

Taney County Ambulance District Policy and Procedure Manual

Chapter 300 Patient Care Protocols
Section 03 Cardiac Emergencies
Title **Automatic External Defibrillation**
Number 303-8

Distribution – All Operations Personnel

Purpose – To outline the AED treatment protocol for patients suffering from cardiac arrest.

Protocol

1. Immediately upon arrival at the scene, assess the patient and verify cardiac arrest by the absence of consciousness, respiration and pulse.
2. Initiate CPR, ventilating with 100% Oxygen.
3. Prepare the patient while continuing with CPR:
 - a. Expose the patient's chest by removing clothing.
 - b. Dry the chest and remove nitroglycerin patches if necessary
 - c. If chest hair is excessive, quickly shave the area to permit proper adhesion of the electrodes.
4. Prepare the electrodes:
 - a. Remove the electrodes from the packaging.
 - b. Attach the defibrillator cables to the electrodes.
5. Attach electrodes to the patient; turn the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) power on. Follow prompts from the AED.
6. Follow the prompts of the AED making sure that no one is touching the patient or equipment during prompted defibrillations.
7. Follow current AHA guidelines for CPR. **REMEMBER, GOOD CPR IS CRUTIAL.**
8. If patient has return of spontaneous signs of circulation, refer to post resuscitation protocol (303-7).
9. Begin transport as soon as possible if available or notify the responding ALS unit and receiving E.D. of patient status/condition as soon as possible.

Medical Director Signature: _____ Dr. L.E. Mire

Date: 10/28/08