Loudoun County Emergency Medical Services Council, Inc.

EMS Policy #11

Semi-Automated External Defibrillation (AED)

Origin: 08/91
Revision: 03/10

1. PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY

A. Be minimally certified in Virginia as a First Responder (FR).

B. Hold current American Heart Association "BLS – Health Care Provider" course completion documentation.

C. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age at the beginning of the training program.

D. Be an active member of a recognized Fire-Rescue EMS Agency in Loudoun County that is equipped with a LifePak 1000, LifePak 12, or LifePak 15, and authorized by the Operational Medical Director to perform the skill.

E. Successfully complete training in the technique and satisfy ongoing skill maintenance requirements as set forth in the "PARTICIPANT TRAINING" section of this policy

F. Performance of Semi-Automated External Defibrillation by FR's, EMT-B's, and EMT-E's is limited to the use of the Physio-Control LifePak 1000, LifePak 12, or LifePak 15.

2. PARTICIPANT TRAINING

A. Initial Certification

1. Attend a course in AED instruction offered by an instructor approved by the Operational Medical Director. AED courses will be scheduled by the individual EMS Agency.
2. AED instruction will be held in conjunction with the FR or EMT-B curriculum.
3. Complete a written examination with a minimum score of 80%.
4. Demonstrate skill competency when evaluated according to the approved practical skill checklist.

B. Participant Recertification

1. Recertification is required by January 31 of each year.
2. Complete a written examination with a minimum score of 80% and demonstrate skill competency when evaluated according to the approved practical skill checklist. Testing sessions will be arranged by the individual EMS Agency.

3. AED recertification is required of all recertifying FR's or higher.

C. Instructor Responsibilities

1. Only instructors endorsed by the Advanced Life Support Committee and approved by the Operational Medical Director may conduct AED courses for certification or recertification by the Loudoun County EMS Council, Inc. The EMS Training Division of Loudoun County Fire-Rescue Services will maintain a list of currently approved AED instructors.
2. Instruction offered shall comply fully with the content of the approved Loudoun County EMS Advisory Council, Inc., AED Lesson Plan.
3. Evaluation of students for certification or recertification shall be performed utilizing written and practical testing instruments approved by the Operational Medical Director.
4. An AED/King Airway Training Roster will be completed and submitted to the EMS Training Division of Loudoun County Fire-Rescue Services for each course or testing conducted within fourteen (14) days of completion. A certificate of course completion will be issued by the Loudoun County EMS Council, Inc., to all successful participants.

3. AUTHORIZATION FOR USE

A. All Loudoun County Fire-Rescue personnel, eighteen (18) of age or older, currently certified as FR's or higher, are required to maintain current Loudoun County EMS Advisory Council, Inc., certification in use of the AED.

B. Authorization to use semi-automated defibrillation is outlined in Cardiac Emergency Protocol #4, "Cardiac Arrest", and is limited to personnel certified in the technique by the Loudoun County EMS Advisory Council, Inc.

C. Improper use of Semi-Automated External Defibrillation (AED) will be brought to the attention of the Operational Medical Director, who will pursue corrective action with the involved provider's EMS Agency Chief, in concert with General Directive #1.

John I. Morgan, MD, OMD

Leo C. Kelly, PA, LCEMSC