

Features Checklist

How to choose the right defibrillator for you

Choosing a defibrillator can be tough, with so many types out there, it can be hard to know where to start. While all defibrillators can be used in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest, features which can improve the chance of it being used quickly in the event of a first aid emergency should be on your list.

Use this handy checklist to help select the right defibrillator for you.



Defibrillator Essentials

At a minimum, it's recommended to have the following features:

Easy to use

- The design of the unit is simple and uncluttered.
- The unit is user friendly, can be used by range of people with varying levels of skill and won't be confusing during an intense emergency.
- The unit is easy to use in environments that are noisy or have poor visibility.

Lightweight and portable

- The unit can be easily transported to the patient in an emergency.

Include supporting materials

- Includes materials that can assist with defibrillator use.
 - A defibrillator information booklet, instructions and quick reference guide.
- A first aid pack containing a face shield or mask, wipes, razor and scissors.

TGA approved

- In Australia, a defibrillator is considered a therapeutic good. All defibrillator models sold in Australia must be registered with the TGA to ensure it is safe for use.

Intelligence

- The unit can identify when a user has completed a step and is ready for the next instruction.
- The unit can correctly and accurately advise if a shock is required – personalised to the patient.

CPR direction

- The unit provides CPR instruction to the user in a clear and easy to understand way.

Fast shock delivery

- The time after CPR has been performed and another shock is advised is under 10 seconds.

Self testing

- The unit performs automatic daily self testing on parts such as cables, batteries and pads to ensure everything is in working order.

Reasonable to maintain parts and accessories

- The unit parts and accessories (eg. batteries and pads) should be reasonable in life span, cost and availability to ensure the unit can be regularly maintained.

Event recording

- When activated, the unit records event activity which can be accessed by paramedics or medical professionals.

Defibrillator Optional

Recommended features based on environment.

If required for an outdoor environment:

- Shock resistant
- Water resistant
- Dust resistant

If required where children are regularly present:

- The unit can easily lower the voltage for use on children if required

Need more information on how to choose the right defibrillator? We can help www.stjohnvic.com.au/defibs