

Model Emergency Action Plan for the Use of the Automated External Defibrillator

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) states cardiac arrest occurs when the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating. Blood stops flowing to the rest of the body. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) are to be used when a person is unresponsive, when not breathing, or heartbeat stops.

Please note: For persons under age 8, pediatric AED pads should be used whenever possible. However, if not available, you may use adult pads. Do not use pediatric AED pads on adults.

Ohio Revised Code (ORC) [3701.851](#) requires this plan to be practiced at least quarterly.

Protocol:

If a person:

- Collapses suddenly and loses consciousness (passes out).
- Is not breathing or is gasping for air.
- Doesn't respond to shouting or tapping.
- Doesn't have a pulse.

Follow these steps:

1. "If the scene is safe, apply gloves (if available) and check for responsiveness using shout-tap-shout for no more than 10 seconds."

For Adults:

Shout "Are you OK?"

Tap (*the person's shoulder*) and look for signs of rhythmic, normal breathing.

Shout (again and assess for breathing, life-threatening bleeding or conditions).

For Children: If appearing unresponsive, check responsiveness:

Shout "Are you OK?" (use their name, if known, to get their attention).

Tap (*the person's shoulder*) and look for signs of rhythmic, normal breathing.

Shout (again and assess for breathing, life-threatening bleeding or conditions.)

For Infants: If appearing unresponsive, check responsiveness:

Shout (use their name, if known, to get their attention).

Tap (*the bottom of the infant's foot*).

Shout (again and assess for breathing, life-threatening bleeding or conditions).

2. If person is unresponsive, shout for help and **CALL EMS (9-1-1)**. Stay on the line with EMS (preferably on speaker phone) for instructions on CPR and AED use. **Send someone to get the AED.**
3. Begin CPR:
 - a. If the arrest is witnessed, proceed to step 4 as soon as possible.
 - b. If it is unwitnessed, do CPR before using the AED.
4. Set up the AED according to the manufacturer's instructions. Turn on the AED and follow the verbal instructions provided. Incorporate AED into CPR cycles according to instructions and training.
5. Prepare AED to check heart rhythm and deliver 1 shock as advised by the AED.
6. Begin CPR. Continue CPR for 2 minutes or as instructed by the AED.
7. REPEAT CYCLES OF 2 MINUTES OF CPR TO 1 AED RHYTHM CHECK UNTIL VICTIM RESPONDS OR HELP ARRIVES.

REFERENCES

[Adult & Child CPR Anytime® Skills Reminder — CPR AED \(heart.org\).](#)

[Algorithms | American Heart Association CPR & First Aid.](#)

[American Heart Association Highlights of the 2020 American Heart Association Guidelines for CPR and ECC.](#)

Ohio Emergency Medical Services [CPR Myths Debunked | Emergency Medical Services \(ohio.gov\).](#)

Information about AED and CPR Training opportunities for schools, organizations, and individuals may be found at the following:

American Heart Association

[AED Implementation | American Heart Association CPR & First Aid.](#)

[Training Programs | American Heart Association CPR & First Aid.](#)

American Red Cross

[CPR/AED Training | Learn to Use an AED | Red Cross.](#)

Ohio Department of Education and Workforce

[CPR and AED training in Ohio high schools | Ohio Department of Education & Workforce.](#)

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