Additional Information Follow-up After an AED Is Used

Every event in which an AED is used (or could have been used) must be reviewed by the physician providing oversight (or his or her designee). This means that every incident must be reviewed to establish whether the patient was treated according to the established protocol. Other aspects of performance that can be evaluated include scene safety, efficiency, speed, ability to troubleshoot and interactions with professionals and bystanders.

The case-by-case review is done by written report and review of the recorded data made by the AED. Innovative approaches to event documentation and data management have been incorporated into AEDs. Case reviews that use written reports and AED-acquired data seem to offer the most complete information.

These steps should be taken as soon after the resuscitation as possible:

- Return the AED to a state of readiness.
- Replace the pads, pocket mask and other peripheral supplies that were used.
- Help transmit data to the physician.
- Review the case with the overseeing physician, EMS and involved rescuers.



© American Heart Association