



Please find below information that will assist you in setting up a Community Public Access Defibrillator site (CPAD site).

**Q: What is a CPAD Site?**

**A:** A CPAD site is a **C**ommunity **P**ublic **A**ccessible **D**efibrillator that can be sited anywhere within any location that is easily accessible 24 hours a day. We recommend that the cabinet that houses the defibrillator is fitted with a key coded door that ensures the defibrillator is safe from theft and vandalism. The cabinet will require a mains power supply for the heater that helps to protect the defibrillator from the frost and cold as well as the supply of a light.

**Q: Do we need a CPAD site in our village?**

**A:** Sudden cardiac arrest claims around 150,000- 200,000 lives each year in the United Kingdom, with survival rates being around 5% - 10% outside of a hospital setting. If a person's heart has stopped due to an accident or heart attack and is in a rhythm called ventricular fibrillation, the only way to get the heart into a more regular sustaining beat is to pass an electrical charge through the heart muscle. The first three to four minutes are the most vital for the collapsed person and, if FIRST AID and a DEFIBRILLATOR are on hand, then the chance of survival will increase considerably.

**Q: Where can a CPAD site be fitted?**

**A:** The cabinet can be fitted to the external wall of any building such as a Public House, shop, village hall, community centre etc. The only point that needs to be considered is that it is easily accessible, well illuminated and that there is room to park safely in the event that a person has to drive to collect the defibrillator.

**Q: How does a CPAD site work?**

**A:** In the event of a person collapsing you will still need to dial 999 to call for the ambulance. The ambulance service will direct the caller to where the CPAD site is and will give the caller the key code for the cabinet. The ambulance service will have all addresses logged within the town/village location so will be able to direct the caller to the exact location of where the CPAD site is.

**Q: Do I need training in how to use a defibrillator?**

**A:** The UK resuscitation council guidelines state that there is no requirement to be trained in the use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and that in the event of a person collapsing the non-trained person should still use the AED as the step by step voice prompts that are part of the AED talks the user through the process of what to do.

However, training should be encouraged for those who would be interested in learning how to do Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an AED. Training courses are readily available from a number of different training companies. You can access training through the ambulance service commercial training department.

**Q: Is there any risk in the use of an AED?**

**A:** If someone is having a cardiac arrest, using an AED and undertaking CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) will improve the chances of survival. Automated External Defibrillator's (AED's) are really safe to use. There have never been any reports of an AED harming the patient, user or bystander. In addition there have been no reports of an AED delivering any inappropriate shocks.

**Q: If I set up a CPAD Site what equipment will I get?**

**A:** Depending upon supplier, we recommend you purchase (dependent upon location) a heated mild steel or stainless steel cabinet that should be vandal resistant and IP65 rated. It should have a thermostatically controlled heater as well as lighting and indicator lamp. The purpose of having a heated cabinet is to ensure the AED pads do not become frozen when the temperature drops below freezing.

The cabinet will need to be fitted and installed by a suitably qualified electrician.

Please note the defibrillator does not require a power supply as they are normally supplied with a lithium battery that does not require charging.

Dependent on your choice of AED, your supplier will give you product information regarding frequency of battery and AED pad replacement.

We recommend that the defibrillator is supplied with a spare set of AED pads, as well as a towel, razor, pocket mask, scissors and a pair of disposable gloves.

**Q: Where can I get a CPAD site from and how much do they cost?**

**A:** There are a number of companies that will supply you with a cabinet and AED.

**We strongly recommend that you research this area before you make your final decision.**

Below a few suppliers of cabinets and defibrillators

[www.communityheartbeat.org.uk](http://www.communityheartbeat.org.uk)

[www.aedcabinets.co.uk](http://www.aedcabinets.co.uk)

[www.aedlocator.org](http://www.aedlocator.org)

[www.spservices.co.uk/](http://www.spservices.co.uk/)

We would estimate that your community would need to budget around £2,000 to set up a CPAD site. Fundraising ideas can be found at:

[http://www.hearhythmcharity.org.uk/www/media/files/Community\\_AED\\_Placement\\_Toolkit.pdf](http://www.hearhythmcharity.org.uk/www/media/files/Community_AED_Placement_Toolkit.pdf)

**Q: Are there any on-going costs?**

**A:** On-going running costs will depend on who you chose to get your cabinet and AED from. Most AED pads have an expiry date of 18 months, and most AEDs require battery replacement within 4 years of purchase. Ask your supplier for the information on maintaining your specific AED model.

**Q: Who looks after the CPAD site?**

**A:** We would recommend that you appoint a 'custodian' for the CPAD site. The role of this person will be to ensure the weekly/monthly/yearly checks are undertaken on the AED in line with the manufacturers guidance and in the event of the AED being deployed this person will then be responsible for ensuring that the AED is returned to operational status as soon as possible and re-stocking any used equipment.

**Case Studies:**

If you view the websites below you can look at a number of different case studies that have inspired communities to establish their own CPAD sites.

<http://www.communityheartbeat.org.uk/casestudies.php>

<http://www.aedlocator.org/testimonials.php>

**Q: What do I need to do now - and do I need to contact the Ambulance Service?**

**A:** We would advise you to contact the East of England Ambulance Service if you decide you would like to have a CPAD site in your area as we can offer advice as to whether you need a CPAD site, where the best possible location would be and also if there is a Community Responder Scheme in your area that you could link your CPAD site to.

Once your CPAD site is installed we will need to be informed so that we can add the information to our CAD system in ambulance control enabling 999 callers to be made aware of the location of the AED. We would also like to work with your local 'custodian' in the event of the AED being deployed which will assist you in returning the AED.

Please contact our Community Partnership administration department on:

**Tel:** 01954 712400    **or email:** [responderadmin@eastamb.nhs.uk](mailto:responderadmin@eastamb.nhs.uk)

You will be put in contact with your local Community Partnership Manager who will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Community Partnership Team    November 2012

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