

First Responder



AUGUST '07 Newsletter

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Cairns high school first to install AED

A Cairns State High School this month became the first school in North Queensland to install an AED. Trinity Bay High School took the lead after an extensive risk assessment was undertaken. Peter Cox,



of the Physical Education Department said that a "number of factors were considered in making the decision. We looked at the numbers of adult teaching staff, demographics and the activities taking place in the school in relation to a variety of sports and outdoor pursuits as well as the overall size and population of the workforce and pupils" Peter has now instigated specialised training for staff and students in relation to "Early Defibrillation and effective CPR". In addition to being a First Aid and Lifesaving instructor, Peter said that choosing the Zoll AED plus came solely down to the fact that it is the only unit on the market that aids the rescuer in compression depth and timing thereby increasing the effectiveness of CPR, a problem he encounters continually in his training of CPR.

Trinity Bay State High School is now a model for other schools who offer workplace training to staff and vocational students plus CPR training to all senior students who are required by State Legislation to complete their training by attaining First Aid qualifications.

OXY / AED Kit



\$ 4,999.00
(GST Free)

KIT INCLUDES:

- * Oxy Resus Soft Pack
- * **ZOLL AED PLUS DEFIBRILLATOR**
- * **RESQPOD**
- * All brass multiflow regulator
- * Bag Valve Mask Device- disposable - Adult & Child sizes
- * LMAs (3 sizes) disposable plus accessories
- * Therapy Masks (adult & child)
- * Oropharyngeal Airways -Set of 3
- * V-Vac Suction Kit with spare cartridge
- * Stifneck Select Cervical Collar
- * Instructions for Use

Postage ,Handling & Cylinder not included

Revolutionary new first aid treatment for chemical splash and burns

A new and revolutionary product for the treatment of chemical burns is about to take Australia by storm.

Diphoterine® and Hexafluorine®, first aid solutions for treatment of chemical splash and burns is now available in Australia. The solution is designed to be used on all acid and acid base chemicals. It works by absorbing the chemical from the skin or eye rapidly, by connecting immediately with the chemical aggressor and carries it away reducing the duration of contact with the chemical and dramatically reducing the risk of injury.

This multi-purpose solution is suitable for any kind of chemical splash, except hydrofluoric acid and its derivatives as it has limited efficacy. In this instance, the manufacturers have developed a specific product for this potentially lethal acid and recommend Hexafluorine® be used.

Diphoterine® has been widely used in the European market for more than 20 years and the effectiveness of the product has been recognised by all companies that have used it. In the Martinswerk plant in Germany a comparative study of the effectiveness of washing injuries with water and with Diphoterine® was carried out.

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November 19 2007

1 day full-time plus

pre course study

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and prerequisites apply

This study showed that the use of Diphoterine® reduced the seriousness of injuries. The average number of days lost through sick leave after a chemical injury reduced from 8 days to 0.18 after the introduction of Diphoterine®. Furthermore, no secondary healthcare was required, however, after the use of water to wash burns 25% of cases required simple care and 75% required medical treatment.

Diphoterine® is an aqueous non-toxic solution, which contains an absorbent that connects immediately to the chemical aggressor and draws it away from the skin or eye. Whether it is an irritant or corrosive, Diphoterine® attracts, neutralises and absorbs the chemical aggressor. This is something water cannot do as it is hypotonic, which can make it easier for the chemical to penetrate the skin.

The product has been approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration for use in Australia and comes in a variety of formats and designed for various applications. Diphoterine® and Hexafluorine® are now used all over the world by major industry, as well as emergency service workers.

First Response Australia (FRA) has added this life saving first aid treatment to its product range and can see the product revolutionising the treatment of all chemical splash and burns. For further information regarding this product please contact our staff at FRA



Diphoterine®- available in eyewash containers and pump sprays for small to large surface areas of the body

International insurance now available for Australasian EMTs

The Australasian Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (AREMT) has recently announced the availability international Professional Indemnity (PI) insurance for EMTs. Ron Gui, principal Director of AREMT said that "this PI insurance is long overdue in the region. Unfortunately most of the people we see providing first aid/medical coverage at events and to organisations do not carry insurance, creating huge liabilities. This insurance is now affordable and exclusively available to registered members of AREMT".

