

For Your Information

All CA Health Clubs and Studios Required to have AEDs Starting July 1st

Starting July 1, 2007, all health clubs and health studios in California will be required to have an automated external defibrillator (AED) program in place as required by the California Health and Safety Code, Section 104113. Health clubs and studios are defined as any facility that provides equipment for physical exercise, body building, figure development, fitness training or any other similar purpose on a membership basis. (Hotels are excluded.)

One person per AED unit obtained shall complete training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and AED use for the first five AEDs. If more than five units are obtained, one additional person shall be trained in CPR and AED use for each block of five AEDs. Trained employees will need to be available during normal operating hours to respond to any emergencies that may involve the use of an AED unit.

To download the brochure, please visit the EMS Authority website at: www.emsa.cah-wnet.gov/emsdivision/HealthClubBrochure.pdf. For more information about the AED requirement, please contact Elaine Forsyth, RN at: (323) 890-8693 or eforsyth@ladhs.org.

Sept. 12 is Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Day

Last year, the California Legislature unanimously approved bill number ACR-159 designating Sept. 12 as Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) Awareness Day to honor all who have survived or died from SCAs and to increase public awareness. This day commemorates the birthday of Travis Roy, a 14-year-old from Murietta who died as a result of a SCA. The annual statewide observance serves as a reminder that deaths from SCAs are frequent and training in CPR and automated external defibrillators (AEDs) can help save lives.

If you are planning or are aware of any events at nearby schools or hospitals on or around Sept. 12, please inform Elaine Forsyth at eforsyth@ladhs.org so they can be posted on our website.

Grant Awarded for the Study of Reference Policy 814

Dr. Corita Grudzen with the University of California, Los Angeles has received a grant for \$120,000 from the California Health Care Foundation to evaluate Los Angeles County's newly revised prehospital resuscitation policy, Ref. No. 814, Determination/Pronouncement of Death in the Field. This study will determine the effectiveness of the new 814 guidelines through interviews with both the families of non-traumatic cardiac arrest victims and the providers who responded to the 911 calls.

In partnership with Dr. Grudzen, the EMS Agency developed guidelines for prehospital personnel in accordance with the American Heart Association's 2005 recommendations for cardiopulmonary resuscitation, that help identify those patients for whom the potential benefit of Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) procedures exceeds the potential neurological and/or psychological harms to the patient and family. Dr. Grudzen's previous prehospital resuscitation study arose from the EMS community and families of victims identified as receiving unwanted or inappropriate cardiac resuscitation due to constraints placed on the EMS system at that time and the desire to improve end-of-life care. The new guidelines include more effectively ascertaining and honoring patient preferences either through written documents or oral testimony from family members at scene, in addition to straightforward clinical criteria such as prolonged time from arrest and adverse presenting heart rhythms that make ACLS extremely unlikely to be successful. The new 814 guidelines were presented EMS Update 2007 earlier this year and officially went into effect July 1, 2007.



The EMERGIPRESS is a newsletter providing the Los Angeles County prehospital care personnel with informative and educational articles, updates, announcements and resources of current interest.

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10th Annual EMSC Conference

"Keeping Children Healthy and Safe"



November 8, 2007

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For more information please contact

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