

RUTHERFORD COUNTY

Emergency Medical Services

TEAM APPROACH TO CPR IN SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST

GOAL:

To Provide the Highest Quality Care Possible to Every Sudden Cardiac Arrest Patient, In Order to Improve Survival Rates and Ultimately Save Lives

Two steps to save a life:



Call Right Away!



**Push Hard & Fast in
the Center of the Chest!**

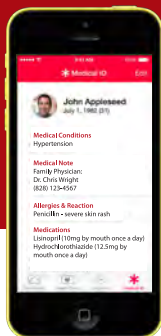
What is sudden Cardiac Arrest? Sudden Cardiac Arrest is a condition in which the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating. When this happens blood stops flowing to the brain and other important organs.

What should I expect when calling 9-1-1? The dispatcher will immediately ask the location of your emergency. A series of questions will be asked to help increase the chances of your loved one's survival. CPR instructions will also be given to you to assist in the care of your loved one. If you choose to assist by giving CPR, a dispatcher will remain on the line with you until medical help arrives.

What is CPR? CPR is an abbreviation for CardioPulmonary Resuscitation, a life saving procedure used to provide chest compressions in order to maintain blood flow to the body of the victim of cardiac arrest.

For step by step instructions on how to set up your Medical ID, go to:

www.emsMEDICALid.com



What should I expect when help arrives?

There will be many responders from EMS, Fire Departments and Rescue Squads as they all play an important role in Team Approach to CPR. At their arrival you may be asked to continue with your CPR efforts until adequate personnel has arrived to take over.

You may be asked for additional information on the patient, such as, what happened, their medical history, medications they are taking and allergies to medications.



What is the Team Approach? The team approach to CPR in Sudden Cardiac Arrest utilizes a community of people to provide the most rapid response, the highest level of effective CPR possible and maintain the continued quality of care. The team approach utilizes everyone from bystanders and family to emergency 911 dispatchers, first responders and EMS personnel.

CHAIN OF SURVIVAL



Why aren't you going to the Hospital? Emergency Medical Services for sudden cardiac arrest USED TO MEAN getting the patients on the way to the hospital as fast as possible. But new studies have proven that treating the patient where they are found, as long as it is safe, and continuing efforts to revive the patient, minimizes interruptions in CPR and administration of medications. Therefore, improving the quality of CPR which improves blood flow to the brain and other important organs. EMS personnel are highly trained and equipped to provide the same level of initial treatment on the scene as would be given in the Emergency Room.

Why is my loved one exposed? (clothing removal)

Sometimes clothing, jewelry and other items on the patient can hinder appropriate care and must be removed to perform CPR and other procedures during the resuscitative efforts. Every effort will be made to maintain dignity and decrease exposure; however, providing the best possible care will always take precedence.



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