

CARDIAC EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS **IN SCHOOLS**

YES on HB 2529

Cardiac arrest is the abrupt loss of heart function. It can come on suddenly or in the wake of other symptoms. Cardiac arrest is often fatal if appropriate steps aren't taken immediately. Cardiac arrest represents a public health risk to youth and high school athletes in the United States and is the leading non-traumatic cause of death among young athletes. Early access to 911, CPR and AEDs are essential links in the chain of survival.

For every minute without CPR, chances of survival drop by 10%.

Cardiac emergency response plans (CERPs) can more than double survival rates from cardiac arrest by empowering people nearby to take action and dial 911, start CPR and use an AED. The safety of students, school staff and visitors can be enhanced with a coordinated, practiced response plan where school CERP teams feel empowered to administer lifesaving care until EMS arrives. Designed to be stand-alone guidelines or merged with a school's existing emergency action plan, a CERP identifies school personnel, including nurses, administrators, coaches, teachers and athletic trainers, who will respond in a sudden cardiac arrest emergency.

What are the current requirements?

All Oregon schools are required to have 1 AED on campus. But most schools need multiple AEDs that can be accessed and used on a cardiac arrest victim within 3 minutes anywhere on school campus and that they are available during after school activities, such as sports games and practices.

Is having an AED enough?

Having an AED is an important part of an emergency response plan, but it is not enough by itself. A CERP ensures that the AED is regularly maintained and that school responders are trained in emergency response, including CPR and how to use the AED. A CERP also ensures the plan is reviewed, updated and practiced each year.

What is the liability of this?

Federal and state Good Samaritan laws provide immunity to laypersons who voluntarily provide care during an emergency at venues like schools or sporting events. A CERP does not change that.

Did You Know?

23,000 CHILDREN

experience cardiac arrest outside of a hospital each year in the U.S.

ONLY 40%

are sports related.

CERPs can **MORE THAN DOUBLE SURVIVAL RATES** from cardiac arrest by empowering people nearby to take action and:



In schools with AEDs,
70% OF CHILDREN
survive cardiac arrest. That's **7x** the
overall survival rate for children.

What is an AED?

An AED is a simple-to-use portable device that is used to shock the heart of a person in cardiac arrest to return the heart to a normal rhythm. When people nearby take action – call 911, promptly start CPR and use a publicly available AED – it can double or even triple the chance of surviving a cardiac arrest. AEDs only shock patients who need to be shocked.

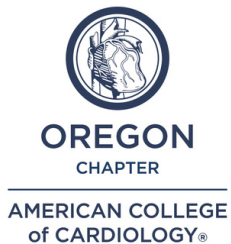
Cardiac Arrest v Heart Attack

People often use these terms interchangeably, but they are not the same. Cardiac arrest is an “ELECTRICAL” problem that occurs when the heart malfunctions and stops beating unexpectedly. A heart attack occurs when blood flow to the heart is blocked.

The Cardiac Emergency Response Plan Checklist



Supported By:



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