED

- **AS A GOOD SAMARITAN YOU SHOULD:**



1 TURN ON AED
Press the Green "On/Off" Button to turn system on.

2 FOLLOW PROMPTS
• Apply pads to patient's bare chest
• Connect Pads to AED

3 IF PROMPTED PRESS SHOCK
Do Not touch the patient
If prompted, press FLASHING Red "SHOCK" Button