### 822. AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED)

#### 1. Purpose

An automated external defibrillator (AED) is used to treat victims who experience sudden cardiac arrest. It is only to be applied to victims who are unconscious, without a pulse and not breathing. The AED will analyze the heart rhythm and advise the operator if a shockable rhythm is detected. If a shockable rhythm is detected, the AED will charge to the appropriate energy level and advise the operator to deliver a shock.

The AED shall enable trained responders in the school setting to deliver early defibrillation to victims in the first critical moments after a sudden cardiac arrest. Responders’ use of the AED should not replace the care provided by emergency medical services (EMS) providers, but it is meant to provide a lifesaving bridge during the first few critical minutes it take for ambulance personnel to arrive. Upon arrival of the EMS providers, patient care should be transferred.

The AED shall be used in emergency situations warranting its use by individuals specially trained in the use of the device.

#### 2. Authority

Except in extenuating circumstances, each school shall have one (1) person certified in the use of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) during regular school hours when school is in session and students are present.

The automated external defibrillator (AED) units are owned by the district and shall be properly maintained and located in secure and accessible locations.

The automated external defibrillator (AED) units shall be used in accordance with approved district procedures. Medical oversight and prescription shall be provided by the school physician.

#### 3. Delegation of Responsibility

The district shall ensure:

- Selection of “First Responders”.
- Coordination of training for “First Responders”.

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- Coordination of equipment and accessory maintenance.
- Revision of AED procedure as required.
- Monitoring of the effectiveness of the system.
- Communication with the school physician on issues related to the AED program including post event reviews.

**Medical Control**

Spring-Ford Area School District School Physician is responsible for:

- Providing direction for the use of AED.
- Writing a standing order for the AEDs.
- Reviewing and approving guidelines for emergency procedures related to the use of AEDs and CPR.
- Evaluation of post-event review forms and files from the AED use.

**Authorized AED Users**

The AED may be used by:

- Any individual who has successfully completed an approved CPR + AED training program within the last two (2) years and has a current successful course completion card.

**First Responder’s Responsibilities**

- Activating the emergency response system and providing prompt basic life support including CPR and AED according to training and experience.
- Understanding and complying with the requirements of this policy and AED procedure.
4. **Guidelines**

The AED should be used according to the manufacturer’s guidelines on any person who displays all the symptoms of cardiac arrest. The AED will be placed only after the following symptoms are confirmed:

- Victim is unconscious.
- Victim is not breathing.
- Victim does not have a pulse or “no signs of life”.
- Each AED will have one (1) set of defibrillator electrodes connected to the device and one (1) spare set of electrodes with the AED.
- One (1) resuscitation kit will be connected to the handle of the AED. This kit contains two (2) pair of latex free gloves, one (1) razor, one (1) set of trauma shears, and one (1) facemask barrier device.

**Initial Training**

First Responders:

- Must complete training adequate to provide CPR and AED support to a victim. Training will be provided on site.
- AED training must be a course provided by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross. First Responders will also be trained in universal precautions against bloodborne pathogens. First Responders will be encouraged to receive a Hepatitis B vaccination. The district administration office shall maintain training records for the First Responders.

**Refresher Training:**

- First Responders will renew first aid and CPR/AED training every two (2) years on site.

**Medical Response Documentation**

1. **Internal Post Event Documentation** – It is important to document each use of the medical emergency response system. The following forms shall be sent to the Business Officer Manager, within twenty-four (24) (weekday) hours of a medical event:
   - A school nurse shall complete an accident report form.
2. External Post Documentation – Medical emergencies involving the use of an AED require special documentation. Any and all patient information generated during AED use must be collected into the patient’s confidential medical file. A copy of AED use information shall be presented to the medical director of the AED program within seventy-two (72) hours of the emergency. At a minimum, event information supplied shall include recorded data and any electronic files captured by the AED.

### Equipment Maintenance

- All equipment and accessories necessary for support of medical emergency response shall be maintained in a state of readiness.

- Specific maintenance requirements are the responsibility of the building nurse.

### Annual System Assessment

Once each calendar year the Spring-Ford Area School District shall conduct and document a system of readiness review. This review shall include review of the following elements:

- Training records.

- Equipment operation and maintenance records.

### Applicable Documents:

- SFASD AED Procedure.

- Infection control procedure for occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens.

- American Heart Association and American Red Cross AED Guidelines.

### References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1423, 1424

Civil Immunity for Use of Automated External Defibrillator and First Aid – 42 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 8331.2, 8337.1

Nonmedical Good Samaritan Civil Immunity – 42 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 8332