

DEFIBRILLATOR AED PADS AND BATTERY PACK INSPECTIONS



Proposed changes to the first aid protocols for locations equipped with a defibrillator.

After conducting reviews throughout the business, we have identified certain inconsistencies in our first aid arrangements for sites that are equipped with a defibrillator. The attached proposal seeks to standardize our approach, ensuring uniformity across the organization in terms of emergency preparedness.

Defibrillator Inspections

Instances have been identified where defibrillator AED pads and battery packs have surpassed their expiration dates, which presents a potential risk regarding the equipment's effectiveness in emergency situations. Although certain locations incorporate AED pad and battery inspections within the periodic assessments conducted through Checkproof, we have observed inconsistencies in this checklist throughout the organization. To address this risk, we will be standardizing the relevant checklist in Checkproof for all sites that are equipped with a defibrillator. This standardization will serve as a prompt to ensure that both the unit's battery and AED pad expiry dates are checked during the periodic inspections. ***It is recommended that sites who do not utilize checkproof for defibrillator inspections integrate this guidance into their local inspection procedures.***

DEFIBRILLATOR BATTERY PACK INSPECTION



If the battery pack does not display an expiry date, you should contact the manufacturer for guidance. The lifespan of a defibrillator battery varies by model and usage.



Battery release button



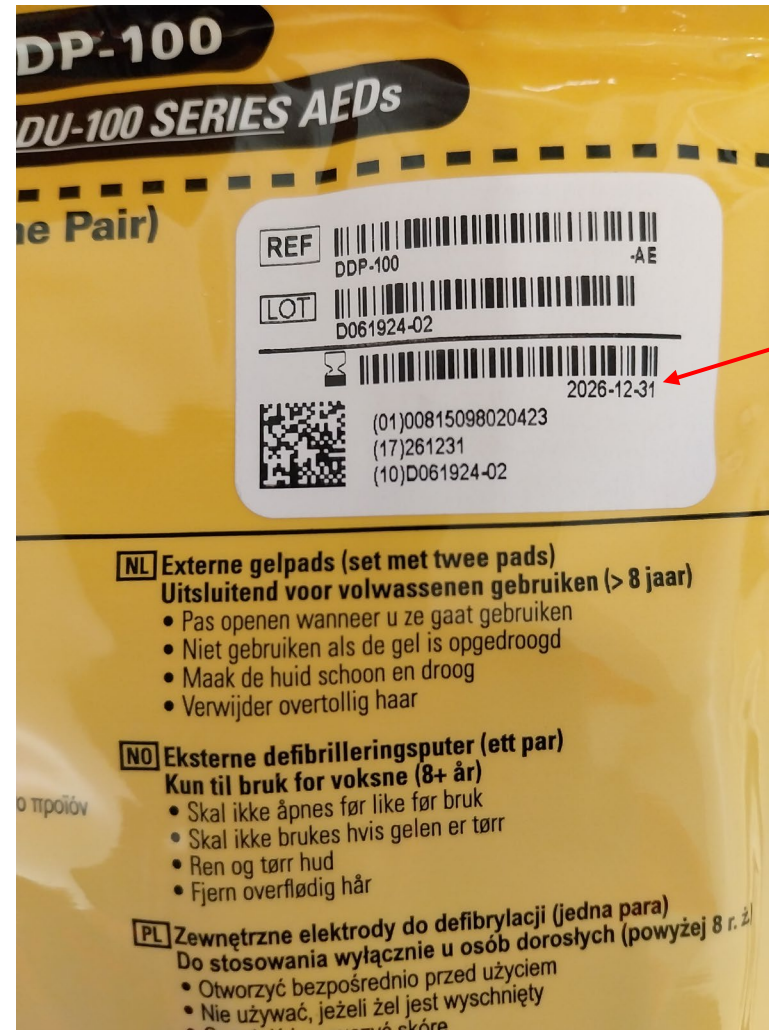
The building symbol indicates the manufacture date

The hourglass symbol indicates an expiry date

Battery expiry date

Note: Some defibrillator models have a battery integrated into the handle. Refer to the operating manual for guidance

DEFIBRILLATOR AED PAD INSPECTION



AED pad expiry date, this may also be located on the corner flap of the packaging

ASPRIN



Aspirin

We are aware that certain locations that are equipped with a defibrillator also maintain a limited supply of Aspirin. This medication may be administered to individuals suspected of experiencing a heart attack, as it is intended to thin the blood and enhance blood flow to the heart. This practice is in accordance with the guidance provided by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

Are first aiders allowed to give tablets and medication to casualties?

*First aid at work does not include giving tablets or medicines to treat illness. **The only exception to this is where aspirin is used when giving first aid to a casualty with a suspected heart attack, in accordance with currently accepted first-aid practice. It is recommended that tablets and medicines should not be kept in the first-aid box.***

We propose that all sites equipped with a defibrillator should also maintain a limited supply of chewable Aspirin, which should be safely stored within the defibrillator preparation kit. Aspirin should not be included in general first aid kits. The Aspirin must only be administered in emergency situations and under the direct guidance of a medical professional, such as a 999-call operator. It is crucial to verify that the person receiving the Aspirin has no known allergies to the drug. The advised standard dosage is 300mg.

The associated first aid risk assessments must also be reviewed and updated to reflect these changes. The outlined changes are designed to enhance our emergency preparedness