



HEALTH SCIENCES NORTH MEDICAL DIRECTIVE

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TITLE: **AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED)**
MD HSN 15

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Update Schedule: Annually, or sooner if required.	
Stakeholder Consultation and Review: Resuscitation Committee	Date: November 25, 2020
Chair, Nursing Professional Practice Council Chief Nursing Executive 	January 21, 2021
Approval: Dr. John Fenton Chair, Medical Advisory Committee 	Date: December 22, 2020

What

Controlled Act #7: *Applying or ordering the application of a form of energy prescribed by the regulations under the Regulated Health Professions Act.*

Specifically, to delegate Automated External Defibrillator (AED) certified health care professionals, non-regulated staff, and non-clinical staff members to apply the AED to persons in a cardiopulmonary arrest situation and defibrillate upon analysis and direction by the AED device.

Who

Delegator

Dr. John Fenton, Chief of Staff

Delegates

Health care professionals, non-regulated staff, and non-clinical staff members employed by HSN who have received training and are certified in the use of AEDs.

Where

Anywhere on HSN property or buildings leased by HSN. The locations of all AED and/or manual defibrillators with AED capability can be found on The Hub > Programs & Services > Emergency

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Preparedness & Security Services > Code Blue > AED & Crash Cart Inventory / Facility Coverage > Ramsey Lake Health Centre.

When

Any person presenting in cardiopulmonary arrest who meets the following criteria:

- Person is unresponsive/unconscious, no palpable pulse, not breathing normally (gasping, agonal)
- Greater than one year of age
- Does not have a known level of treatment order for **NO RESUSCITATION**
- The device analyzes the rhythm and instructs the user to defibrillate

Resources to Support Delegation

A Code Blue Team response for Advanced Life Support will be activated by dialing ext. 5555 upon determination of cardiopulmonary arrest and/or by accessing 911 as appropriate to the clinical setting.

Decisions regarding continued use of the AED will reside with the attending physicians or the Code Team Leader.

Contraindications and RisksContraindications

Delegation is not to be performed in the absence of a cardiopulmonary arrest and when:

- Person is responsive, has pulse and is breathing
- Child is less than one year of age
- Has a known **NO RESUSCITATION** treatment order

Risks

- Potential burns to the patient as a result of air pockets between the skin and defibrillator pads
- Potential operator injury and/or burns to patient's skin as a result of arcing caused by contact between defibrillator pads or other ECG electrodes, lead wires, dressings, transdermal patches
- Potential operator or bystander injury as a result of conduction of charge through liquid or metal (rare)
- Potential interference in rhythm analysis

Added SkillsPrerequisites

- Current AED certification
- Current BLS certification

Note: It is the responsibility of each staff member certified in AED application and use to maintain current BLS certification.

Certifying Personnel

- Clinical Leader/Charge Respiratory Therapist
- Clinical Educators – Radiation Therapy
- Nurse Clinicians (current or interim)
- Selected regulated health care professionals and/or educators as approved by the Resuscitation Committee

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Certifying personnel will receive education as follows:

- Clinical Applications Specialist (vendor) education on the AED/training equipment
OR
- Training by Nurse Clinicians who are current Heart & Stroke BLS Instructors including co-teaching (at least one training session) with the nurse clinician to verify competence and provide support as required

Requisites for Staff Certification by Certifying Personnel

Process	Education Content	Certification and Competency
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30-60 minute theory class on use and application of AED OR completion of self-learning package • Written test with 80% passing mark • Successful demonstration of the procedure (application and use of AED via simulation manikin) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical indicators and contraindications for defibrillation • Safe application of the delegation (assessment of individual knowledge, skill and judgment) • Equipment demonstration and troubleshooting skills • Safety measures and risks prior to and during defibrillation • Competency (knowledge, skill and judgment) in the skills relative to use of the AED • Limits within the application of the intervention • Predictability of outcomes of the intervention • Where to obtain resources to assist as required • Required documentation 	<p>Initial Certification Competency is achieved by successful completion of the AED certification</p> <p>Recertification Recertification is required every two years or with product updates</p>

Record Keeping

- Certifying personnel must initiate and maintain certification/recertification records for all delegates.
- Delegates must maintain documentation of their own certification/recertification. A Verification of Skill form will be signed by the staff member to verify professional responsibility and accountability in performing the delegated controlled act.

Documentation

Upon implementation of the delegated controlled act, the delegate will document the following information on:

Generic - Cardiorespiratory Arrest Record

- Defibrillation using AED
- Specific medical directive (**MD HSN 15**)
- Signature in the Code Team section

Generic - Code Team Leader Documentation Record

- Resuscitation events, including defibrillation
- MRP notified that patient/person was treated through a delegation
- Signature

Tracking/Monitoring Methods

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- Electronic incident form (CRMS) to be completed post cardiorespiratory arrest

Consultation and ReferencesPrimary Contact

Crystal Pitfield, Administrative Director, Critical & Emergency Care Program (on behalf of the Resuscitation Committee)

References

2015 ACLS Guidelines

AHA 2015 Guidelines for CPR and ECC

College of Nurses of Ontario Guiding Decisions About End-of-Life Care, 2009

HSN Code Blue Emergency Response Plan

HSN Generic - Cardiorespiratory Arrest Record

HSN Generic - Code Team Leader Documentation Record

PHYSICIAN APPROVALS

The following physicians have authorized patient care in accordance with this Medical Directive.

Physician Name	Signature	Date
Dr. John Fenton		December 22, 2020