

### **How do I use the Philips HeartStart Home Defibrillator?**

HeartStart is specifically designed for use by virtually anyone to help save a life. If you suspect that someone is in sudden cardiac arrest--they are not breathing normally and you can't wake the person--call 911 first. Then follow this three-step process: Pull, Place & Press.

**Step 1**--Pull the cartridge handle--it's marked "PULL" in large letters. This initiates the clear calm voice that will guide you through the process.

**Step 2**--Place the pads on the patient's bare chest. The voice instructions tell you exactly what to do. HeartStart can even sense and adapt to your actions. If you are moving quickly, the voice prompts stay with you. If you are taking more time, HeartStart provides increasingly detailed instructions to help you place the pads. Once HeartStart senses that the pads have been applied to the skin, it automatically begins analyzing the patient's heart rhythm. HeartStart decides whether a shock is needed--you don't have to.

**Step 3**-- Press the shock button. If HeartStart decides a shock is needed, it will instruct you to press the flashing orange button HeartStart is designed to only let you deliver a shock if it determines one is needed. HeartStart even provides CPR coaching.

Essentially, that's how it works. You can feel confident that the defibrillator is providing easy-to-follow, straightforward direction and coaching. All you need is the desire to save a life.

### **Does insurance cover HeartStart?**

There are some medical conditions that may meet the criteria for medical necessity for a home defibrillator. Due to the wide range of health insurance policies and patient conditions, Philips cannot guarantee that an insurer will cover or pay at any particular level.

### **Does the battery need recharging?**

The long-life lithium battery does not need recharging. It contains power cells of the same kind safely used in many other consumer products, such as cameras.

The battery typically lasts approximately four years in "standby mode." "Standby mode" means HeartStart is standing at the ready to help save a life if needed. Every day, HeartStart runs self-tests to check its battery, pads freshness and internal circuitry. If it ever detects a problem, such as a low battery, it chirps like your smoke alarm to alert you.

### **Can the Philips HeartStart Home Defibrillator treat an existing medical condition?**

The Philips HeartStart Home Defibrillator is only intended for use in the treatment of the most common cause of sudden cardiac arrest, known as ventricular fibrillation (VF). VF occurs when the electrical system of the heart short circuits, causing the heart to quiver rather than pump in a normal rhythm.

If you have questions or concerns about your health, or an existing medical condition, please talk with your doctor. A defibrillator does not take the place of seeking medical care.

**Is training needed to use HeartStart?**

HeartStart comes with a "Quick Start" poster, an Owner's Manual, Quick Reference Guide and a short training videotape, "How To Use Your HeartStart Home Defibrillator," to help you get familiar with the device. Philips recommends that anyone who might use the HeartStart watch the video and read these materials.

Users should have training in CPR and defibrillator use. Many training organizations offer a combined course.

As an added bonus, HeartStart also comes with discounted coupons for CPR/AED training at the American Red Cross, American Heart Association or Medic First Aid.

**Can I use Philips HeartStart Home Defibrillator on myself?**

You cannot use HeartStart on yourself. Victims of cardiac arrest are unconscious and not breathing normally.

If you have questions or concerns about your health, or an existing medical condition, please talk with your doctor. A defibrillator does not take the place of seeking medical care.

**Is the Philips HeartStart Home Defibrillator safe?**

The Philips HeartStart Home Defibrillator was designed with safety in mind--safety of the victim, the user and those living in the household, including children and others who might be curious about the device.

HeartStart is designed to only deliver a shock if it determines one is needed. It will not deliver a shock to a person who doesn't need it. For the safety of the responder, it is important to follow the voice instructions and to make sure that no one touches the patient when a shock is delivered.

**Can the Philips HeartStart Home Defibrillator be used on children?**

Yes, HeartStart can be used on infants and children. HeartStart Infant/Child SMART pads cartridges are sold separately. *A prescription is required.* In fact, Philips defibrillators were the first automated external defibrillators available for use on children under the age of 8 or weighing less than 55 pounds.

HeartStart actually senses when the Infant/Child pads cartridge is installed. It automatically adjusts to deliver a lower energy level most appropriate for infants and children, and also provides coaching for performing CPR on a child.

The Infant/Child Pads are available by prescription only. Talk to your doctor.

**What if I need to defibrillate a child, but I do not have the infant/child pads cartridge?**

If you are not sure of a child's exact age or weight, or if infant/child pads are not available, do not delay treatment. Perform 1 minute of infant/child CPR, call 911, then apply the defibrillator. Use the adult pads, but place them on the child's chest and back. Remember that, with the adult pads on a child, the optional CPR coaching will be for an adult.

## **What should I consider before purchasing HeartStart?**


- You cannot use the HeartStart to treat yourself.
- Users may need to perform CPR.
- Responding to cardiac arrest may require you to kneel.
- Voice instructions and enclosed materials are in English.
- HeartStart provides audible and visible indicators when maintenance is required.

## **Can HeartStart be used on a person with a pacemaker or ICD?**

It is all right to use the HeartStart on a person with an implanted device such as a pacemaker or ICD, but do not place the pads directly over the implant. You can tell where an implant is located by a lump in the skin and a scar.

It is also all right to use HeartStart on someone wearing an oxygen mask.

## **My HeartStart Home Defibrillator arrived in a cardboard shipping box and had a large black and white striped, diamond-shaped symbol on it. What does that symbol mean?**

The symbol  relates to the lithium battery shipped with your HeartStart.

Recently the US Department of Transportation (DOT) has tightened the regulations pertaining to all lithium batteries carried onboard airplanes. As a result of these new regulations, HeartStart Home's standard lithium batteries may neither be carried onboard commercial passenger airlines as carry-on baggage nor checked as luggage.

This applies to spare batteries as well as batteries installed in devices. If you wish to transport your HeartStart Home Defibrillator via a passenger airline, you must remove the battery and ship it ahead to your destination via freight carriers (Fed Ex, etc), taking care to ship them as "Dangerous Goods".

Please note: Philips has shipped in excess of 500,000 HeartStart AEDs (and many more batteries) without incident. For additional information regarding this issue, please consult the DOT website and/or your individual airline.