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RESPONDER PRO Oxygen Resuscitation Trauma Kit with Diagnostics



\$ 1,695.00
(GST Inclusive)

PACK INCLUDES:

- * DHS 100 Oxy Resus Pack
- * All brass multiflow regulator
- * ResQPOD
- * Bag Valve Mask Device
- Adult disposable
including mask, tubing and reservoir
- * Therapy masks (adult)
- * Set of 4 Oropharyngeal Airways
- * V-Vac Suction Kit
- * Glucometer (Accu-chek)
- * Sphygmomanometer (palm style)
- * Stethoscope (Sprague)
- * Penlight torch
- * Paramedic shears
- * Sharps container
- * Stifneck Select Cervical Collar
- * Instructions for Use

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In conjunction with Vero Insurance Limited and Optimum Insurance Services Pty Ltd, we have developed a tailored policy that provides broad policy coverage and competitive insurance premiums. We encourage all individual and company EMTs to consider this insurance programme, which will give them worldwide coverage".

Details of the Insurance offer can be obtained by contacting AREMT or going to the website: www.arem.com and following the link under Insurance for applications and quotations for your specific needs.

New way to evaluate shock resuscitation

"Tissue oxygen saturation predicts the development of organ dysfunction during traumatic shock resuscitation" *Journal of Trauma*.

A recent study looked at the non invasive ways to evaluate tissue oxygenation and whether its predictive of the development of multiple organ dysfunction syndrome (MODS) or mortality. The authors prospectively applied a tissue oxygen saturation monitor to 383 trauma patients who had evidence of shock either before or within one hour of arrival at the trauma centre. In addition, patients had to have one or more long-bone fractures or thoracic injuries to be eligible for the study.

The authors found that tissue oxygen saturation has the same significance as the systolic blood pressure to predict MODS or mortality in the trauma patient. This device appears to provide more accurate and reliable information than a non-invasive blood pressure system and also identifies hypoperfusion earlier than the systolic blood pressure. Both of these characteristics make it an excellent tool for use in the pre-hospital environment.

GCS and intoxicated patients

"Waiting for patients to 'sober up': Effect of alcohol intoxication on Glasgow Coma Scale score of brain injured patients" - *Journal of Trauma*

Patient consumption of alcohol complicates Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) scores when you're evaluating an intoxicated patient's level of consciousness, right? Wrong, according to these authors. While examining more than 1,000 trauma records, the researchers found the level of intoxication made little or no difference in the GCS score of traumatic head-injured patients. Even when the researchers evaluated each component of the GCS, they found a difference of only one point in the motor scale between intoxicated head-injured patients.

This means your assessment of the intoxicated patient who has suffered a head injury must include a complete GCS. It's important to provide the same high quality of care to all patients, and the standard of care for the head-injured patient is a GCS score.

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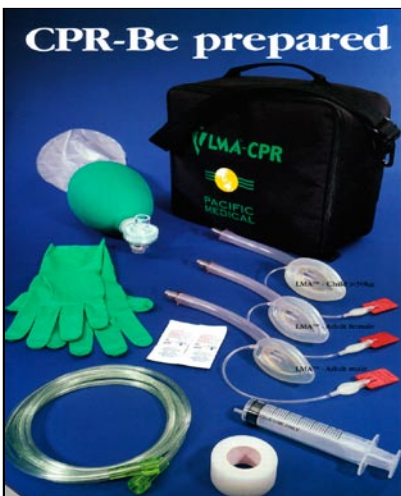
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Adult & Child

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\$ 399.00 (GST Exclusive)

Does pain intensity effect heart rate??

