



MEDICAL DIRECTIVE –

Advanced Life Support (ALS): Automated External Defibrillation (AED)

Approved by/Date: Medical Advisory Committee – June 23, 2015

Authorizing physician(s)

- LHO - Code Blue, Emergency Department & Critical Care Physicians
- LHB - Emergency Department and Critical Care Physicians
- LHPP - Emergency Department Physicians

Authorized to who

A Health Professional regulated by the Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA) who has successfully completed the annual certification process for Basic Cardiac Life Support certification inclusive of education in the application and use of automated external defibrillator (AED).

Patient Description / Population

Any patient or non-patient in a pulseless cardiac arrest situation.

- Patient unresponsive
- Patient not breathing or not breathing normally
- No obviously detectable pulse

Medical Directive Description/Physician's Order

Staff will immediately commence cardiopulmonary resuscitation upon discovery of a cardiac arrest situation. Once available, turn on the automated external defibrillator (AED) and follow the verbal instructions.

From the policy and procedure:

Apply the defibrillation pads to the patient's bare chest, ensuring that there is minimal interruption to chest compressions. Follow all verbal instructions as the AED will automatically analyze the cardiac rhythm and advise the appropriate action. If a shock is advised, the Health Professional must call out "**ALL CLEAR**" as indicated by the AED. The Health Professional will conduct a visual check to ensure that no one is in physical contact with the patient before the shock is delivered. Continue to follow the instruction provided by the AED.

[AED Pro Utilization Procedures](#)

Specific conditions/circumstances that must be met before the Directive can be implemented

The patient must have absent vital signs.



Contraindications to the implementation of the Directive

1. A Clearly expressed and documented advanced directive from the patient to not have resuscitation attempted as per the Resuscitation Status Policy.
2. Any aspect of the directive that contradicts the personalized preferences in accordance to the patient (or substitute decision maker). For example, that a defibrillation device not be utilized in the attempted resuscitation

Identify relevant Delegated Control Act or Added Skill associated with this Directive

To enact the Automated External Defibrillation (AED) medical directive, Health Professional will have successfully completed the annual basic cardiac life support education inclusive of the application and use of automated external defibrillator (AED). The application or ordering the application of a form of energy prescribed by the regulations under the RHPA 1991.

Documentation requirements

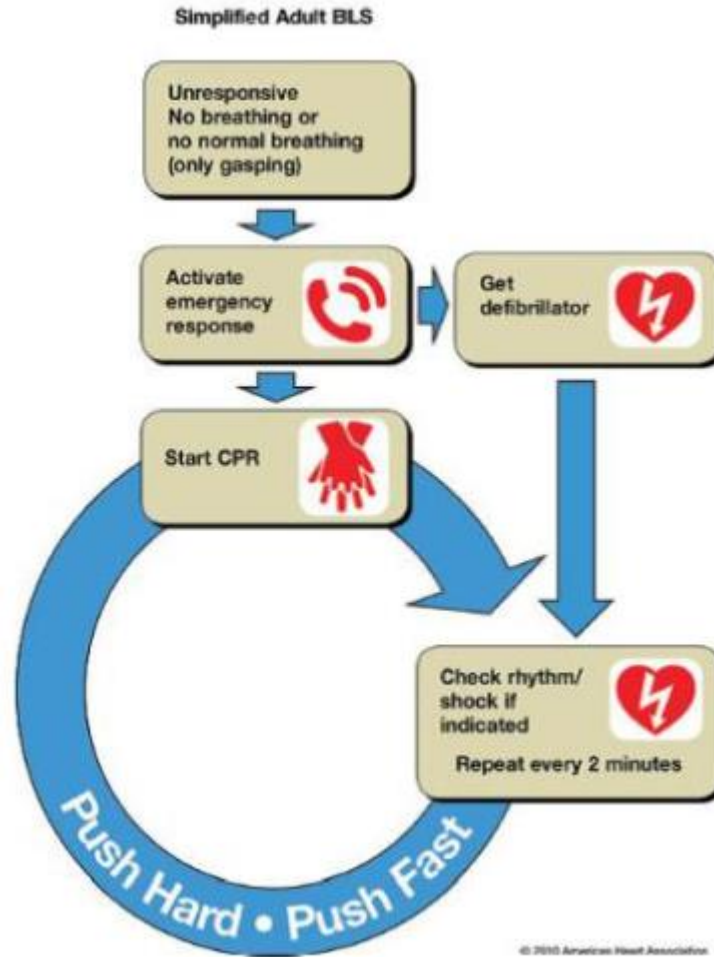
Documentation of the 'medical directive – Automated External Defibrillation (AED)' will be provided on the physician order sheet and in the health professional's documentation section of the patient chart.
Document on the Code Blue Record.

Review/Evaluation Process (how often/by who)

The medical directive will be reviewed every two years by the Section Chief of Critical Care, the Adult Resuscitation Committee and the Lead of resuscitation-paediatrics.



Appendix A: Simplified Adult BLS Algorithm





Related Documents

Resuscitation Status Policy

References

- American Heart Association (2010). *Advanced cardiovascular life support provider manual*. p 53.
- Medical Directive: Automated External Defibrillation (AED)**
Originating Committee/Council: Corp. Resuscitation Council – Jan 27, 2011 Page 3 of 5
Medical Advisory Committee: June 28, 2011
- Bloorview Kids Rehab (2008) Automated External Defibrillation – Either Auto or Semi-Auto, Medical Directive.
- Chan P., Krumholtz H., Nichol G., & Nallamothu, B., (2008). *Delayed time to Defibrillation after in-hospital cardiac arrest.*: New England Journal of Medicine, 358: 9-17.
- College of Nurses of Ontario (2007). AEDs: What nurses should consider. *The Standard* Winter 2007. p.18.
- College of Nurses of Ontario (2009). *Legislation and Regulation RHPA: Scope of Practice, controlled acts model. Reference document*. Retrieved from College of Nurses of Ontario Web site: www.cno.org/publications .
- Kayser, R, Ornato, J. & Peberdy, M. (2008). Cardiac arrest in the emergency department: A report from the National Registry of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. *Resuscitation*, 78(2), 151-160.
- Rouge Valley Health System (2006). Electrical defibrillation using automated external Defibrillator (AED) in a cardiac emergency. Medical Directive.