



RESPONSE TO CARDIAC ARREST AT DANES HILL SCHOOL

AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR USE AND ACCESS POLICY

Policy Statement

Danes Hill School recognizes that an Emergency Medical Response Plan is multifaceted and is designed to respond to life threatening medical emergencies in the first minutes before emergency medical services arrives. The elements of the policy include: effective communication throughout the school, a coordinated and practiced response plan, risk reduction and training.

Background

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) presents a potential life-threatening situation to students, staff and visitors and quick response actions and interventions like cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and proper use of an automatic external defibrillator (AED) within the first two (2) minutes significantly increases the chance of SCA survival.

Protocol for Individual School Responsibilities

Bursar

- Ensures that there is an appropriately trained AED/CPR Coordinator at the school.
- Ensures that periodical checks are being carried out on equipment

School Nurse/ Head Groundsman

- Ensures that there is the required number of CPR trained personnel in the school.
- Oversees the placement of AED's
- Ensures that the required staff are appropriately trained in CPR and AED use.
- Ensures periodic checks are done to better ensure safe and continuous operability and access to the AED. These checks shall include but not be limited to the following:
 - Weekly check: check the condition of the AED and accessories (including but not limited to the AED, the pads (infant and adult)
 - Monthly check: check pads and battery pack for expiration dates and AED signage throughout building.
- Is up to date in CPR/AED training
- Ensures that substitute nurses are aware of AED/CPR plan

Training

All volunteering employees and coaches will participate in a recognized CPR/AED initial training course which will include the following content:

Proper use, maintenance, and periodic inspection of AED.

Assessment of an unconscious person to determine if a cardiac arrest has occurred and the appropriateness of applying the AED.

Defibrillator safety precaution to enable the user to administer a shock without jeopardizing the safety of the victim, the user or other persons on the scene.

Rapid accurate assessment of the victim's post-shock status to determine if further activation of AED is necessary.

The role of the initial rescuer in the coordination of care for the cardiac arrest victim on arrival of EMS personnel.

Scenario based practice consistent with common scenarios that rescuers may face.

Routine AED maintenance, trouble shooting options and special situations that initial rescuers may encounter.

Location of AEDs

1. The Medical Centre: ext 235 – School nurse to check
2. Games department office: ext 229 – School nurse to check
3. The swimming pool office: ext 230– School nurse to check

When should the AED be used?

An AED should be applied to any casualty who is unconscious and not breathing normally.

Sequence of actions when using an AED

1. Make sure the victim, any bystanders, and yourself are safe. If two rescuers are present, assign tasks.
2. If the victim is unresponsive and not breathing normally:
 - ✓ Send someone for the AED and to call for an ambulance.
 - ✓ If you are on your own do this yourself; you may need to leave the victim.
3. Start Basic Life Support according to guidelines.
4. As soon as the AED arrives:
 - ✓ Place the AED near the casualty's head and switch on the AED.
 - ✓ Expose the casualty's chest (Open/cut off clothing and shave if chest very hairy.) Attach the electrode pads. If more than one rescuer is present, continue CPR whilst this is done.
 - ✓ Follow the voice/visual prompts.
 - ✓ Ensure that nobody touches the victim whilst the AED is analyzing the rhythm.
5. If a shock is indicated:
 - ✓ Ensure that nobody touches the victim.
 - ✓ Push the flashing shock button as directed.
 - ✓ Continue as directed by the voice/visual prompts
6. If no shock is indicated:
 - ✓ Immediately resume CPR using a ratio of 30 compressions to 2 rescue breaths.
 - ✓ Continue as directed by the voice/visual prompts
7. Continue to follow the AED prompts until:
 - ✓ Qualified help arrives and takes over
 - ✓ The casualty start to show signs of regaining consciousness, such as coughing, opening his eyes, speaking, or moving purposefully AND starts to breathe normally, or you become exhausted.
 - ✓ If certain the victim is breathing normally but is still unresponsive, place in the recovery position.

Special Circumstances

- ✓ If the casualty is in water, move to a dry surface and dry chest.
- ✓ If there is a lump/bump (implanted pacemaker) do not place pad over the area.
- ✓ In the case of a medication patch in the area, remove it and wipe the skin.

Post-incident Procedure

7. An employee involved should notify the School Nurse as soon as possible.
8. A designated employee should check the AED, restock the supplies immediately after the event and perform the after-patient-use maintenance on the AED.
9. The School Nurse or a designated employee should conduct an employee incident debriefing and document as indicated by school policy.

Periodic Maintenance- scheduled and after use

1. Inspect the exterior and connector for dirt or contamination.
2. Check supplies, accessories and spares for expiration dates and damage.
3. Check operation of the AED by removing and reinstalling the battery and running a battery insertion test.

Date of Policy: 1 February 2018

Date of Policy renewal; 1 February 2019

ADC