



EMS Information Bulletin 2013-003

DATE: January 17, 2013

SUBJECT: Use of Mechanical CPR Devices by Basic Life Support Agencies

TO: EMS Agencies, Regional EMS Councils

FROM: Bureau of Emergency Medical Services
PA Department of Health
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BLS Use of Mechanical CPR Device

To use a mechanical Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) device, a Basic Life Support (BLS) Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency must meet the criteria to be a High-Functioning Cardiac Arrest EMS agency and be approved by a regional EMS council.

Prerequisites:

- Licensed as a BLS transporting EMS agency.
- Participation with an Advanced Life Support (ALS) EMS agency in the Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES) program ([HTTPS://www.mycares.net](https://www.mycares.net)).
- Submission of electronic National Emergency Medical Services Information system (NEMSIS) EMS elements through the responsible regional EMS council.
- Annual submission of NEMSIS demographic elements to the responsible Regional EMS Council.
- Support and approval by the EMS agency medical director.
- Quality Improvement review of all Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest (OHCA) patient calls by the EMS agency medical director.
- Conduct ongoing High-Functioning CPR education program for at least 80% of the responding EMS Agency's providers.
- The EMS agency will agree to forward, to the responsible regional EMS council, a copy of quarterly QI reports documenting patient outcome for OHCA patients treated with a mechanical CPR device and patients treated with High-Functioning CPR.

Once the prerequisites have been met, a BLS service can apply through the responsible regional EMS council to implement use of a mechanical CPR Device.

Questions should be directed to the responsible regional EMS Council.

High-Functioning Cardiac Arrest EMS Agency Agency Requirement Checklist

Primary Sudden Cardiac Arrest Statewide ALS Protocol (Optional) 3050-A

System Requirements:

- ☐ EMS agency medical director must approve participation and oversee education and QI of primary cardiac arrest care.

EMS Agency Medical Director Signature _____

- ☐ At least 80% of the responding EMS agency's personnel must have initial High Performance CPR (a.k.a. Pit Crew model) CPR Continuing Education. Training should include teamwork simulations integrating QRS, BLS, and ALS crew members who regularly work together. Attach roster of EMS Agency Providers identifying those who have completed BOTH of the following PA EMS CE courses:

1. High-functioning CPR Agency: Science of CPR (1.5 hrs.)
2. High-functioning CPR Agency: Pit Crew Resuscitation Simulations (1.5 hrs.)

- ☐ EMS agency must have a plan for regular ("shift change") pit crew CPR practice with simulation (low fidelity acceptable) available to crews at least monthly. Training should include teamwork simulations integrating QRS, BLS, and ALS crew members who regularly work together.

- ☐ The EMS agency, overseen by the agency medical director, must perform a QI review of care and outcome for every patient that receives CPR.

- ☐ QI must be coordinated with local receiving hospitals to identify and document percentage of patients that are discharged from hospital with good neurologic function. Participation in CARES (Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival) may be used to document these outcomes.

- ☐ The QI must be coordinated with local PSAP/dispatch centers to review opportunities to assure optimal recognition of possible cardiac arrest cases and provision of dispatch-assisted CPR (including hands-only CPR when appropriate). The QI process must identify and document the percentage of cardiac arrest cases that are categorized as possible cardiac arrest at time of dispatch and the percentage of patients that receive bystander CPR. This information must be shared with the PSAP. Ideally, the QI process also documents the percentage of patients that receive dispatcher-assisted CPR, and works with the PSAP to improve the percentage of dispatch-assisted CPR in the community.

☐ High-functioning CPR EMS agency programs must be approved by the agency's local EMS regional council, and each agency must participate in the regional QI committee including submission of quarterly cardiac arrest QI summaries with information required by the Bureau of EMS.

