

CHAPTER 41A**EMT-D CARDIAC DEFIBRILLATION****Authority**

N.J.S.A. 26:2K-39 et seq..

Source and Effective Date

R.1997 d.177, effective April 21, 1997.
See: 28 N.J.R. 3287(a), 28 N.J.R. 3909(b), 29 N.J.R. 1558(a).

Executive Order No. 66(1978) Expiration Date

Chapter 40A, EMT-D Cardiac Defibrillation,
expires on April 21, 2002.

Chapter Historical Note

Chapter 41A, Certification and Operation of Emergency Medical Technician Defibrillator Programs, was adopted as R.1992 d.63, effective February 18, 1992 (operative May 1, 1992). See: 23 N.J.R. 1254(a), 24 N.J.R. 585(a). Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 41A expired on February 18, 1997.

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SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS**8:41A-1.1 Purpose and scope**

(a) This chapter is promulgated to carry out the provisions of N.J.S.A. 26:2K-39 et seq.

(b) This chapter shall apply to any EMT-D who administers or seeks to administer pre-hospital cardiac defibrillation, and to any mobile intensive care unit, ambulance, first aid or rescue squad, police department, or fire department which possesses a semi-automatic cardiac defibrillator which may be used by an EMT-D.

8:41A-1.2 Definitions

The following words and terms, as utilized in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context in which they are utilized clearly indicates otherwise.

“Ambulance, first aid or rescue squad” means an organization which meets the definition of a volunteer or non-volunteer ambulance, first aid or rescue squad at N.J.S.A. 27:5F-20.

“Cardiac defibrillation” means the discharge of electrical current through the fibrillating myocardium for the purpose of restoring a perfusing cardiac rhythm.

“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services.

“Department” means the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services.

“Emergency Medical Technician-Defibrillation (EMT-D)” means an individual trained and currently certified by the Commissioner, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:40A and who is certified by the Commissioner to perform cardiac defibrillation.

“Emergency Medical Technician-Defibrillation agency (EMT-D agency)” means an ambulance, first aid or rescue squad, police department, fire department or other entity which possesses a semi-automatic cardiac defibrillator which may be utilized by an EMT-D for the purpose of pre-hospital cardiac defibrillation, and which is registered with the Department in accordance with this chapter.

“Fire department” means the officers and members organized to fight fires in any given municipality.

“Mobile intensive care unit (MICU)” means a specialized emergency medical service vehicle staffed by mobile intensive care paramedics or registered professional nurses trained in advanced life support nursing and operated for the provision of advanced life support services under the direction of an authorized hospital.

“Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS)” refers to the unit of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services charged with the enforcement of this chapter.

"Physician" means an individual currently licensed to practice medicine and surgery pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:9-1 et seq.

"Police department" means a body of individuals trained in methods of law enforcement and crime prevention and detection, who are vested with the authority to maintain the peace, safety, and order of the community.

"Pre-hospital" means the period of time prior to the delivery of a patient to a physician or nurse at a medical treatment facility, during which certified or licensed emergency medical personnel render emergency medical care.

"Semi-automatic cardiac defibrillator" means a device which can:

1. Be attached to a patient in cardiopulmonary arrest;
2. Analyze an electrocardiogram for the presence of potentially lethal dysrhythmias specifically ventricular fibrillation and fast ventricular tachycardia;
3. Deliver an electrical defibrillation to the patient in accordance with the requirements of standard treatment protocols; and
4. Produce an event summary which documents significant events in the use of the device, specifically events prior to and after an electrical defibrillation.

"Sponsoring MICU hospital" means a hospital authorized to operate a mobile intensive care unit, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:41, and which has agreed to provide medical oversight, quality assurance monitoring and EMT-D training to the EMT-D agencies which have chosen to affiliate with the hospital.

8:41A-1.3 Waiver

(a) The Commissioner or his or her designee may, in accordance with the general purposes and intent of N.J.S.A. 26:2K-1 et seq., and amendments thereto, waive sections of this chapter if, in his or her option, such waiver would not endanger the life, safety or health of the public.

(b) Any agency, organization, entity or individual seeking a waiver of the standards in this chapter shall apply in writing to:

Office of Emergency Medical Services
CN 367
Trenton, NJ 08625-0367

(c) A written application for waiver shall include the following:

1. The nature of the waiver requested;
2. The specific standards for which a waiver is requested;
3. Reasons for requesting a waiver, including a statement of the type and degree of hardship that would result upon full compliance;
4. An alternative proposal which would ensure public safety; and

5. Documentation to support the waiver application.

(d) The Department reserves the right to request additional information before processing an application for waiver.

8:41A-1.4 Purpose of treatment by EMTs-D

(a) The EMT-D program is not a substitute for the existing mobile intensive care unit system in New Jersey. It is designed to enhance the existing system. Any time a patient receives treatment from an EMT-D, the appropriate advanced life support services shall be requested and utilized if available as per the local protocols of each MICU service area.

(b) A New Jersey paramedic or mobile intensive care nurse, as defined at N.J.A.C. 8:41, may perform pre-hospital cardiac defibrillation as an EMT-D in accordance with this chapter at any time. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to restrict the ability of the paramedic or mobile intensive care nurse to provide any care or procedure authorized in N.J.A.C. 8:41 when that person is operating on an approved MICU vehicle.

8:41A-1.5 Continuance of previous EMT-D agency approvals

(a) An EMT-D agency which was approved to provide EMT-D services prior to April 21, 1997 in accordance with the former N.J.A.C. 8:41A shall continue to be approved and registered with the Department, provided that no change of sponsoring MICU hospital is made. No additional registration shall be required.

(b) Should an EMT-D agency wish to change sponsoring MICU hospitals, the EMT-D agency shall complete the registration requirements prior to changing the sponsoring MICU hospital.

(c) Any sponsoring MICU hospital which was providing a medical director, quality assurance oversight and EMT-D training shall continue to do so, with no additional registration or notification to the Department required.

SUBCHAPTER 2. REGISTRATION OF SEMI-AUTOMATIC CARDIAC DEFIBRILLATORS

8:41A-2.1 Registration requirements

(a) Any mobile intensive care unit, ambulance, first aid or rescue squad, police department, fire department or other entity that possesses a semi-automatic cardiac defibrillator which may be used by an EMT-D for the purpose of administering pre-hospital cardiac defibrillation shall register with the Department. Registration shall be made in a form and manner as prescribed by the Department in (b) below. Registration forms shall be available from and shall be submitted to the sponsoring MICU hospital with which the applicant has affiliated, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:41A-3.1