

NORTHLAND DEFIBRILLATOR

Equipment to save cardiac arrest victims is now in our village for public use

1. What is a defibrillator?

It is an easy-to-use device than can help save the life of a person who is having a cardiac arrest. That is a sort of "heart attack" where the person's heart suddenly stops beating properly. The defibrillator can jolt the heart back into its normal rhythm. (More info: <http://www.operationheartbeat.org.nz>)



2. Where is it?

The defibrillator is in a box attached to the front of Northland Village Surgery across the road from the shops.

3. How to tell whether a person has cardiac arrest ?

They could gasp, vomit or have chest pains and suddenly collapse. They could die in minutes, so even if you're unsure don't delay...



4. What should you do first?

- * Immediately phone 111 and ask for Wellington Free Ambulance. Explain and stay on the phone.
- * Go to the defibrillator box. The ambulance phone operator will give you the code numbers to open it.

PHONE
111
FIRST



5. How to use it

It's easy. The defibrillator is automatic and has a voice that tells you what to do, step by step. It even says if the person's heart is OK.

6. When to use it (or not)

Minutes can save a life. Use the village defibrillator if the victim is only minutes away from it. Otherwise, the ambulance or fire brigade could get to the victim quicker. They have a defibrillator. Always phone 111 first. Ask whether to "pump the person's chest while waiting for the defibrillator to be used. (*That's called CPR, around 50 strong pushes per minute, to the tune "Staying Alive". More info [Andrew Dunning to provide CPR web address])