

HeartSafe Community Appendix



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Advanced Life Support Personnel

Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediates or paramedics currently certified by the state of Kentucky.

AED (Automated External Defibrillator)

This semi-automatic or automatic defibrillator guides the user through the steps of defibrillation. This device recognizes life threatening heart rhythms and advises the user of the appropriate time to shock the victim.

AED Placement

This refers to placing an AED on site or in an area where it is readily available to use in an emergency. AEDs are light-weight, sturdy, and easy to use by anyone who has been trained. AEDs should only be used by individuals certified by defibrillation training programs that have medical oversight.

Chain of Survival

Four links that have been documented to increase the chances of survival for cardiac arrest victims: early access to emergency care, early CPR, early defibrillation, and early advanced care.

CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation)

CPR is the provision of rescue breathing and chest compressions to individuals suffering from cardiac arrest. It is a simple, easily learned emergency procedure designed to keep the victim's brain and heart supplied with blood and oxygen until medical help arrives.

CPR Training

This is certification training provided by either the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, or through Medical Response Technician, Emergency Medical Technician, EMT-Intermediate or paramedic training programs.

Defibrillation

This is the delivery of an electric shock to restore a heart's normal rhythm. Individuals trained and currently certified in the use of an automated external defibrillator provide this.

Early Access to Emergency Care

This involves the ability of bystanders to recognize the symptoms of cardiac arrest and call 9-1-1 immediately. It also means that EMS dispatchers are equipped with basic intervention instructions for the caller and can get an Advanced Life Support response vehicle to the scene quickly.

Early CPR

CPR, when properly administered, buys precious minutes until a defibrillator is available. Public knowledge and awareness must be increased so that those trained in CPR will act when needed.

Early Advanced Care

Advanced care is delivered by a response vehicle staffed by advanced life support personnel (EMT-Intermediates or paramedics). Advanced care is a way of providing many of the emergency room procedures in the field in a timely manner, thereby increasing the chances of survival for the victim.

Early Defibrillation

Defibrillation is the delivery of an electric shock to restore the heart's normal rhythm. Early defibrillation is a critical link in the Chain of Survival.

(EMS) Emergency Medical Services

This is an officially designated system for the provision of emergency response in a community for the first responder as well as basic and advanced life support services.

First Responder

This is an officially designated first responder emergency service for a municipality. It may be EMS, fire or police response vehicles.

Heartbeats

This is the minimum number of points required for designation as a **HeartSafe** Community. Heartbeats are based upon community populations and requirements intended to improve the survival outcomes or individuals experiencing cardiac emergencies.

HeartSafe Community

A community that has documented the Chain of Survival links to address cardiac emergencies for its citizens. These links include early access to emergency care, early CPR, early defibrillation, and early advanced care. "Community" is defined as one of the officially designated 120 counties in Kentucky. Individual neighborhoods or sections within the 120 counties will not be accepted.

Smoke Free Community

This is a county/city with Smoke-free Community-Wide Ordinances/Regulations in Kentucky.

VITAL LINKS IN THE CHAIN OF SURVIVAL

Early Access to Emergency Care

- ✓ Bystanders recognize the symptoms of cardiac arrest and call 9-1-1 immediately.
- ✓ EMS dispatchers are equipped with basic intervention instructions for the caller and can get an Advanced Life Support response vehicle to the scene quickly.
- ✓ Bystanders are able to give adequate care based on training and instruction.

Early CPR

- ✓ CPR is a simple, easily learned emergency procedure used when someone's breathing and heartbeat stop suddenly.
- ✓ When properly administered, CPR buys precious minutes until a defibrillator is available.
- ✓ CPR is most effective when it is started immediately after the victim's collapse.
- ✓ In many cases CPR alone will not resuscitate the patient, however, it will help to keep the victim's brain and heart supplied with blood and oxygen until medical help arrives.
- ✓ Public knowledge and awareness must be increased so that those trained in CPR will use it when it is needed in the community.

Early Defibrillation

- ✓ Defibrillation is the delivery of electric shock to restore the heart's normal rhythm.
- ✓ Early defibrillation is a critical link in the 'chain of survival'.
- ✓ New AEDs are lightweight, sturdy, and easy to use by anyone who has been trained.
- ✓ AEDs should only be used by individuals certified by defibrillation training programs that have medical oversight.

Early Advanced Care

- ✓ A response vehicle staffed by advanced life support personnel delivers advanced care.
- ✓ Medications and oxygen therapy delivered by advanced life support personnel can be critical to the survival of cardiac arrest victims.

CLASSIC HEART ATTACK WARNING SIGNS

- **Chest discomfort.** Uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes or goes away and comes back.
- **Discomfort in other areas of the upper body.** Pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.
- **Shortness of breath** along with or before, chest discomfort.
- **Other signs** such as breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

Good Samaritan Law

311.668 Immunity from civil liability for user of automated external defibrillator -- Exemption from KRS 311.667 for Good Samaritan.

