

Healthcare Defibrillators

Frequently Asked Questions - General

Aero Healthcare guarantees best-in-class customer and product support. Some of the most common questions relating to defibrillators in general and HeartSine products are answered below. If you have a question that is not covered here, feel free to contact Aero's Technical Support Team at sales@aerohealthcare.co.uk or call 0845 604 8280.

1. **What is an AED?**

An AED (**Automated External Defibrillator**) is a life saving device that restores normal rhythm to the heart of a victim of Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA).

2. **What is Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA)?**

SCA is the leading cause of death in the western world. Each year almost 100,000 people die in the United Kingdom from SCA. It strikes suddenly and without warning. A victim of SCA collapses immediately, as the heart beats chaotically (fibrillates) unable to pump blood through the body. The only hope of survival is access to a defibrillator within minutes, combined with CPR. For every minute of delay there is 10% less chance of survival.

3. **How does a Defibrillator work?**

By delivering a therapeutic shock to the heart through electrodes (pads) placed on the victim's chest. This allows the heart's natural pacemaker to restore normal rhythm to the heart.

4. **What is a Public Access Defibrillator?**

A Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) is a defibrillator specifically designed for the lay rescuer. It provides visual and voice prompts, enabling the rescuer with minimal, or no training to effectively save a life.

5. **What about liability?**

The Good Samaritan Act protects the lay rescuer from liability. No one will succeed in suing you for appropriate use of an AED, because that would result in everybody refusing to assist. No matter how many times you press the shock button, a Public Access Defibrillator will not administer a shock unless there is a shockable rhythm present. By simply following the voice prompts, **you** can be a life saver.

6. **Why not just call an ambulance?**

You must still call an ambulance. The device will prompt you to do this anyway. However you cannot afford to wait for the ambulance with SCA, as it will be too late. You only have minutes to save the victims life. For every minute that the heart is in fibrillation, there is a corresponding 10% lower chance of survival.

7. **Who should have a Public Access Defibrillator?**

Wherever people congregate, or any remote location even with very few people, there should be access to a PAD: Airports, Fitness Centres, Sports Stadiums, Shopping Centres, Businesses, Places of Worship, Entertainment venues, Yachts, Farms, office premises...the list goes on and on.