STUDENT AFFAIRS OP 91.352: Use of Automated External Defibrillators

Date: August 25, 2005

Purpose

To provide Mississippi State University with a standard practice for performance of prehospital automated external defibrillator use when dealing with cardiac emergencies on campus. 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 for early access, early CPR, early defibrillation, and early advanced care.

To provide compliance with Mississippi Code Title 41-60-33, the Medical Director, Student Health Center, will serve as the medical control authority (medical director) over main campus employee use of AEDs.

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

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 must be a defibrillator which: a) is capable of cardiac rhythm analysis; b) will charge and deliver a shock after electrically detecting the presence of a cardiac dysrhythmia or is a shock advisory device in which the defibrillator will analyze and display a message advising the operator to press a “shock” control to deliver the shock; c) must be capable of retaining and reproducing a post event summary (at a minimum the post event summary should include times, joules delivered, and ECG).

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. An ECG simulator should be available for practice training.

AEDs used by Mississippi State University will be compatible with the defibrillators carried in Oktibbeha County Hospital Ambulance Service ambulances.

4. 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.
5. 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.

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.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. Operation of the AED for patient care should follow the attached AED protocol.

13. Periodic care and maintenance of AEDs shall, at a minimum, be performed in accordance with guidelines printed in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) Vol. 264, No. 8, August 22/29, 1990, page 1024. AEDs shall be checked at least monthly and documented on a form approved by the medical director.

Review
This policy will be reviewed by the medical director, Student Health Services, every four years or as needed.

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THIS POLICY HAS BEEN SUPERSEDED