



Third-Party Electrodes and Batteries

There have recently been some complaints about the expense of the pads and battery replacements. Because of our concern that electrodes, adapter devices and batteries be tested and certified for the AEDs on which they are used, the Heart Safe La Plata Board has made a conscious decision to only use Physio-Control products with the CR+ AEDs. According to Physio-Control

“Other manufacturers’ electrodes have not been tested to the stringent LIFEPAK specifications and may compromise patient or rescuer safety.”

In addition,

“the use of any non-Physio-Control products may invalidate the warranty and/or indemnification protection provided by Physio-Control.”

Some third-party pediatric pads are meant for use with manual defibrillators, not automated ones like ours. If there is no attenuator, which dials down the energy, then they are for manual defibrillators only—not CR+ AEDs.

The bottom line for us is that although third-party electrodes might be cheaper, use of third-party electrodes may invalidate the AED warranty. Because of this, please use only Physio-Control pads and battery kits. And, remember, the AEDs belong to Heart Safe La Plata not to each site.

CPR for Avalanche Victims

With winter snows quickly covering our mountains, outdoor enthusiasts will soon be enjoying skiing in the backcountry. Risk of being swept up in an avalanche is a part of that experience. All knowledgeable people will be carrying their avalanche beacons. But what if you are involved in the search and rescue of your buried companions. Should you do CPR or not?

The latest studies show that overall survival rate of avalanche victims is 77%. In all unresponsive cases, CPR should be initiated and ventilations should be combined with chest compressions. Because the body cools quickly when buried in ice and snow, everything slows down and resuscitation can be successful for longer periods with no neurological damage. The longest successful cardiopulmonary resuscitation of a hypothermic patient reported in literature was six and a half hours.

The latest guidelines recommend resuscitation for cardiac arrest victims for whom an adequate airway can be provided. Rewarming and oxygen therapy are also advised for hypothermic victims.

Because of the trauma involved, adequate spinal stabilization is necessary throughout extrication, on-scene management, and transport. If an AED is available, delivering one shock is always okay. If the person was buried for less than 35 minutes, continue CPR and defibrillation. If the person was buried for 35 minutes or more, discontinue defibrillation attempts and transport immediately.

Procedures Following AED Use

Whenever an AED unit has been placed on a patient, the lay responder should complete a **Patient Care Report** documenting his/her actions. This form can be obtained from our website. Following defibrillation, please call the Heart Safe La Plata office (382-6039) so that the AED can be picked up for analysis. The information stored in the AED will be downloaded and archived by Heart Safe La Plata. Following the data download, the unit will be refurbished at our expense and returned to its location.

Within 30 days of any defibrillation, Dr. Tony DeMond, our Medical Director, or his designee will perform a review of the AED information and any written Patient Care Report to determine the effectiveness of each response. The review will include

1. Lay response time
2. EMS response time
3. Use on the appropriate type of patient (pulseless, apneic patient; greater than 8 years of age and greater than 55 pounds)
4. Degree of compliance with shock/no-shock direction from the AED
5. Success of data collection process
6. Completeness of documentation
7. Overall effectiveness of the Heart Safe La Plata Plan

Board Members

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scan this to access the Heart Safe la Plata website

Current AED Placements

AccounTax CPAs, Main Mall
Animas Dental Associates
Animas Urgent Care
Bank of Colorado
Bank of the San Juans (All 3 branches!)
Bar D Chuckwagon (summer only, sponsored by Mountain Bike Specialist)

Bayfield Marshall (2 units)
Bayfield Parks & Rec (sponsored by High Noon Rotary)
Bayfield Realty at Vallecito
Bayfield School District 10 JTR (5 units)
Bayfield Senior Center (sponsored by Pinnacle Surveying)
BP America (15 units)
Christ the King Lutheran Church
Citizens State Bank of Ouray, Silverton Branch
City of Durango
Chapman Hill
City Hall
General Services
Library
Mason Center
Police Dept.
Police Officers (13 units)
Rec Center
Riverview Sports Complex
Transit Center

Colorado Department of Transportation (2 in Durango, 1 in Alamosa)

Colorado Trails Ranch
Country Market at Vallecito
Dalton Ranch & Golf Club
Department of Motor Vehicles (sponsored by DTW Properties)

Dental Associates of the Southwest (Bayfield and Durango)

Digestive Health Associates
Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge
5 trains
Dispatchers Office
Ticket Office

Durango Adult Education Center (sponsored by High Noon Rotary)

Durango Arts Center (sponsored by Colorado Grand)

Durango Community Shelter (sponsored by the Durango Roller Girls)

Durango Dental Associates, 3235-A Main Ave.
Durango Dental Clinic, 2323 W. 2nd Ave.

