

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



Standard Operating Procedures

Policy Name: Urgent and Emergent Care Automated External Defibrillation

Policy Number: 507.04.41

Effective Date: 2/1/2022

Page Number: 1 of 4

Authority:
Commissioner

Originating Division:
Health Services Division
(Physical Health)

Access Listing:
Level I: All Access

I. Introduction and Summary:

It is the policy of the Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) to provide Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) for use by correctional officers and medical staff in the event of a cardiac arrest to aid in the resuscitation of offenders, staff, and visitors. This procedure is applicable to all facilities that house GDC offenders to include private and county prisons.

II. Authority:

- A. Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 125-4-4.01;
- B. GDC Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs): 507.04.37 Emergent/Urgent Care Services, 507.04.38 First Aid and Personal Protective Equipment Kits, and 507.04.40 Urgent/Emergent Care Equipment and Supplies;
- C. NCCHC 2018 Adult Standard: P-E-08; and
- D. ACA Standards: 5-ACI-6A-08 and 5 5-ACI-6B-08.

III. Definitions:

- A. **AED** - Automated External Defibrillator.

IV. Statement of Policy and Applicable Procedures:

- A. Physical Locations of AEDs.
 - 1. State Prisons:
 - a. All state and private prisons will have at least two AEDs at each facility. One AED will be kept in the medical unit and the additional device(s) will be placed at the point that is physically farthest away from the medical unit.

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



Standard Operating Procedures

Policy Name: Urgent and Emergent Care Automated External Defibrillation

Policy Number: 507.04.41

Effective Date: 2/1/2022

Page Number: 2 of 4

Authority:
Commissioner

Originating Division:
Health Services Division
(Physical Health)

Access Listing:
Level I: All Access

- b. For facilities with less than 24-hour nursing coverage, the AED will be moved to a secure, central location, readily accessible by correctional staff for use in an emergency.
- c. The locations of all AEDs and emergency equipment will be specified in a Local Operating Procedure.
- e. The goal is to reach the patient within a four (4) minute time frame.

2. Probation Detention Centers:

- a. The AED will be kept in the medical unit.
- b. After the nursing staff leaves for the day, the AED will be moved to a secure, central location, readily accessible by correctional staff for use in an emergency.

3. Transition Centers: The AED will be stored in the Medical Emergency Kit and will be hung on the wall in a secure, central location, readily accessible by correctional staff for use in an emergency.

4. GDC Communications Center and GDC Regional Offices: The AED will be stored in the Medical Emergency Kit available from Georgia Correctional Industries and will be hung on the wall in a secure, central location, readily accessible by correctional staff for use in an emergency.

B. Inspecting the AED.

1. Procedures for Correctional Officers:

- a. The AED case will be opened every shift to determine the presence of two sets of electrodes, which are stored in the lid of the carrying case, and one disposable razor (Stored in the clear instruction pocket). One set of electrodes is to be plugged into the device. If there are missing items, it will

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



Standard Operating Procedures

Policy Name: Urgent and Emergent Care Automated External Defibrillation

Policy Number: 507.04.41

Effective Date: 2/1/2022

Page Number: 3 of 4

Authority:
Commissioner

Originating Division:
Health Services Division
(Physical Health)

Access Listing:
Level I: All Access

be noted in the logbook and the OIC and medical staff will be contacted to arrange for replacement supplies.

- b. Look at the LED read out on front of the AED for the presence of “low battery” or “needs service” messages. If a “low battery” or “needs service” message is found, the OIC and Health Services Administrator will be notified.
- c. The inspections should be documented in the logbook for each shift.

2. Procedures for Medical Staff:

- a. The AED case will be opened every shift to determine the presence of two sets of electrodes, which are stored in the lid of the carrying case and one disposable razor (Stored in the clear instruction pocket). One set of electrodes is to be plugged into the device.
- b. Each Monday or the next working day after a holiday, the device will be turned on. Look at the LED read out on the front of the AED for the presence of “low battery” or “needs service” messages. If a “low battery” or “needs service” message is found, The Health Services Administrator will be notified. Verify that the time and date in the readout are accurate. If the date or time is not correct, the date/time is to be corrected. The operating manual should be referenced for instructions regarding how to change the date or time.
- c. The daily and weekly inspections are to be documented on the daily emergency equipment inventory form.

C. Using the AED.

1. Training for Correctional Officers:

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



Standard Operating Procedures

Policy Name: Urgent and Emergent Care Automated External Defibrillation

Policy Number: 507.04.41

Effective Date: 2/1/2022

Page Number: 4 of 4

Authority:
Commissioner

Originating Division:
Health Services Division
(Physical Health)

Access Listing:
Level I: All Access

- a. Correctional officers will receive initial training in the use of an AED as a part of their CPR training in BCOT.
 - b. Officers will be re-trained each year as a part of their yearly in-service training.
2. Training for Medical Staff: Medical staff (RN, LPN, HST, NP, PA, MD, Dentist) will receive AED training as a part of their required BLS training.

V. **Attachments:** None.

VI. **Record Retention of Forms Relevant to this Policy:** None.