


Section: Medical Operations General  
Subject: MINIMUM MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR PATIENT CONTACT  
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1. The nature of our work mandates a properly equipped and professional team.
2. Although it is understood that the exact nature of a call may be uncertain prior to locating the patient, this uncertainty does not change the responder's responsibility to avoid situations that require returning to the apparatus for equipment.
3. It is HCFR policy that the following equipment will be taken to the patient's location on every emergency medical response:
  - a. Oxygen/Airway Equipment (including suction capability)
  - b. Portable Radios
  - c. Fully stocked Medical Equipment Bag
  - d. Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) or Cardiac Monitor/Defibrillator
    - i. AEDs and Monitors are not required as part of the initial equipment for scenes such as motor vehicle collisions when the apparatus is parked adjacent to the location of the injured patient.
  - e. If there is a concern that cardiopulmonary arrest may be present, bring an automated CPR device, if it is available.
    - i. Given that short device deployment times are a goal that HCFR has committed to achieve, it is important for HCFR personnel to anticipate the need for an automated CPR device in situations where it is likely to be needed. Not all cardiac arrest calls that are dispatched end up being arrests. Likewise, there are a significant number of cardiac arrests that are called in as something other than cardiac arrest. To that end, unless there are extenuating circumstances the automated CPR device shall be carried to all calls initially dispatched as Unconscious, Seizures, Man down, Unknown, Delta level Respiratory distress, in addition to Cardiac Arrest. Extenuating circumstances that prevent adherence to this policy shall be noted in the patient care report.