

	LOWER MERION TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT Ardmore, Pennsylvania	
	Policy 3.21.5	
Subject:		Distribution:
Automated External Defibrillators		All Personnel
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By Authority of:		
		Superintendent of Police

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish policy, procedures and responsibility for the use of Automated External Defibrillators (AED).

POLICY

Sudden cardiac arrest is a major cause of death in the United States. Abnormal heart rhythms cause most sudden cardiac arrests. A critical step in treating victims suffering from heart arrhythmia is the delivery of an electrical shock (defibrillation) to the heart with use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). It is the policy of this department to respond quickly and safely to all possible cardiac emergencies and to use the AED equipment as trained on all cardiac arrest victims in our attempt to reduce the mortality rate in this township due to sudden cardiac arrest.

PROCEDURE

A. EQUIPMENT

The department utilizes the Lifepak Biphasic AED Unit. This unit is identified by the LCD display on the center of the handle. The Biphasic AED Unit can be utilized for both adult and pediatric use. The Fast Patch AED pads will be utilized on patients over the age of 8 years. The Infant/Child Quick Combo pads will be utilized on patients between the ages of 1-8 years. The Infant/Child Quick Combo pads have a pink connector attached to them.

B. TRAINING

1. All sworn personnel are required to maintain current MPOETC requirements for CPR and First Aid prior to AED training or using an AED.

2. All sworn personnel are required to successfully complete initial AED training before using an AED.
3. All personnel must undergo bi-annual re-certification on the use of the AED.
4. Personnel may only use AED equipment that they have been trained to use.

C. PATROL RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Patrol officers will be responsible for the care and maintenance of the AED Unit and related equipment assigned to their vehicle.
2. Officers will examine the AED unit at the beginning of their shift to verify that it is in proper operating condition. This is done by checking the LCD display on the handle. If the display displays "ok" then the unit is in proper working order. It is not necessary to turn the unit on each day. Doing this will decrease the battery life of the unit. Furthermore, officers are to assure that they have 2 sets of defibrillator pads, a CPR barrier mask and an adequate supply of oxygen.
3. It is the responsibility of patrol officers to respond to all possible cardiac arrest incidents in a safe and expeditious manner. Upon arrival officers shall remove the AED unit and related equipment from the police vehicle before their initial approach to the victim. Montgomery County Emergency Dispatch must be notified of the initial arrival at the scene and immediately advised when an AED is applied to the victim for accurate time records.
4. If it is determined that a victim is experiencing cardiopulmonary arrest, the AED protocol, as trained, shall be followed. This procedure shall continue until relieved by EMS personnel.
5. An AED unit shall not be used in any situation precluding safe use such as on a victim immersed in water or near a metal surface.
6. If an AED is utilized during an incident, an AED incident report (form [S&I-3](#)), must be prepared. This is in addition to any alert report that may be required for the incident. The AED **code 4215** will be added as a secondary code when preparing the Alert report.
7. At the conclusion of an AED incident, the officer involved is responsible for obtaining a new set of defibrillator pads from EMS personnel at the scene.
8. If unexpected circumstances develop preventing an exchange of defibrillator pads with EMS personnel, a spare set shall be immediately obtained from Staff and Inspections Unit. An e-mail is to be sent to Report Review, Watch Commanders and the AED Coordinator.
9. Any officer experiencing a problem with an AED unit shall immediately place that

unit out of service and notify their immediate supervisor. The unit shall be either turned over to the AED coordinator if available or secured in the Records Utility Room. An e-mail is to be sent to Report Review, Watch Commanders and the AED Coordinator.

10. Any officer putting a beat car equipped with an AED down for repair is responsible for transferring the AED unit to the temporary car currently being used for that beat. The officer who first puts the beat car back into service is responsible for the return of the AED unit.

D. SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

1. When an AED unit has been utilized, it is the supervisor's responsibility to, prior to the end of the shift, send an email to the AED Coordinator indicating the time, incident number and which AED was used. This information should also be included on the Supervisor Shift Report.
2. It is the supervisor's responsibility to ensure that the AED report is completed by the primary officer on the scene, and that the **AED code 4215** is included as a secondary classification in the Alert report.

F. AED PROJECT COORDINATOR

1. The designated AED Project Coordinator will be responsible for all AED training to assure that all sworn personnel are initially trained and re-certified in the use of the AED within the yearly time period.
2. The Project Coordinator will review all AED incident reports to verify that AED protocol is being properly followed. Additional responsibilities include the filing of all AED reports, the record keeping of maintenance history/use of each individual AED unit, and the ordering of new supplies.
3. The Project Coordinator will download all AED internally recorded events and forward that information along with all other reports to the Medical Director and Montgomery County EMS Command on an as needed basis.
4. The Project Coordinator will liaison with the AED Medical Director and Montgomery County EMS on a yearly basis to review the status of this program.

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