Durango Dermatology
Durango Electrical Services Inc.
Durango Fire & Rescue Authority
Durango Herald

Durango Mountain Resort
Purgatory Village Hotel
Cascade Village
Dante's (winter only)
Powder House (winter only)
Security
Ski Patrol (winter only)
Tamarron Lodge
Durango Mountain Master Association/Durango Mountain Club

Durango Orthopedics Associates

Durango School District 9R (17 units)
Durango Sports Club
Durango Urgent Care
Durango Welcome Center (sponsored by Durango Rotary)
Durango West Metro District II
Falls Creek Ranch Homeowners (2 units)
First Baptist Church
First National Bank (all 5 branches, including Wal-Mart!)
First United Methodist Church
Fitness Solutions 24/7
Fort Lewis College
Miller Student Center – main lobby across from Native American Center
Student Life Center – main lobby
College Union Building – main lobby
Natatorium – first aid room
Whalen Gymnasium – south end near Exercise Science offices
Physical Plant – near Service Center offices
Center of Southwest Studies – main lobby
Community Concert Hall – main lobby
Athletic Training Office located in Whalen Gymnasium
Intramural Teams (2 units)
Fort Lewis Police (3 units)
Four Corner's Materials
Glacier Club (4 units)
Health Services Center
Heartwood Cohousing - Bayfield
Ignacio School District 11 JT (6 units)
Junction Creek Family Dentistry
Dr. Preston Knight, 2301 W. 2nd Ave.
La Plata Community Clinic
La Plata County
County Courthouse
Fairgrounds
Ballfields (summer only)
Extension Offices
Klatt Arena (summer only)
Jail
Old Main Post Office
Road and Bridge
19 Sheriff's Officers

La Plata County Airport (2 units)
La Plata Electric Association (Durango & Pagosa Springs +6 units in vehicles)
La Plata Family Medicine
La Plata Senior Center, 2424 Main Ave.
Manna Soup Kitchen (sponsored by the Durango Rotary Club)
Medical Reserve Corp
Mercury Payment Systems (2 units)
Mind & Body Works, 129 E 32nd
Dr. Jeff Nelson, 125 CR 250
Oak Family Dentistry
Our Place at Grandview (sponsored by United Methodist Church)
Pine River Valley Bank
Red Cedar Gathering (6 units)
Rivergate Physical Therapy
Rocky Mountain General Store at Vallecito
San Juan Basin Health Department (sponsored by SW RETAC)
San Juan Public Lands
Bayfield
Durango (2 locations)
Silverton
Southern Ute Tribe
Annex Building
Detention Center (2 units)
Growth Fund Building
Head Start/Early Start
Justice and Regulatory Building
Moache-Capote Building
Multi-Purpose Building & Chapel
Public Health Clinic (4 units)
Public Health Nurses Vehicles (7 units)
Sky Ute Fairgrounds
Southern Ute Lodge and Casino (9 units)
SunUte Community Center (3 units)
Tribal Admin Building (2 units)
Utilities Division Office
Wastewater Management
St. Columba Catholic Church & School (3 units)
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Strater Hotel
Tall Timbers/Soaring America (2 units)
Tech Center Plaza, 10 Burnett Court (sponsored by ENV, LLC)
Three Springs Development
Town of Ignacio
4 Police Units
Town Hall, 540 Goddard
Trimble Spa and Natural Hot Springs
Upper Pine River Fire Protection District (2 units)
Vista de Oro Homeowners

Heart Safe La Plata - www.heartsafelaplata.org

La Plata County EMS Council

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