



OP 91.352: Employee Use of Automated External Defibrillators

Purpose

To provide Mississippi State University with a standard practice for performance of prehospital automated external defibrillator use when dealing with cardiac emergencies. These procedures follow the guidelines for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency cardiac care published by the American Heart Association and the Journal of the American Medical Association fulfilling the links of the chain of survival:

1. Immediate recognition of cardiac arrest and activation of the emergency response system
2. Early CPR with an emphasis on chest compressions
3. Rapid defibrillation
4. Effective advanced life support
5. Integrated post-cardiac arrest care

To provide compliance with Mississippi Code Title 41-60-33(Requirements and training for use of automated external defibrillator), the Medical Director, of the Longest Student Health Center will serve as the medical control authority (medical director) over employee use of AEDs.

Policy

This policy establishes minimum guidelines for prehospital automated external defibrillation for persons functioning under the medical control authority of the Medical Director of the Longest Student Health Center. All employees who are identified as prehospital AED operators shall meet the requirements of this policy.

Mississippi State University will make available automated external defibrillator (AED) devices for use by University employees when responding to sudden cardiac death or respiratory emergencies in accordance with this policy and procedure.

Procedure

1. The use of AEDs in the prehospital setting is limited to employees who have successfully completed an approved AED training program and have been approved by the medical director. Approved AED training programs may be offered by the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, National Safety Council, or other nationally recognized providers of courses in CPR and AED use.
2. AED training expires concurrently with CPR certification. Periodic AED practice is required. Successful performance of defibrillation skill on actual patients can be counted in lieu of this practice. The medical director or his/her delegate should maintain documentation of training and practice training.
3. AED devices purchased by any University department must be approved by the Medical Director.
4. All departments utilizing AEDs should also be equipped with extra defibrillation pads on hand with the device, latex or latex-free gloves, razor, and trauma shears.
5. AED operators are prohibited from operating manual defibrillators or operating AEDS in the manual mode. If the AED is equipped with manual override, it must have an access control device for use by authorized advanced life support (ALS) providers (EMT-Paramedics, RNs, or physicians) only.
6. AED operators may apply the device only if the patient is in complete cardiac arrest, weighs more than 25 kg (55 lbs.) and is older than 8 years old.
7. AEDs may be used for children 1 to 8 years of age who have no signs of circulation only if the AED is equipped for pediatric use.
8. Any person who renders emergency care or treatment on a person in sudden cardiac death by using an AED must activate the emergency medical services (EMS) system as soon as possible, and report the use of the AED to the medical director.
9. Once an AED operator initiates resuscitation and use of AED, patient care efforts must continue until a higher trained EMS provider relieves the AED operator.
10. When AED operators utilizing AEDs are present along with ALS providers, the ALS trained (and authorized) providers always have the authority over the scene in accordance with the Mississippi Law, Rules, and Regulations.
11. ECG rhythms should not be analyzed by AEDs if the patient is in a moving vehicle. Exception: The AED may be used in a moving vehicle if an ALS provider, by visual interpretation, confirms the presence of a shockable rhythm.

12. The AED operator is responsible for completing the patient care report including the following information:

- Approximate time of collapse and arrest.
- Time AED operator was in route to the scene.
- Time AED operator arrived at the scene.
- Time Basic Life Support and CPR was initiated.
- Time of all defibrillations by AED.
- All patient interventions performed prior to arrival of EMS or other ALS providers.

13. All AED use shall be reviewed by the medical director and audited by the medical director's designee. After all uses of AED, the device should be transported to the John C. Longest Student Health Center for downloading of the stored information.

14. Operation of the AED for patient care should follow the manufacturer's instructions.

15. Periodic care and maintenance of AEDs shall, at a minimum, be performed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

Review

This policy will be reviewed by the Director of University Health Services every four years or as needed.

REVIEWED BY:

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08/22/2016
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10/11/2016
Date