"Changes in heart rate do not correlate with changes in pain intensity in emergency department patients" - *Journal of Emergency Medicine*
Pain stimulates the sympathetic nervous system and increases the heart rate. Pain is also a subjective experience that can be influenced by environment and past experiences. An evaluation of 975 patients who presented to the emergency department with pain were enrolled in this study. The study found that the mean pain intensity score decreased after medication for the whole group, but for individual patients, there was no relationship between a decrease in pain intensity and a decrease in heart rate. The authors also evaluated acute pain and chronic pain separately and found no correlation.

Spinal injuries in children

"Paediatric spinal trauma and associated injuries" - *Injury*
A 2007 study from "Injury" journal looked at the mechanism and types of injuries most frequently associated with spinal trauma in children. Over a 10-year period, 40 children who had spinal injuries after suffering some sort of trauma were studied. The most common mechanism to result in spinal injuries was a multiple vehicle collision (MVC), followed by falls. Luckily, the majority of children suffered no deficit as a result of their spinal trauma; however, two children died as a result of their injuries.

The importance of this to EMS relates to the unique physical properties of children's spinal columns. With heavier heads, weaker neck muscles and a flatter orientation of the first several vertebral joints, children are more prone to serious injury with seemingly less impact. So never discount the possibility of severe neck injury for any child after an MVC or fall.

The Last Word

Not a month goes by without hearing of new and innovative first aid products coming to market.

Without doubt industry is leading the push in the development and acceptance of such products as the Autopulse, ResQPOD and Diphoterine®.

It may be some time before we see these products being widely used in Ambulance services around the country but their use in industry will be the catalyst for Governments to follow.

Our next issue will report on the results of the prestigious Mines Rescue Challenge being held in Townsville, Queensland at the end of August.

FRA wishes all the competing teams good luck at the upcoming event.

Charles Makray
Managing Director

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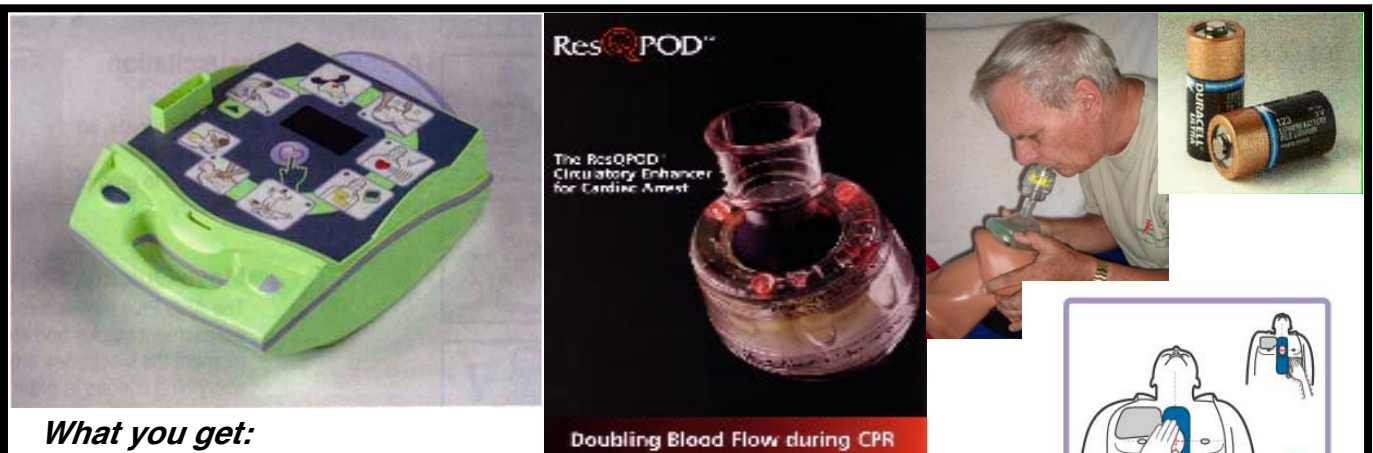
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