# AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATION (AED)

## PURPOSE

To identify guidelines for the use of the AED for all patients 1 year of age or older, in cardiac arrest. The overall goal of the AED program is to provide for rapid defibrillation and transfer of patients to care of an ALS provider as quickly as possible.

## FIELD ASSESSMENT/TREATMENT INDICATORS

All of the following criteria must be met prior to applying the AED machine:

Unresponsive, apneic, and pulseless (agonal respirations of <6 per minute)

One year of age or older

Have an apparent body temperature > 86 degrees F

If patient meets the criteria per Protocol Reference #14007 Determination of Death or Protocol Reference #14007 Withholding Resuscitation, AED application is not indicated.

## PROCEDURE

1. Initiate CPR for 2 minutes if time from arrest is over 5 minutes.
2. CPR is **not** to be interrupted except briefly for rhythm assessment. (For children between 1 and 9 years of age pediatric pads are to be used according to manufacture guidelines, if available. If not using pediatric pads follow all manufacture guidelines for use on the pediatric patient).
3. Check rhythm.
   a. If shocks are required, each shock should be immediately followed by 2 minutes of CPR.
   b. If additional shocks are not required:
      i. If patient begins to move, maintain appropriate airway and oxygenation, obtain and monitor vitals signs throughout care.
      ii. If patient remains unresponsive, apneic and pulseless, continue CPR for 2 minutes and reassess.
4. Continue care as indicated by patient condition until ALS providers assume care or patient starts to move.
5. BLS agencies may **only** transfer care to a provider of equal or greater level. If a BLS transport agency is not an approved AED service provider, the AED personnel must accompany the patient with the appropriate equipment.

## DOCUMENTATION AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

1. For BLS agencies an ICEMA approved patient care report form and data collection device shall be completed per Protocol Reference # 14012 Requirements for the Initiation, Completion, Review and Retention of Records.
2. For PS-D agencies, documentation must be made on approved form.
3. Use of the AED shall be evaluated by the provider agency through their QIP plan and all data will be used to compile the annual report to ICEMA.

### Special Note

AED Units should be programmed to the latest 2005 AHA Guidelines for CPR and Emergency Cardiac Care standards for defibrillation for adults and pediatrics, no later than 06/30/2007. Until personnel and equipment have been updated to the new guidelines, agencies should continue to perform CPR as trained and follow the AED prompts as directed.

**APPROVED**

8/28/16
ICEMA Interim Medical Director Date

8/28/16
ICEMA Executive Director Date