

**Emergency Health Services**  
239 Brownlow Ave., Suite 300  
Dartmouth, NS B3B 2B2



[www.savelivesns.ca](http://www.savelivesns.ca)

Dear AED owner/designate,

As you are aware, Nova Scotians have done a great job dealing with the current pandemic. As a member of the Emergency Health Services (EHS) AED Registry, we appreciate your commitment to the safety of Nova Scotians. We also want you to be as safe as possible while we learn best practices on resuscitation during a global pandemic. As a result, responder notifications were turned off as a precaution.

There is still lots you and the Registry can do, even without these notifications while we remain cautious of COVID-19, and exert as much safety and precaution as possible. We want to thank you for your help and share some safety tips and items so that your AED can still be safely used, and CPR safely performed.

This package includes a few items:

- 1) Two simple surgical masks to be visibly stored with your AED. One is for the person taking the AED to a potential cardiac arrest and the other one is meant to place over the patient's mouth and nose BEFORE chest compressions are started and an attempt at defibrillation. \*Please note that these only need to be used if a mask is not already worn. A blanket or towel is a good substitute if a mask cannot be placed over the patient's face.
- 2) A Heart & Stroke updated "Public Hands-Only CPR\* during the COVID-19 pandemic" guide, printed on cardstock. Please post this up as close to the AED as possible during the pandemic but please refrain from blocking the clear cabinet glass (if applicable).

I would like to reiterate that hands-only CPR and defibrillation is still encouraged during the pandemic while first responders are on route after calling 911. Saying that, please only consider rescue breathing if the patient is a child or infant and only if you are trained to do so.

Please continue to check our website, [www.savelivesns.ca](http://www.savelivesns.ca), for informational videos that will be posted as part of CPR Month (November).

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mike Janczyszyn, Advanced Care Paramedic  
AED Registry Program Coordinator

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