

ARE YOU AT RISK?

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA)

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WHAT IS SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST?

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is an electrical problem with the heart that triggers a dangerously fast heart rate (ventricular tachycardia) or irregular rhythm (ventricular fibrillation). If not treated immediately, SCA can be fatal. Approximately 95% of people who experience an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest event and are not treated by defibrillation within 10 minutes will die.¹

SCA vs. Heart Attack

Sudden cardiac arrest is not the same as a heart attack. A heart attack is a "plumbing" problem, caused by blockage(s) in the arteries leading to the heart and killing heart muscle. A heart attack may lead to a sudden cardiac arrest event.

What Are the Risk Factors for SCA?

- Previous heart attack or SCA
- Family history of SCA or other heart disease
- Heart failure
- Low ejection fraction
- Rapid or abnormal heartbeats starting in the bottom chambers of the heart

What Are Symptoms of SCA?

- Dizziness
- Racing heartbeat
- Loss of consciousness

TREATING SCA THROUGH DEFIBRILLATION

The most effective way to treat SCA is through defibrillation. It involves delivering electrical shock to your heart to restore the normal heartbeat. There are two types of devices that can deliver these electrical shocks: AEDs and ICDs.

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

An AED is a portable device used by emergency response teams or the general public to shock the heart, giving the heart a chance to restart normal electrical activity and resume beating effectively. However, if defibrillation is delayed by more than 10 minutes, the survival in adults is less than 5%.²

Implantable Defibrillator (ICD)

An ICD is a device implanted underneath the skin, usually near the collarbone. One or more wires, called leads, run from the ICD through the veins and into the heart.

It continuously monitors the heart rhythm. If it detects an abnormal or fast heart rhythm, low or high energy shocks are sent to reset the heart to a normal rhythm. ICDs are proven to be 98% effective in treating dangerous ventricular arrhythmias that can lead to sudden cardiac arrest.^{3,4}

Survival Rate without Defibrillation?

ICDs are 9896
effective in treating dangerous ventricular arrhythmias 3.4

350,000

lives are lost to SCA every year in United States¹

That's 1 every 90 seconds

or about 1,000 each day¹

To find out if you or someone you know may be at risk for SCA, check out **SCArisk.org** for an assessment tool or visit **AskthelCD.com** for more info on ICDs and SCA.

References

- http://www.hrsonline.org/Patient-Resources/Heart-Diseases-
- article/43774/ PARENT/layout details/false
- ³ Zipes DP, Roberts D, for the Pacemaker-Cardioverter-Defibrillator Endocardial Lead Systems. *Circulation*. July 1, 1995;92(1):59-65. Volosin, et al. Virtual ICD: A Model to Evaluate Shock Reduction

Brief Statement

Additional Device Information

or gas-powered appliances and tools with which you are allowed to be in free number at 1-800-551-5544, x41835 (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday -

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710 Medtronic Parkway Minneapolis, MN 55432-5604 USA

Toll-free in USA: 800.633.8766 Worldwide: +1.763.514.4000

medtronic.com

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