DEFIBRILLATION USING AN AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED)

OBJECTIVE: The student will demonstrate the ability to administer a defibrillator shock rapidly, safely, and effectively.

EQUIPMENT: Examination gloves, AED trainer or AED and dysrhythmia generator, defibrillation pads, timekeeping device that displays seconds, CPR/defibrillator manikin capable of interfacing with defibrillator, two EMT/ETT trained bystanders.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA AND CONDITIONS: The student will demonstrate correct and safe defibrillation using an AED.

REVISED: October, 2008

Event		***Does***	***Does Not***
1. Takes standard precautions when indicated.		*	
Witnessed arrest with AED immediately available	Non-witnessed arrest		
2. Provides two rescue breaths.	2. Verifies that effective CPR is being performed. If effective CPR is not being performed, directs assistants to perform CPR for five cycles of 30 compressions and 2 rescue breaths.	*	
3. Checks for a pulse.	4. Turns the AED on and attaches defibrillator pads.	*	
4. Turns the AED on and attaches defibrillator pads.	5. Stops CPR and ensures that everyone is clear of the patient.	*	
6. Presses "analyze" on unit to assess patient, if required, or permits machine to perform analysis of rhythm.[1]		*	
7. Delivers shock.		*	
8. Delivers first shock within 90 seconds after arriving at patient's side if witnessed arrest, within three and a half minutes if non-witnessed arrest.		*	
9. Directs rescuers to perform CPR for 5 cycles without checking for a pulse.		*	
10. Gathers additional information about arrest event.			
11. Confirms effectiveness of ventilations and compressions.			
12. Repeats steps 5 – 9 in accordance with standing orders, ensuring that the patient is cleared EACH time during analysis and before delivering electrical therapy. Interruptions in CPR must be minimal.		*	
13. Identifies and responds to any equipment difficulty in accordance with manufacturer's instruction guide if applicable.			

[1] If the AED being used generates an audible charging tone, compressions should be started after analysis is complete while the unit is charging. The rescuer must ensure that everyone is clear of the patient again before pressing the shock button. This procedure should not be performed if using a **fully** automated defibrillator which delivers a shock without rescuer input.