

## CARDIOVERSION SKILL

STATION TIME IS 5 MINUTES	DATE:	SCHOOL #:
CANDIDATE'S NAME:		START TIME:
_INITIAL COURSE _EQUIVALENCY _RENEWAL _RETEST		END TIME:
VERIFICATION THRU ACLS DATE:		<b>NOTE: Attach copy of ACLS Card</b>

- |   |   |     |   |
|---|---|-----|---|
| 0 | 2 | 1   | Simulates placement of EKG leads in Lead 2 configuration  |
| 0 | 1 | 2   | 2 Turns monitor on and sets to "Lead 2"   |
| 0 | 2 | *3  | Confirms rhythm by looking at monitor (Confirmation must be verbalized)   |
| 0 | 1 | 2   | *4 Checks pulse (and/or asks Examiner if there is a pulse)  |
| 0 | 2 | 5   | Simulates proper application of defibrillator pads or EKG gel to paddles  |
| 0 | 2 | *6  | Sets cardioverter to the appropriate level for the first cardioversion  |
| 0 | 2 | *7  | Activates synchronizer  |
| 0 | 2 | *8  | Charges cardioverter  |
| 0 | 2 | *9  | Performs steps 1 - 7 before step 9  |
| 0 | 2 | *10 | Instructs personnel to clear and confirms that personnel are clear  |
| 0 | 1 | 2   | *11 Reconfirms rhythm by looking at monitor and performs synchronized cardioversion (Reconfirmation must be verbalized) |
| 0 | 2 | *12 | Confirms rhythm by looking at monitor (Confirmation must be verbalized)   |
| 0 | 2 | *13 | Performs steps 10 - 12 in proper order  |
| 0 | 1 | 2   | *14 Checks pulse (and/or asks Examiner if there is a pulse)   |
| 0 | 2 | *15 | Sets cardioverter to the appropriate level for the second cardioversion   |
| 0 | 2 | *16 | Activates synchronizer  |

___ Candidate's total Points (minimum passing total: 22 points)	
Absolutes satisfied: ___ Yes ___ No (Must have at least one point for each step marked with an *)	___ Pass ___ Fail
Examiner:	Cert. No. (If assigned):
<b>NOTE: Course Coordinator OR Course Medical Director Signs if using ACLS Verification</b>	

**Documenting Comments:**

## DEFIBRILLATION SKILL

STATION TIME IS 5 MINUTES	DATE:	SCHOOL #:
CANDIDATE'S NAME:		START TIME:
__INITIAL COURSE __EQUIVALENCY __RENEWAL __RETEST		END TIME:
VERIFICATION THRU ACLS DATE:		<b>NOTE: Attach copy of ACLS Card</b>

- |   |   |   |     |  |
|---|---|---|-----|--|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 1   | Turns on monitor and sets to "Paddles" or the appropriate setting for hands free defibrillator   |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 2   | Properly places paddles/pads on patient  |
| 0 |   | 2 | *3  | With proper paddle/pad placement confirms rhythm by looking at monitor (Confirmation must be verbalized)                               |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | *4  | Determines pulselessness (Checks pulse and/or asks Examiner if there is a pulse)   |
| 0 |   | 2 | *5  | Sets defibrillator to the proper energy setting for the first defibrillation   |
| 0 |   | 2 | *6  | Charges defibrillator  |
| 0 |   | 2 | *7  | Instructs personnel to clear and confirms that personnel are clear   |
| 0 |   | 2 | *8  | With proper paddle/pad placement reconfirms rhythm by looking at monitor and defibrillates patient (Reconfirmation must be verbalized) |
| 0 |   | 2 | 9   | With proper paddle/pad placement confirms rhythm by looking at monitor (Confirmation must be verbalized)                               |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | *10 | Checks pulse (and/or asks Examiner if there is a pulse)  |
| 0 |   | 2 | *11 | Performs steps 1-10 in proper order  |

__ Candidate's total Points (minimum passing total: 15 points)	
Absolutes satisfied: __ Yes __ No (Must have at least one point for each step marked with an *)	__ Pass __ Fail
Examiner:	Cert. No. (If assigned):
<b>NOTE: Course Coordinator OR Course Medical Director Signs if using ACLS Verification</b>	

**Documenting Comments:**

## DEFIBRILLATION/CARDIOVERSION CRITERIA

## TIME ALLOWED FOR SKILLS PERFORMANCE - 5 MINUTES PER COMPONENT

### PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE

Given a patient whose condition meets criteria for defibrillation or cardioversion, the candidate shall, within the allotted station time, demonstrate the proper technique for defibrillation/synchronized cardioversion, using the criteria herein prescribed.

### TESTING CONDITIONS

1. The Examiner shall insure that station is conducted as a testing station and **NOT** as a teaching session.
2. The station shall test only the skill of Defibrillation/Cardioversion and shall **NOT** be conducted as a part of any other skill or scenario.
3. Candidates shall be examined in private and one candidate at a time.
4. Examiner shall require gloves to be in place before station time begins. Other protective barriers are recommended.

