

**ILLINOIS REGION 3 PROTOCOLS**

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**AUTOMATED DEFIBRILLATION****I. Indications**

- A. Unresponsive patients, no pulse, no respirations
- B. Defibrillators must be taken to the patient immediately under the following conditions:
  - 1. unknown problem
  - 2. man/woman down
  - 3. chest pains
  - 4. possible D.O.A.

**II. Contraindications**

- A. Conscious patients
- B. Patients with a pulse
- C. Patient less than 90 lb

**III. Precautions**

- A. All rescuers/bystanders must be ordered clear of the patient and stretcher prior to delivery of shock
- B. Assure no flammable gasses in area
- C. Assure patient being defibrillated is actually pulseless
- D. The ambulance must be stopped in order to analyze on the defibrillator

**IV. Complications**

- A. Spark jumping to another rescuer causing a minor burn or V-Fib
- B. Damage to myocardial muscle mass
- C. Skin bridging causing chest wall arc
- D. Poor skin contact causing a burn
- E. Tetanic contractions causing loss of IV or other attached equipment
- F. Explosion in presence of flammable gas
- G. Inappropriate shocks

**V. Procedure**

- A. Initiate and maintain CPR until automated external defibrillator (AED) is attached  
NOTE: Complete 2 minutes of CPR if not a witnessed arrest.
- B. Turn on power
- C. Initiate analysis of rhythm
- D. Deliver shock, if indicated and follow policy MP-6.8.1

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