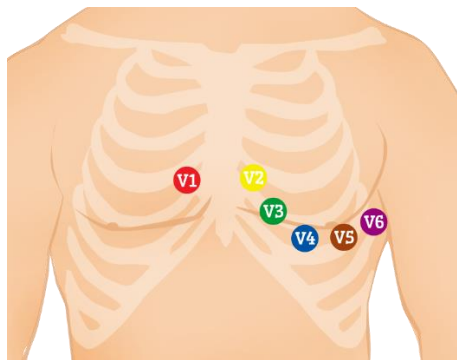
		CLACKAMAS & WASHINGTON COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES		
EMS Clinical Notification				
EFFECTIVE 29 March 2021	NUMBER: 032921-CLN	TYPE: Clinical Guideline	REPLACES: None	PAGE: 1 OF 1
ENTER NAME/TITLE HERE (signature on) DR. RITU SAHNI, MD, MPH, FAEMS		TITLE: DEFIBRILLATION PAD PLACEMENT ON STEMI PATIENTS		

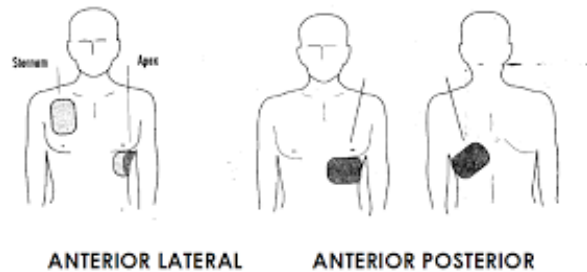
Effective immediately, it is required that defibrillation pads be placed on all patients suspected of having an acute STEMI (either by paramedic or computer interpretation of 12-lead EKG).

While we have informally suggested this in the past, it is now being placed in the protocol as a requirement. Studies have shown that one in twenty STEMI patients will suffer a sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) prior to arrival at an emergency department. SCA is associated with a 10-fold higher mortality rate. Additionally, studies have shown that preplacement of pads significantly reduces time to shock with a witnessed arrest.

When placing defibrillation pads, please place them in such a manner as not to interfere with the location of the 12-lead chest leads.



ADULT PAD PLACEMENT



The placement of defibrillation pads on STEMI patients will be added to the Chest Pain/Acute Coronary Syndrome protocol (10.070). If your agency utilizes a STEMI checklist, please be sure to update this as well.

Hardbound copies of the protocols cannot be updated at this time. Feel free to print off the updated protocol for your 8.5” X 11” protocol books or write in the addition of the pad placement under the “Field Identified STEMI” section of the protocol. All electronic copies will be updated.

If you have any questions, please contact your agencies clinical training officer.

Ritu Sahni, MD, MPH, FAEMS
EMS Medical Director