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Automated External Defibrillation

Automated External Defibrillators also known as AED's are becoming more popular in the work place. AED's popularity continues to grow as AED prices drop, our work place ages and employers recognize that the sooner victims are defibrillated the more likely they will survive Sudden Cardiac Arrest.

Once priced at over \$8,000 now AED's can be purchased for \$2,000. Consider the cost to replace an employee who can't or doesn't return to work after a medical emergency where an AED should have been used, add the relatively simple process to purchase and in-service AED's in the work place and there's little excuse not to invest in an AED.

But first, why does your business need an AED? AED's are applied to the chest of a victim suffering from Sudden Cardiac Arrest, 650,000 people die each year in the United States during the first 2 years of a heart attack from sudden cardiac arrest because the victim and the people around them simply don't recognize the symptoms.

What can happen during a heart attack is that the victims' heart will stop if they don't seek medical attention in time. Although our 911-system responds as quick as they can and most police officers are trained to use the AED that they carry, the reality of converting the heart from sudden cardiac arrest victim to a life sustaining heart rhythm decreases 10% every minute defibrillation is delayed. In other words, if the ambulance responds on time and arrives at your emergency within 5 minutes, the chance of converting the victim's heart rate with an AED decrease by 50%. If it were your heart, wouldn't you want the AED to be in the building?

AED's are simple to use and operate; they are standard equipment in planes, large office buildings, sports stadiums and now the common everyday work places.

So simple are AED's that the training is only an additional hour above and beyond a normal Adult CPR course. AED's are only applied to a victims bear chest once the rescuer determines that no pulse is present, the AED is than turned on and does the rest. The only thing that the rescuer does is press a "shock" button when instructed, hopefully converting the heart rhythm as well as perform CPR and pulse checks in between defibrillations. All AED's have voice prompts that guide the user through the application and operation.

When your associates receive training they should learn when to and when not to apply an AED, how to interact with other CPR providers, and what to do when the victims heart starts beating. A review of New York States Public Access Defibrillation law that protects the user as well as the employer is also covered.

The price your organization should pay for an AED and training for approximately 10 associates is \$2,500.00.

For advice on your AED needs please call First Aid Depot.