

Why do I need an AED?

What is an AED?

An AED (or Automated External Defibrillator), is a vital life-saving medical device used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. AED's are designed to deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation if needed. The shock helps the heart re-establish an effective rhythm. Whilst being sophisticated piece of equipment, they are simple to use.



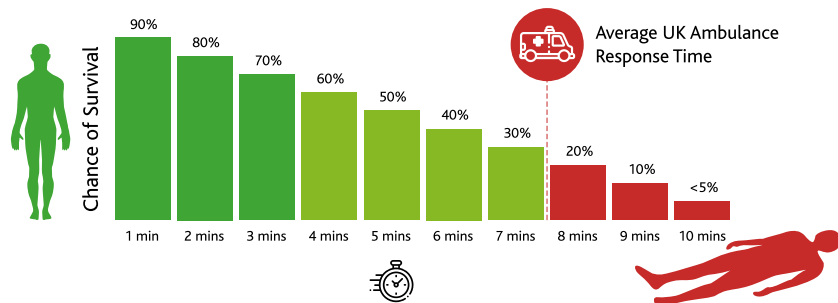
The Mediana Heart On A15 AED is easy to use. The device literally talks the user through the process of delivering a shock with clear voice prompts, which means anyone can quickly make a difference by using it.

EVERY SECOND COUNTS

Cardiac arrest can affect anyone at any time. Each year there are more than 30,000 out of hospital cardiac arrests in the UK, but fewer than one in ten people survive. Each minute that passes without CPR or access to an AED reduces the chances of survival by 10%. An AED is no replacement for professional emergency medical care but together with CPR, it can help to keep a patient alive while waiting for the emergency services to arrive.

With greater demands on the NHS, ambulance response times are at record highs, there has never been a greater need for easy to access AEDs.

In December 2022 the average reported ambulance response time for chest pain was 93 minutes – five times the target of 18 minutes. The higher priority "life threatening" category of calls (including those with suspected heart attacks) were also affected. In December 2022 Ambulance crews took almost 11 minutes on average to reach patients – 4 minutes more than the operational target. These figures illustrate how immediate action is required.



70%

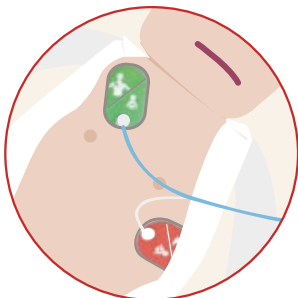
Research has shown that deploying a defibrillator within 3-5 minutes of collapse can produce survival rates as high as 50%-70%

13%

Approximately 13% of all workplace fatalities are caused by sudden cardiac arrest (SCA).

15%

Only 15% of workplaces in the UK are reported to have a defibrillator on site.



WHY ARE AED'S NEEDED IN THE WORKPLACE?

- ♥ Research has shown that deploying a defibrillator within 3-5 minutes of collapse can produce survival rates as high as 50%-70%
- ♥ Approximately 13% of all workplace fatalities are caused by sudden cardiac arrest (SCA).
- ♥ Only 15% of workplaces in the UK are reported to have a defibrillator on site.
- ♥ 90% of Cardiac arrests occur out of hospital. Cardiac arrest can affect anyone regardless of age, anywhere. Employers have a duty of care to their staff, by providing an AED on the premises they can save lives.
- ♥ AED's are low maintenance and can remain in operation for c. 8 years - ready to be used when they are needed most, representing a sound investment by businesses in the safety of their staff and customers. By investing in a defibrillator, you signal to your employees how much you care about their health and safety.

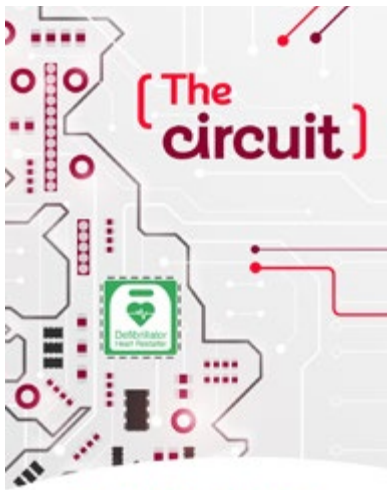
HOW DO I USE AN AED?

AED's are designed to be easy to use in an emergency. The Mediana A15 and Mediana A16 can be quickly and easily used by anyone. Simply by opening the lid on the AED starts voice instructions that literally talk the user through the process of using the device, applying the pads and delivering a shock. An Online course is also available.

HOW MANY AED'S DOES MY WORKPLACE NEED?

Access time is an important factor in deciding the number of AED's required for your workplace. AED's should be available for staff, customers and other visitors. All staff should be trained to know where the AED is so they can grab it quickly in an emergency. A maximum 3 minute access time should be considered when placing AED's in the workplace. The 3 minutes includes 90 seconds to locate the device and bring to the victim and 90 seconds to prepare them and apply the AED to administer a shock. Large workplaces will need more AED's - particularly if they can be accessed by the public. For example, a golf course should have an AED at the clubhouse and a number of AED's positioned externally at locations around the course that can be accessed quickly in an emergency.





Register your
defibrillator now

REGISTER YOUR DEFIBRILLATOR AT THE CIRCUIT.UK

Many defibrillators aren't used because emergency services don't know where they are and they can't direct bystanders to the nearest one.

Please help the NHS ambulance services by registering your defibrillator on The Circuit today and giving your device the best chance of saving someone's life.

<https://www.thecircuit.uk>

MAKING SURE YOUR AED IS RESCUE READY

It is advisable to check that your AED is functioning at least monthly. Whilst batteries and pads have long operating lives they should be regularly checked.

Check:

- ♥ Is there any sign of damage?
- ♥ Is the AED battery still within its operating date?
- ♥ Is the battery charged? – if charge is low it will need to be replaced
- ♥ Are the pads still within their operating date?
- ♥ Check the active status of your AED. For the Mediana A15, an O will display if the unit is operation a red "No Go" symbol will appear in the event of unit failure.
- ♥ Are the additional supplies such as an AED prep kit present?



AED PREP KIT

AN AED prep kit is a vital accessory to complement your AED. An AED kit typically includes a razor for removing chest hair in preparation for better contact and adherence of pads and a mouth shield for personal protection whilst providing mouth to mouth resuscitation.