EMS Agency Manager Approval: _____ Date: _____

EMS Agency Medical Director Approval: _____ Date: _____

Regional EMS Council Approval: _____ Date: _____

High-Functioning CPR Pit Crew Team On-the-Fly (“Shift Change”) Refresher Checklist

Run drills on a regular basis (e.g. once weekly per shift)

Strongly Encouraged (Low Fidelity Equipment):

- ☐ CPR Torso/Head Manikin
- ☐ Oropharyngeal/Nasopharyngeal airways
- ☐ Bag-valve-mask
- ☐ Portable oxygen tank
- ☐ AED Trainer (should match the agency’s AED)
- ☐ Stop watch
- ☐ Evaluation forms

Additional Equipment to Consider (When agency owns or has access to higher-fidelity equipment):

- ☐ ALS Manikin (with advanced airway and cardiac rhythm generator) or High-Fidelity Simulation Manikin
- ☐ Wave-form capnograph
- ☐ King LT/Combitube
- ☐ Impedance threshold device
- ☐ ALS manual monitor/defibrillator
- ☐ Heart rhythm generator
- ☐ IO simulation leg
- ☐ IV needles and tubing/IO needles and insertion device
- ☐ Expired medications

1 - Street Address (Where Arrest Occurred)

12 - Medical history

- ### Part B : Run Information

First Responding Agency

Part C: Arrest Information

Resuscitation Information

First Cardiac Arrest Rhythm of Patient and ROSC Information

		:			:		
Hour			Minute			Second	

Part D: EMS Interventions (check all that apply)**38 - Mechanical CPR device used:**☐ Yes ☐ No

If 'Yes', please specify:

☐ Load-Distributing Band (AutoPulse)☐ Active Compression Decompression (LUCAS Device)™☐ Mechanical Piston☐ Other**41 - ITD used:**☐ Yes ☐ No

If 'Yes', select how:

☐ Bag valve mask ☐ Endotracheal tube ☐ Combitube☐ King Airway ☐ LMA ☐ Oral/Nasal ET☐ Other**43 - Vascular access:**☐ No IV ☐ IV ☐ IO**44 - 12 Lead:**☐ Yes ☐ No**39 - Automated CPR feedback device used:**☐ Yes ☐ No**40 - Advanced airway successfully placed in the field:**☐ Yes ☐ No

If 'Yes', please specify:

☐ Combitube ☐ King Airway ☐ LMA☐ Oral/Nasal ET ☐ Other**42 - Were drugs administered:**☐ Yes ☐ No

If 'Yes', select drugs given:

☐ Epinephrine ☐ Atropine ☐ Amiodarone☐ Bicarbonate ☐ Dextrose ☐ Lidocaine☐ Vasopressin ☐ Other**45 - STEMI:**☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

If 'Yes', select location:

☐ Anterior ☐ Inferior**Part E: Hospital Section****46 - ER Outcome**☐ Resuscitation terminated in ED☐ Admitted to hospital☐ Transferred to another acute care facility from the ED**47 - Was hypothermia care initiated or continued in the hospital**☐ Yes☐ No**48 - Hospital Outcome**☐ Died in the hospital☐ Discharged alive☐ Patient made DNR

If yes, choose one of the following:

☐ Died in the hospital☐ Discharged alive☐ Transferred to another acute care hospital☐ Not yet determined☐ Transferred to another acute care hospital☐ Not yet determined**49 - Discharge from the Hospital**☐ Home/Residence☐ Rehabilitation Facility☐ Skilled Nursing Facility/Hospice**50 - Neurological Outcome At Discharge From Hospital**☐ Good Cerebral Performance (CPC 1)☐ Moderate Cerebral Disability (CPC 2)☐ Severe Cerebral Disability (CPC 3)☐ Coma, Vegetative State (CPC 4)**51 - Was the final diagnosis acute myocardial infarction:** ☐ Yes ☐ No**Hospital Procedures****52 - Coronary Angiography Performed:** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

If 'Yes', provide date and time:

		/			/			:			
Hour						Minute					

53 - Was a cardiac stent placed:☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown**54 - CABG performed:**☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown**55 - Was an ICD placed and/or scheduled:** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown**Response and Treatment Times**

	Hour	Minute	Second
57 - Time call received at dispatch center			
58 - Time First Responder dispatched			
59 - Time of First Responder en route			
60 - Time Ambulance dispatched			
61 - Time for Ambulance en route			
62 - Time First Responder arrived at scene			
63 - Time Ambulance arrived at scene			
64 - Time EMS arrived at patient side			
65 - Time Ambulance left scene			
66 - Time Ambulance arrived at ED			

☐ 56 - No First Responder dispatched**General Comments**