

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Advanced Life Support Personnel

Emergency Medical Technician or Paramedic currently certified by the New York State Department of Health.

AED (Automated External Defibrillator)

A semi-automatic or automatic defibrillator which guides the user through the steps of defibrillation. This device recognizes life threatening heart rhythms and advises the user to shock or not shock the victim.

AED Placement / AED readily available on site with proper signage

Signs should be placed throughout the building indicating that there is an AED on site. AEDs should be placed in an area where it is readily available to use in an emergency. AEDs are lightweight, sturdy, and easy to use by anyone who has been trained. AEDs should only be used by individuals certified by defibrillation training programs that have medical oversight.

Chain of Survival

Four links that increase the chances of survival for cardiac arrest victims: early access to emergency care, early CPR, early defibrillation, and early advanced care.

CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation)

CPR is the provision of rescue breathing and chest compressions to individuals suffering from cardiac arrest. It is a simple, easily learned emergency procedure designed to keep the victim's brain and heart supplied with blood and oxygen until medical help arrives.

CPR Training

Training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation taught by an accredited training center using an accredited program such as American Heart Association and other national accredited programs (see resources in appendix). CPR training must also be kept current with re-certification every two years.

Defibrillation

The delivery of an electric shock to restore a heart's normal rhythm. Provided by an individual trained and currently certified in the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED).

Early Access to Emergency Care

This involves the ability of bystanders to recognize the symptoms of cardiac arrest and call 911 immediately. It also means that EMS dispatchers are equipped with instructions for the caller and can get an Advanced Life Support response vehicle to the scene quickly.

Early CPR

CPR, when properly administered, buys precious minutes until a defibrillator is available. Public knowledge and awareness must be increased so that those trained in CPR will actually use it when it is needed.

Early Advanced Care

Advanced care is delivered by a response vehicle staffed by advanced life support personnel (EMT-Intermediates or Paramedics). Advanced care is a way of providing many of the emergency room procedures in the field in a timely manner, thereby increasing the chances of survival for the victim.

Early Defibrillation

Defibrillation is the delivery of an electric shock to restore the heart's normal rhythm. Early defibrillation is a critical link in the chain of survival.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

Officially designated system for the provision of emergency response in a community for the first responder, basic, and advanced life support services.

Public Access Defibrillator Policy and Procedure

Comprehensive, written procedures used in the event of an emergency requiring the use of a defibrillator. This policy should include:

- Identification of location of AED(s)
- Schedule and description of drilling procedures
- Accredited CPR training program
- Name of outside training center to be used, if not in house
- 911 calling instructions and inclusion of enhanced 911-program training

First Responder

Officially-designated first responder emergency service for a municipality. May be EMS, fire, or police response vehicles.

HEART Safe Designation

A community or entity that has documented the 'Chain of Survival' links to address cardiac emergencies for its community. These links include early access to emergency care, early CPR, early defibrillation, and early advanced care.

Enhanced 911

An intricate system where the call is routed directly to an E-911 center. The call-taker can see the address and phone number of caller immediately on the screen. The dispatcher obtains necessary information relative to emergency. Instructions are then given to caller, while a second dispatcher sends the proper units to the address of the emergency.

Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) Notice of Intent

A New York State Department of Health Bureau of Emergency Medical Services' Notice of Intent requires specific information including physician oversight, selection of an approved training program, written practice protocols, etc. The purpose of this intent form is to assist a person, firm organization, or other entity in understanding the notification process for the operation of an Automated External Defibrillation (AED). Pursuant to a collaborative agreement under the provision of 552 of the laws of 1998, authorizing Public Access Defibrillator (PAD).