

Does your club have an AED yet?

You see them in airports, shopping malls, municipal buildings, and movie theatres. The Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is an amazing life saving device that has become a standard in many public gathering places. AED's have proven themselves time and time again that time is of the essence when someone experiences cardiac arrest. When the chance of survival diminishes 10% for every minute that an individual is in cardiac arrest, then even 5 minutes response from your local fire department will put your client in a life and death outcome of 50/50.

The AED's that are manufactured today are easy to use and the costs have come down considerably as demand has increased. Although AED's are currently not "required" in health clubs, it is just a matter of time before they become an industry standard. The trial lawyers are waiting in the wings to attack and the insurance industry is also taking note of the potential liability associated with clubs that elect not to have an AED on the premises.

In my opinion, within one year ALL health club facilities will be required to carry an AED and subsequently club owners and their staff will need to be CPR/AED certified. The initial cost to purchase an AED and certify your staff will run approximately \$2,500.

For additional information about AED's and other risk management materials, please email me at ken@clubinsurance.com.

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