### STATION EQUIPMENT:

1. Dysrhythmia generator
2. Adult mannequin that can be countershocked
3. EKG monitor with defibrillator capable of synchronized cardioversion
4. EKG electrodes
5. EKG cables
6. EKG defibrillation pads or EKG gel
7. Gloves and protective eyewear
8. Watch or clock with reading in seconds

### INSTRUCTIONS TO THE EXAMINER

1. The Course Coordinator, lead Instructor, and Examiner are responsible for insuring the presence of all necessary equipment and also for insuring that all equipment is in working order prior to beginning the test session.
2. The Examiner will **NOT** remove or hide equipment required to complete the skill.
3. Before the test session begins, the candidate shall be allowed to familiarize with the equipment. During this time the Examiner shall answer any questions the candidate has about the equipment.
4. Scenarios must **NOT** be used except as indicated by the criteria.
5. The Examiner shall prompt candidate **ONLY** as indicated by the criteria.
6. The Examiner will provide information regarding the patient's history **ONLY** as indicated in the criteria.
7. The Defibrillator/Cardioverter should be initially set to the lowest possible setting.
8. The EKG monitor should be properly calibrated to recognize "R" waves.
9. Once a test session has begun, it must be completed within the allotted time with **NO** restart allowed.
10. Station time shall begin immediately after Examiner finishes examination instructions and informs candidate to begin.
11. The Examiner shall record starting and ending times in the appropriate section of the score sheet.
12. Station time shall **NOT** be restarted or extended for any reason.

13. If station time limit is exceeded, Examiner shall end the test, record skill as failure.
14. Sequence errors shall **NOT** be penalized unless specified by the grading criteria.
15. Additional steps not called for in criteria shall **NOT** be penalized as sequence errors.
16. Documentation by narrative is required on all steps awarded a "0" and on all skills failures.
17. Candidate shall **NOT** fail because of Examiner error.

## CURRENT AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION A.C.L.S. STANDARDS FOR DEFIBRILLATION/CARDIOVERSION

### DEFIBRILLATION

First Defibrillation:	200 joules delivered energy
Second Defibrillation:	200 to 300 joules delivered energy
Third Defibrillation:	360 joules delivered energy (maximum output)
Fourth Defibrillation:	360 joules delivered energy (maximum output)
Fifth Defibrillation:	360 joules delivered energy (maximum output)

### CARDIOVERSION

1st Synchronized Cardioversion:	100 joules delivered energy
2nd Synchronized Cardioversion:	200 joules delivered energy
3rd Synchronized Cardioversion:	300 joules delivered energy
4th Synchronized Cardioversion:	360 joules delivered energy (maximum output)

NOTE: Maximum output - Defibrillators without a 360 joule setting shall be set at the next highest setting.

### DEFIBRILLATION GRADING CRITERIA

**Examiner will set arrhythmia generator to generate course Ventricular Fibrillation and will change it to Normal Sinus Rhythm after step 8 is successfully completed.**

**Examiner states:** "The patient is an average size adult that meets the criteria for defibrillation."

1. **Turns on monitor and sets to "Paddles" or the appropriate setting for hands free defibrillator**
  - 2 = Performs step before paddle/pad placement
  - 1 = Sets switch incorrectly but corrects after paddle/pad placement and before rhythm identification
  - Does not turn on monitor before paddle/pad placement
  - 0 = Sets switch incorrectly and does not correct before rhythm identification
2. **Properly places paddles/pads on patient**  
**Simulates application of defibrillation pads to patient or EKG gel to paddles, places one EKG paddle/pad just to the right of the upper sternum below the right clavicle and places the other EKG paddle/pad just below and to the left of the left nipple.**

2 = Performs above criteria

1 = Does not simulate application of defibrillation pads to patient or EKG gel to  
paddles

0 = Places paddles incorrectly

**NOTE:** Candidate shall NOT be penalized for reversing paddle polarity.

- \*3. **With proper paddle/pad placement, confirms rhythm by looking at monitor (Confirmation must be verbalized)**  
2 = Performs above criteria  
0 = Does not perform above criteria
- \*4. **Determines pulselessness (Checks pulse and/or asks Examiner if there is a pulse)**  
**NOTE:** After student checks pulse or asks if there is a pulse, Examiner shall state "No Pulse."  
  
2 = Checks carotid pulse and/or asks Examiner if there is a pulse  
1 = Checks femoral pulse  
0 = Checks pulse other than carotid or femoral or does not ask if there is a pulse
- \*5. **Sets defibrillator to the proper energy setting for the first defibrillation**  
**NOTE:** Examiner will then direct candidate to set defibrillator to lowest level that will activate the arrhythmia generator.  
  
