

## **AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) PROCEDURES**

Use of the AED is authorized for emergency response personnel trained in CPR and use of the AED.

**The Powerheart AED should be used only on a patient who is:**

Unresponsive and not breathing

- Apply the Powerheart AED if victim is:
  - Unresponsive;
  - Not breathing

**Procedure:**

**Assess scene safety:**

Rescuers are not expected to place themselves at risk in order to provide aid to others, instead, the scene or environment around a victim must be made safe prior to attempts to assist.

Is the scene free of hazards?

Rescuer makes sure there are no hazards to them. Some examples are:

- Electrical dangers (downed power lines, electrical cords, etc.)
- Chemical (hazardous gases, liquids or solids, smoke, etc.)
- Harmful people (anyone that could potentially harm you)
- Traffic (make sure you are not in the path of traffic)
- Fire or flammable gases such medical oxygen, cooking gas, etc.

**Determine if patient is:**

Unresponsive and not breathing

**Activate EMS system:**

- At any public phone or cellular phone Dial 9-1-1 or local emergency number.
- Call main office and alert them to emergency and location of unconscious person.
- Main office staff will assign someone to retrieve AED and transport AED to emergency scene.
- The office staff will assign someone to wait at facility entry to direct Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to the victim's location.

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**CPR-trained individuals will assess the emergency and, if needed, begin CPR until the AED has arrived:**

- Follow American Heart Association CPR Guidelines

**NOTE:** If a rescuer is alone and the victim is a child under eight years old or under 25 Kg. (55 lbs) and has no known cardiac condition, perform two minutes of infant/child CPR prior to activating the emergency response system and getting the AED.

**Open Lid:**

Opening lid “turns on” the Powerheart AED.

**Follow Voice Prompts:**

- Stay Calm
- Call 911
- Tear Open Pads . . . (follow voice prompts)

Place adult electrodes on patients over 8 years old or over 55 lbs or Pedi electrodes on patients under 55 lbs.

Powerheart AED may say: “Shock *Advised*, Charging”.

**\*\*Remember that the Powerheart AED will not advise to defibrillate all pulseless patients. Some cardiac rhythms do not respond to defibrillation.**

Rescuer begins **CPR**

**Patient Converts to a Non-Shockable Rhythm**

If the patient regains consciousness, such as normal breathing and movement, place them on their side, in the recovery position, and monitor their breathing closely. Await EMS personnel.

Victim must be transported to hospital.

Leave AED attached to victim until EMS arrives and disconnects AED.

Upon arrival, EMS shall take charge of victim.

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### **Provide victim information**

Name, age, any known medical problems, time of incident, if available, current condition and number of shocks administered.

### **After use of AED**

Within 48 hours contact the program coordinator (T.E.A.M. Life) that the AED was used. Information will be downloaded by T.E.A.M. Life and forward to medical director.

The AED will be checked and put back in readiness state.

Clean AED per manufacturers directions, replace electrode pads.

### **AUTOMATIC AED SELF-TEST**

#### **Daily**

The Powerheart AED self-tests daily at 3:03 AM. The daily self-test checks the battery, electrode and majority of electronic components.

#### **Monthly**

The monthly self-test takes place every 28th day in place of the daily self-test. During the monthly self-test, the high voltage circuitry is tested in addition to the components tested during the daily self-test.

### **SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE**

#### **Daily Maintenance**

Check the "Status" indicator to ensure it is **GREEN**. When the indicator is **GREEN**, the unit is ready for a rescue. If the indicator is **RED**, refer to the Trouble-shooting guide in your user's manual. **If indicator is red, notify your agencies AED program coordinator.** For Technical Support (available 24-hours) please call your distributor, **T.E.A.M. LIFE, INC. (732) 946-4243.**

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## Monthly Maintenance

1. Open the Powerheart AED lid.
2. Observe the change of the “Status” indicator to **RED**.
3. After less than 5 seconds, verify that the “Status” indicator returns to **GREEN**.
4. Observe the expiration date on the electrodes.
5. Listen for voice prompts.
6. Close lid and confirm the “**Status**” indicator remains **GREEN**.

## Special Considerations

- AED’s are not to be used on:
  - Traumatic Death (obvious mortal injuries)
- Do Not Operate In or Around:
  - Water
  - If patient is on a metal surface
- Remove any transdermal Medication Patch on patient’s chest before applying AED.
- Electrodes should be placed 1 inch away from pacemakers and/or implanted defibrillators.
- Keep record of expiration dates of electrode pads and reorder when necessary.

## APPENDIX

Medical direction will include the following items:

- Review of the AED protocol/procedures.
- Review of response documentation and rescue data for all uses of the Powerheart AED.
- Oversight of the initial and continuing Powerheart AED training

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## References

New Jersey Public Access Defibrillation Law

American Heart Association BLS for Healthcare providers, March 2011

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