

External Defibrillation - CE/NCPD

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Percentage Correct: **100%**

1. Before defibrillating a patient, the nurse notices that the gel pads are dry. Which step should the nurse take?
- A. Replace the gel pads before use.
 - B. Remove the gel pads and reattach gel protectors.
 - C. Use the existing gel pads and follow routine procedure.
 - D. Use the gel pads and apply extra conductive gel to restore moisture.

Rationale: Gel pads should be replaced if they appear to be drying out. Proper functioning of defibrillation equipment must be maintained. If gel pads are nonfunctional because of overuse, age, or excessive dryness, patient safety and defibrillation effectiveness are at risk.

2. A patient is experiencing chest pain, shortness of breath, and a decreased level of consciousness. To maximize the current through the myocardium, where should the nurse place the self-adhesive defibrillator pads?



Synchronized Cardioversion - CE/NCPD

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Test Results

Percentage Correct: **90%**

1. For which patient should synchronized cardioversion be considered to terminate ventricular tachyarrhythmias?
- A. A patient who has shown consistent hemodynamic stability
 - B. A patient who is breathing at a rate of 12 breaths per minute but has no pulse
 - C. A patient who has a ventricular rate greater than 150 beats per minute
 - D. A patient who has responded favorably to antiarrhythmic medications

Rationale: Synchronized cardioversion is an electrical therapy used to terminate ventricular tachyarrhythmias. If a patient has no pulse, the AHA recommends defibrillation. A patient who is hemodynamically stable should be treated first with antiarrhythmic medications. A patient who has responded well to antiarrhythmic medications generally does not require cardioversion.

2. Which statement is most accurate?