
Forsyth County EMS

Skill Procedure: Defibrillation, Automated

	MR / EMT	
	Expanded Scope EMT	
	EMT-I	
	EMT-P	

I. Clinical Indications:

- A. Non-traumatic cardiac arrest for patients > 1 year of age.

II. Procedure:

- A. Witnessed cardiac arrest: Immediately apply AED
Unwitnessed cardiac arrest: Perform 5 cycles of CPR, then apply AED
- B. Attach the cables to the AED unit and then apply the pads to the patient's chest in the proper position.
- C. **Stop CPR and clear the patient** prior to rhythm analysis.
- D. Allow the AED to analyze the patient's rhythm.
- E. If shockable rhythm identified by the AED, defibrillate by depressing the "shock" button. **Assertively state "CLEAR" and visualize that no one, including yourself, is in contact with the patient prior to defibrillation.** The defibrillation level is preprogrammed.
- F. Reassess the patient for pulse after defibrillation.
- G. If the patient remains pulseless, perform CPR for 5 cycles place combitube per combitube protocol and then repeat steps D – G if indicated.
- H. If "no shock advised" appears, perform CPR for 5 cycles and then reanalyze.
- I. Maximum 9 shocks prior to contacting medical control or arrival of EMS.
- J. Transport and continue treatment as indicated.

III. Certification Requirements:

Maintain knowledge of the indications, contraindications, technique, and possible complications of the procedure. Assessment of this knowledge may be accomplished via quality assurance mechanisms, classroom demonstrations, skills stations, or other mechanisms as deemed appropriate by the local EMS System. Assessment should include direct observation at least once per certification cycle.

- MR / EMT / EMT-D must complete evaluations as outlined in the Continuing Education Program.

Approved by:
Dr. R.L. Alson
Medical Director
June, 2006