



7 - Public Access To Automated External Defibrillators (AED)

(Adopted, 10/02; Reaffirmed, 10/11; 10/14)

Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) programs have seen recent implementation in a variety of public environments. The early administration of cardiac defibrillation via the use of automated external defibrillators (AED's) prior to the arrival of EMS is their goal.

The American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians (ACOEP) supports the implementation of PAD programs given the following principles:

1. Use of Automated External Defibrillators (AED's) should be restricted to PAD programs.
2. PAD programs will have appropriate medical oversight.
3. Procedures and guidelines will be established that ensure appropriate interaction between the rescuer and local EMS providers.
4. AEDs will undergo regular inspection and maintenance.
5. AEDs should be placed in easily accessible and secured locations.

A quality assurance plan integrated with local EMS providers will be established for a PAD program.