



State of New Hampshire

Department of Safety



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CLINICAL BULLETIN

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55	Multi-Function Cardiac Monitor in AED Mode			June 26, 2019
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ALERT!

The Division of Fire Standards and Training & Emergency Medical Services has been recently made aware of a **potential shortcoming with the use of “multi-function cardiac monitors” in AED mode**. In AED mode the device will only deliver adult energy dosages to patients, including pediatric patients less than eight (8) years of age, regardless of whether adult or pediatric electrodes are being utilized. The Division has contacted technical support specialists from Stryker (Physio Control), Zoll and Phillips whom have confirmed these findings. In addition there is no compatibility with AED pediatric electrodes (that attenuate energy) and the “multi-function cardiac monitor”. Pediatric electrodes that are used with “multi-function cardiac monitors” are merely smaller in size to correlate to a smaller patient and do not attenuate energy.

The Division is currently working with other States to identify long-term solutions to this problem but until it is resolved, encourages all departments and agencies providing EMS services in the State of New Hampshire to immediately take the following actions into consideration.

- If you are currently using any “Multi-Function Cardiac Monitor” in AED Mode, have a local plan to properly address patients requiring less than adult levels of energy during defibrillation (all pediatric patients).
- Ensure that the appropriate electrodes are with the intended piece of equipment. Pediatric attenuating electrodes are only to be used with AEDs and non-attenuating pediatric electrodes are only to be used with “multi-function cardiac monitors”.
- As a reminder, New Hampshire Patient Care Protocols state, *if pediatric AED pads are unavailable, providers may use adult AED pads, provided the pads do not overlap.*

The Division will continue to investigate this shortcoming in coordination with other States nationally, as well as local partners, and will report findings to all agencies providing care in New Hampshire.