

Important information for centres

Changes to Emergency First Aid at Work and First Aid at Work qualifications.

As you will know earlier in the year the HSE announced that there are to be some basic changes to the above qualifications:

Training on Defibrillators to be included on the EFAW and FAW Syllabus

Changes to Resuscitation Council UK [guidelines](#) on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in October 2015 mean that HSE will now be revising the Emergency First Aid and First Aid at Work syllabuses. The revision will require all workplace first aiders to be trained in the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) from the 31 December 2016, as the Resuscitation Council UK guidelines now state that the management of a casualty requiring CPR is to request an AED.

It is sensible to ensure that EFAW and FAW first aiders are trained in AED use as they are now available within many workplaces and public spaces. There is good evidence that the early use of an AED has a far more beneficial outcome for the casualty than if that intervention is delayed.

For employers this does not mean you have to purchase a defibrillator for your workplace as the requirement for a defibrillator is still dependent on your needs assessment. Neither do you have to retrain all your existing first aiders as they will be updated in this skill when they requalify.

For those who deliver EFAW and FAW training the change means that you should ensure that students are trained and assessed on how to use an AED from the 31 December 2016 within the existing timeframe allowed for the delivery of either EFAW or FAW training. HSE has no objection if training providers wish to adopt this change before the 31 December.

What does this mean for centres?

- You will need to ensure tutors and assessors have upskilled their own qualifications if they do not have an AED qualification or an EFAW qualification that includes AED, they can do this by refreshing their own EFAW or by carrying out a specific AED course.
- You will need to have staff qualifications available for sampling at your next (2017) EQA visit
- You will need to ensure that your tutors are teaching how to use an AED as part of the CPR demonstration in the unit Emergency first aid in the workplace. Learning outcomes 1 assessment criteria 1.6 & 4 assessment criteria 4.2 (see below, details from the updated Syllabus)

1.6 Describe the safe use of first aid equipment, to include:

- The need for protective gloves and face masks as barriers
 - Sterile and in date bandages and dressings
 - Sealed containers
 - Sterile scissors
 - Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)

4. Be able to manage an unresponsive casualty who is not breathing normally

The learner can

4.2 Demonstrate Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation using a manikin, to include:

- Correct ratio

- Correct hand position and techniques
- Correct depth and speed of compressions.
- Correct use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) – training model
 - Placing the AED leads in the correct position
 - Following the instructions
 - Please see the Resuscitation Council (UK) guide
<https://www.resus.org.uk/publications/a-guide-to-aeds/>
 - Ensure you have the correct training equipment you will need a manikin and a training AED specifically designed for training purposes (see useful references and websites at the back of this syllabus)

Will we need to buy any equipment?

Yes – along with the manikin you will need to have available training AED's, preferably the same amount as you have manikins to ensure sufficient equipment for cohort size. The link below will take you to a website page where you can choose from a number of suppliers, training AED's start from as little as £29.99 and range up to about £500. You will need to decide which model suits your needs. https://www.google.co.uk/webhp?sourceid=chrome_instant&rlz=1C1PRFE_enGB663GB663&ion=1&espv=2&ie=UTF-8#q=training+defibrillator+for+sale

Will teaching time go up?

No – this is a very basic introduction you are just exposing the learners to the training version of an AED device and showing them where to place the pads and how to follow the instructions, it is embedded in the CPR part of the training.

When the units/qualifications are reviewed this section might be expanded upon

When will the updated syllabi and LARs be ready?

Centre drafts are available now upon request. Print versions, downloadable versions and fillable LARs will be available for first delivery on 1 January 2017.

What has changed in the updated Syllabi and LARs?

Syllabi

The changes have been made to the Emergency First Aid in the Workplace unit, Learning Outcomes 1 and 4 have some minor changes (as outlined above).

LARs

The LARs for this unit will include a change to Q 5 on the worksheet:

5. Describe the safe use of the following pieces of first aid equipment:	
Equipment	How to use it /them safely
Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)	

bandages and dressings	
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They will also have to meet 1 additional criteria on the observation checklist around correct use of the training AED when dealing with the 'unresponsive casualty'.

10. Demonstrated the correct use of a training AED on a manikin

Do we have to implement these changes?

Yes - the change is mandatory. Your First Aid tutor team should have already been aware of these changes and as such should be able to slot the additional information into the training without too much trouble, the GLH and TQT is not anticipated to go up as this is just the basic introduction of the use of an AED.

If you have any further question please contact vicky.mose@ymca.co.uk