

EMS Case Study

Monroe County EMS

A Successful Witnessed Arrest

"We then had the task of moving the patient from the second story of her apartment building to the ambulance, while still providing cardiac compressions."

Ryan Weber, Supervisor



Monroe County EMS
901 Illinois St., Suite C
Waterloo, IL 62298

The Story

Service Profile:

Monroe County EMS is located in southwestern Illinois, with a service area covering approximately 339 square miles. Due to their geographical location, Monroe County EMS experiences the challenges of long transport times that may be upwards of 30 minutes.

Patient Profile:

A call was received for a 62 year old female, 230 lbs., with a diabetic problem. The patient was very slow to respond with a blood sugar of 26 mg/dl. A peripheral IV was placed; 1 amp of D50 was given. The patient immediately went into cardiac arrest.

Clinical Course:

Manual CPR was immediately initiated while the code bag and AutoPulse® were being retrieved.

The patient was intubated and the AutoPulse was placed into position within minutes. While the AutoPulse was giving continuous, consistent compressions, carotid and femoral pulses were palpated and IV Epinephrine and Atropine were administered.

While continuous compressions were given by the AutoPulse, the patient was moved from her second story apartment to the ambulance and transported 15 miles to the hospital. During transport the patient received medications and total of three shocks with a ZOLL® E Series® defibrillator. On arrival at the hospital, the patient achieved spontaneous circulation, however, over the next four (4) hours the pulse was lost several times and the AutoPulse started.

Outcome:

When the patient returned to spontaneous circulation she was transported to another facility for further treatment. Six (6) days later in a follow-up call by the paramedics, the patient was able to talk and offer thanks and praise.

Discussion:

The AutoPulse was delivering consistent, continuous compressions while the patient was being transported to the ambulance and hospital, resulting in improved blood flow and minimal interruptions. During the 15 miles of transport, the Paramedics did not have to risk injury by doing manual CPR in the moving ambulance. Until now, there has been no practical adjunct to manual CPR.

The AutoPulse Automated Chest Compression System with its unique load-distributing LifeBand® squeezes a wide surface area of the chest, helping to move more blood more effectively than is possible with human hands. As a result, patients receive consistent high-quality chest compressions that improve blood flow, minimize no-flow time, and increase the likelihood of survival.



 AutoPulse®

ZOLL

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ZOLL Medical Corporation
Worldwide Headquarters
269 Mill Road
Chelmsford, MA 01824
USA
(978) 421-9655
www.zoll.com

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