(1) Any person or entity who, in good faith and without compensation, renders emergency care or treatment by the use of an AED shall be immune from civil liability for any personal injury as a result of the care or treatment, or as a result of any act or failure to act in providing or arranging further medical treatment, where the person acts as an ordinary, reasonable prudent person would have acted under the same or similar circumstances.

(2) The immunity from civil liability for any personal injury under subsection (1) of this section includes the licensed physician who is involved with AED site placement, the person or entity who provides the CPR and AED site placement, the person or entity who provides the CPR and AED training, and the person or entity responsible for the site where the AED is located.

(3) The immunity from civil liability under subsection (1) of this section does not apply if the personal injury results from the gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct of the person rendering the emergency care.

(4) The requirements of KRS 311.667 shall not apply to any individual using an AED in an emergency setting if that individual is acting as a Good Samaritan under KRS 411.148 and KRS 313.257.

Effective: July 14, 2000

History: Created 2000 Ky. Acts ch. 16, sec. 4, effective July 14, 2000.

313.257 Nonliability of licensees for emergency care.

No person licensed under this chapter, who in good faith renders emergency care at the scene of the emergency, shall be liable for any civil damages as a result of any acts or omissions by such person in rendering the emergency care.

History: Created 1964 Ky. Acts ch. 12, sec. 28.

411.148 Nonliability of licensees and certified technicians for emergency care.

(1) No physician licensed under KRS Chapter 311, registered or practical nurse licensed under KRS Chapter 314, person certified as an emergency medical technician by the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, person certified by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or employee of any board of education established pursuant to the provision of KRS 160.160, who has completed a course in first aid and who maintains current certification therein in accordance with the standards set forth by the American Red Cross shall be liable in civil damages for administering emergency care or treatment at the scene of an emergency outside of a hospital, doctor's office, or other place having proper medical equipment excluding house calls, for acts performed at the scene of such emergency, unless such acts constitute willful or wanton misconduct.

(2) Nothing in this section applies to the administering of such care or treatment where the same is rendered for remuneration or with the expectation of remuneration.

(3) The administering of emergency care or treatment at the scene of an emergency by employees of a board of education shall not be considered to be rendered for remuneration or with the expectation of remuneration because such personnel perform such care as part of their regular professional or work responsibilities for which they receive their regular salaries from the school board which is their employer.

Effective: June 20, 2005

History: Amended 2005 Ky. Acts ch. 99, sec. 647, effective June 20, 2005. -- Amended 1998 Ky. Acts ch. 426, sec. 599, effective July 15, 1998. -- Amended 1980 Ky. Acts ch. 3, sec. 1, effective July 15, 1980. -- Amended 1974 Ky. Acts ch. 74, VI, sec. 107(1 1). -- Created 1972 Ky. Acts ch. 35, sec. 1.

Resources

Start the Heart Foundation

[Start the Heart Foundation | Facebook](#)

[Start the Heart Foundation is a Louisville, Kentucky organization that offers free Hands-Only CPR courses to surrounding communities, with the aim of improving survival for those who undergo cardiac arrest. Sign up online.]

American Heart Association

http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/CPREandECC/CPR_UCM_001118_SubHomePage.jsp

[The American Heart Association offers an accessible search for training courses near you. Go online to the web address above and select from various CPR courses that may be available in your community. Online education and textbooks are additionally available on this site.]

[About CPR & ECC | American Heart Association CPR & First Aid](#)

[The American Heart Association also provides facts concerning what CPR is, why it is important, and how it can be used alongside AEDs to provide optimal treatment and life-saving care to those who experience sudden cardiac arrest.]

American Red Cross

<https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/cpr/cpr-training/cpr-classes>

[The American Red Cross offers additional CPR courses throughout Kentucky, and many may be available in your area. Following the web address above, select your class type and location, and view available options.]

<https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/cpr/cpr-training/cpr-renewal>

[The American Red Cross also provides simple steps to renewing certifications, as well as resources to maintain CPR skills between certifications.]

EMS Safety Services, Inc

<http://www.emssafetyservices.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Where-and-How-Many.pdf>

[EMS Safety Services, Inc. provides instruction for AED placement and use based on rate of incidence as well as response time.]

Kentucky Demographics

https://www.kentucky-demographics.com/counties_by_population

[Kentucky Demographics provides data directly from the US Census and give population listings by county. Reference the web address above to find the population of your community.]

Zoll

<https://www.zoll.com/resources/chain-of-survival/>

[Zoll offers a simple description of each step in the Chain of Survival, useful for complementing your own knowledge or sharing with participants.]