How To Implement a Cardiac Emergency Response Plan

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is the leading cause of death on school campuses, and the #1 killer of student athletes. That’s why it’s critical for your school to have a written and well-practiced Cardiac Emergency Response Plan (CERP). Created by a national task force of health and safety organizations, a CERP is a vital step towards sudden cardiac death prevention.

Be Prepared to Prevent Sudden Death At Your School

- **Form Cardiac Emergency Response Team**
  - CPR trained and response ready, the team helps implement the plan and conduct drills.

- **Implement Emergency Response Protocol**
  - A written plan documents your exact emergency action and should be incorporated into your EAP, School Improvement Plan or Safe School Environment.

- **Install & Maintain AEDs Properly**
  - Automated External Defibrillators must be properly installed — and never locked away — always accessible.

- **Conduct Life-Saving Drills**
  - It’s critical to test your team’s readiness and your plans effectiveness through practice. Involve your local EMS.

- **Share Plan With School Community**
  - Educate parents, staff, coaches and facility users about how they can be prepared to save a life.

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**Check Your Toolkit For:**
- Tips to identify team members
- Recommended guidelines for staff training

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- Sample plans you personalize to your school
- Forms to annually evaluate your plan

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- Recommended guidelines for staff training

**Check Your Toolkit For:**
- Cardiac emergency drill templates (like fire drills)
- Drill evaluation forms

**Check Your Toolkit For:**
- Letters and flyers to circulate to your school community
- Resources to raise awareness about SCA in youth

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*Parent Heart Watch. The National Voice Protecting Youth from Sudden Cardiac Arrest*