2 = Performs step  
0 = Sets defibrillator to an inappropriate level
- \*6. **Charges defibrillator**  
2 = Performs step  
0 = Omits step
- \*7. **Instructs personnel to clear and confirms that personnel are clear**  
a. Instructs personnel to clear  
b. Confirms that no one is in contact with the patient, bed, or conductive equipment attached to the patient  
  
**NOTE:** Examiner shall tell candidate: "Your personnel are clear."  
  
2 = Performs above criteria  
0 = Does not perform above criteria
- \*8. **With proper paddle/pad placement, reconfirms rhythm by looking at monitor and defibrillates patient (Reconfirmation must be verbalized).**  
2 = Performs above criteria  
0 = Does not perform above criteria
9. **With proper paddle/pad placement confirms rhythm by looking at monitor (Confirmation must be verbalized).**  
2 = Performs above criteria  
0 = Does not perform above criteria
- \*10. **Checks pulse (and/or asks Examiner if there is a pulse)**  
2 = Checks carotid pulse and/or asks Examiner if there is a pulse  
1 = Checks femoral pulse  
0 = Checks pulse other than carotid or femoral or does not ask if there is a pulse
- \*11. **Performs steps 1 - 10 in proper order**  
**NOTE:** Examiner will terminate the examination at this point. Candidate shall NOT be required to repeat cycle.

2 = Performs as above  
0 = Does not perform as above

## CARDIOVERSION GRADING CRITERIA

**Examiner will set arrhythmia generator to generate Ventricular Tachycardia and will leave it at that setting throughout the station.**

Examiner states: "Patient meets the criteria for synchronized cardioversion."

1. **Simulates placement of EKG leads in Lead 2 configuration**  
Simulates placement of EKG leads in the following position:  
NEGATIVE ELECTRODE - Right arm or right upper chest  
POSITIVE ELECTRODE - Left leg, left lower chest  
GROUND ELECTRODE - Placement is not critical  
  
2=Performs above criteria  
0=Does not perform above criteria
2. **Turns on monitor and sets to "Lead 2"**  
2 = Performs above criteria  
1 = Sets to "Lead 1" or "Lead 3"  
0 =Does not turn monitor on  
Sets monitor to "Paddles"
- \*3. **Confirms rhythm by looking at monitor (Confirmation must be verbalized)**  
**NOTE: Candidate will NOT be penalized if he mentions sedating the patient.**  
2 = Performs step  
0 = Omits step
4. **Checks pulse (and/or asks Examiner if there is a pulse)**  
2 = Checks carotid pulse and/or asks Examiner if there is a pulse  
1 = Checks femoral pulse  
0 = Checks pulse other than carotid or femoral or does not ask if there is a pulse
5. **Simulates proper application of defibrillator pads or EKG gel to paddles**  
NOTE: Proper paddle or pad placement places one EKG paddle or pad just to the right of the upper sternum below the right clavicle and the other EKG paddle or pad just below and to the left of the left nipple.  
2 = Performs step  
0 = Omits step
- \*6. **Sets cardioverter to the appropriate level for the first cardioversion**  
NOTE: Examiner will direct candidate to set cardioverter to lowest level that will activate the arrhythmia generator.  
2 = Performs step  
0 = Sets cardioverter to an inappropriate level  
Omits step
- \*7. **Activates synchronizer**  
2 = Performs step  
0 = Omits step
- \*8. **Charges cardioverter**  
2 = Performs step  
0 = Omits step



- \*9. **Performs steps 1 - 7 before step 9**  
2 = Performs as above  
0 = Does not perform as above
- \*10. **Instructs personnel to clear and confirms that personnel are clear**  
a. Instructs personnel to clear  
b. Confirms that no one is in contact with the patient, bed, or conductive equipment attached to the patient  
NOTE: Examiner shall tell candidate: "Your personnel are clear."  
  
2 = Performs above criteria  
0 = Omits any portion of step
- \*11. **Reconfirms rhythm by looking at monitor and performs synchronized cardioversion (Reconfirmation must be verbalized)**  
a. Reconfirms rhythm  
b. Delivers shock with the proper paddle/pad placement  
  
2 = Performs above criteria  
1 = Does not reconfirm rhythm  
0 = Does not deliver shock  
Places the paddles/pads incorrectly  
  
**NOTE: Candidate shall NOT be penalized for reversing paddle polarity.**
- \*12. **Confirms rhythm by looking at monitor (Confirmation must be verbalized)**  
2 = Performs step  
0 = Omits step
- \*13. **Performs steps 10 - 12 in proper order**  
2 = Performs as above  
0 = Does not perform as above  
  
**NOTE: Examiner states: "Patient's condition is unchanged."**
- \*14. **Checks pulse (and/or asks Examiner if there is a pulse)**  
2 = Checks carotid pulse and/or asks Examiner if there is a pulse  
1 = Checks femoral pulse  
0 = Checks pulse other than carotid or femoral or does not ask if there is a pulse
- \*15. **Sets cardioverter to the appropriate level for the second cardioversion**  
NOTE: Examiner will direct candidate to set cardioverter to lowest level that will activate the arrhythmia generator.  
2 = Performs step  
0 = Sets cardioverter to an inappropriate level
- \*16. **Activates synchronizer**  
2 = Performs step  
0 = Omits step  
  
**NOTE: Examiner will terminate the examination at this point. Candidate shall NOT be required to repeat cycle.**