



UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES

4301 JONES BRIDGE ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20814-4799



September 22, 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR BASIC LIFE SUPPORT TRAINING SITE STAFF

SUBJECT: New Pediatric Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Training Module

The American Heart Association (AHA) issued a National ECC Training Memo implementing an optional Pediatric AED Training Module for Basic Life Support (BLS) courses. This follows the Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Task Force of the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR) recommendation that Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) may be used for children 1 to 8 years of age who have no signs of circulation. The AHA memo provides guidelines for including the Pediatric AED Module in existing BLS courses. The memo also includes associated instructor support materials (objectives, agenda, scenarios, performance checklists). Please distribute the AHA Training Memo to your BLS instructors.

1. The AHA's Aug 2003 National ECC Training Memo, *Pediatric AED Module*, is available at:

http://www.americanheart.org/downloadable/heart/1061391306196Training_Memo_8-15-03_Peds_AED_Electrode_Skills_Module.pdf

2. The July 2003 ILCOR Advisory Statement, *Use of Automated External Defibrillators for Children: An Update*, is available at:

<http://circ.ahajournals.org/cgi/content/full/107/25/3250>

Several AED manufactures have designed child electrodes for use with an adult AED to reduce the energy delivered to pediatric patients. Training Sites that elect to teach the Pediatric AED Training Module are required to have the child electrodes that correspond to their AED trainers. Training Sites are encouraged to visit the MTN website www.usuhs.mil/mtn/mtn.html for links to the above resources and other information.


RYAN M. SHERCLIFFE, MAJ USAF, NC
Director, Military Training Network
Uniformed Services University