CARDIO PARTNERS

Newsletter | February 2018



SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST (SCA)

Sudden Cardiac Arrest, or SCA, is a condition where the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating. This causes the blood to stop flowing to the brain and other fital organs of our body, as the heart is no longer able to pump and allow the blood to flow normally. When SCA occurs, it can lead to death within a matter of minutes.



SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is the #1 leading cause of death in the United States (CDC). SCA kills an adult every 1-2 minutes (National Center of Early Defibrillation), and it can happen to anyone, anywhere, at any time. Recent studies have shown that with the use of early defibrillation within the first 3 minutes of SCA, survival rate increases over 70%. Knowing how to perform CPR and use an AED can save someone's life, and we can help increase the number of lives saved by SCA dramatically.

USE AN AED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

When the AED arrives, you will need to place the pads onto the victim for it to analyze the heart rhythm. Most AEDs today will walk anyone through the step-by-step process of placing the pads on the victim, advising and delivering a shock if needed, and when to continue with CPR.

If you have an AED, and it is not registered into our AED Program Management portal yet, it is not too late! Our AED Program Management portal helps keep track of the expiration dates on your pads and battery of your AED machine, and allows you to stay in compliance with state, federal, and manufacturer requirements for maintaining your AED.

HOW TO USE AN AED

- Turn on the AED.
- Expose the victim's chest and wipe the bare chest dry with small towel or gauze pads (do not use alcohol wipes are they are flammable). If victim's chest is hairy, shaving the chest may be involved as well to ensure the pads attach securely.
- Apply the AED pads to victim's bare, dry chest. One pad is placed on the upper right part of the chest, and the other pad is placed on the left side of the chest.
- Let AED analyze for heart rhythm and do not touch the victim
- If AED advised shock, stay clear of the victim until the AED confirms "Shock Delivered." Ensure no one else it touching the victim as well.
- After the shock is delivered (or if no shock was advised), follow the prompts for CPR.

Pediatric pads can only be used on children under 8 years of age or weigh less than 55 lbs. Adult pads may be used on pediatric victims if pediatric pads are not available, or child is over 8 years of age or over 55 lbs.