

Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

GENERAL CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER

Defibrillation on the GCRC

Policy No.: 136
Original Date: 12/13/01
Previous Date: None
Revised Date:

Purpose: Emergency defibrillation is a procedure for converting potentially fatal dysrhythmias to normal sinus rhythm by the transthoracic application of an electrical current to the heart. Special training, competencies and equipment are required in order for a GCRC Nurse to conduct defibrillation on the GCRC.

Policy:

1. GCRC Nursing staff can only conduct defibrillation on the GCRC by following the prompts provided by the Automatic External Defibrillation System (AED). GCRC Nurses may not use the Manual Defibrillation option on the Defibrillator device.
2. The GCRC Nursing staff will implement the AED system until such time that the JHBMC Code Team arrives. Then it is the Code Team's responsibility for all resuscitation efforts, including defibrillation.
3. In order to use the AED, the GCRC Nurse must have a minimum of a current Basic Cardiac Life Support card, and completed all the required skills validation and testing for the use of the AED.
4. The GCRC Nursing staff will attend Automatic External Defibrillation Orientation class and adhere to the JHBMC competency validation procedures.

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