

# How to Make Your RESCUE READY



When seconds could mean the difference between life and death for a sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) victim, be sure your automated external defibrillator (AED) is easily accessible, visible and maintained, just like a fire extinguisher.

## PLACE IT



Placement of the AED should be centralized in your facility or in an area where the most people gather at any given time. The goal is to deliver a shock to an SCA victim within 3 minutes or less from collapse. Consider installing next to or near a fire extinguisher. Never lock an AED in an office or closet.

## HANG IT

Mount your AED in a wall cabinet or bracket approved for such purpose so that the AED readiness indicator faces outward. Never lock the cabinet.

## REACH IT

Be sure your AED is installed at an unobstructed maximum height of 48 inches from the floor in compliance with the American Disabilities Act.



## MAP IT

Add your AED location(s) to site maps that show fire extinguishers and exit routes, and place site maps around your facility.



## SPOT IT

Use projecting (3-dimensional) universal AED signage above the wall cabinet or bracket to make your AED visible. Add stickers to outer doors to show an AED is in the facility.

## CHECK IT

Designate a person in your facility to perform regular AED status checks as indicated by the manufacturer and track electrodes and battery expiration dates and device warranty for timely updating. Be sure to also check your rescue kit has the essentials (nitrile gloves, barrier mask, medical scissors, razor, antiseptic wipes, absorbent towel & biohazard bag).



## REGISTER IT



With the AED manufacturer, it may extend the warranty. The free National AED Registry will send email reminders for battery and electrodes expiration dates as well as recall alerts when you register it. Be sure to comply with city, county or state registration requirements.

## PROMOTE IT



AEDs are effective when everyone in your facility knows where it is and that anyone can use it. They are designed for the public, so be public about it.

## USE IT

Having a written and well-practiced cardiac emergency response plan in place will increase the chance of survival for the SCA victim. Don't wait for EMS to arrive. Call 911, deliver immediate hands-only CPR and retrieve your AED to save a life!



Parent Heart Watch.  
THE NATIONAL VOICE  
PROTECTING YOUTH FROM SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST

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