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Cutter Cuts Time to Defibrillation

Cutting tools have been used by pre-hospital medical staff for many years to swiftly and safely remove patients' clothes in emergency situations. Now, the inventor of such a tool wants to equip defibrillators with it as well.



S-Cut is the first cutting tool for removing clothes, whose effect has been proven in a peer-reviewed scientific study.

During cardiac arrest, the chance of survival is reduced by 7-10% for each minute without defibrillation. An important factor in reducing that time is to quickly remove the patient's clothes.

A study conducted at the Sahlgrenska University Hospital, published in the American Journal of Emergency Medicine in 2011, showed that a cutting tool (S-Cut) was 63 seconds faster on average than a pair of scissors for exposing the chest of a person suffering cardiac arrest.

"S-Cut is the first cutting tool for removing clothes, whose effect has been proven in a peer-reviewed scientific study," says Björn Åhlén, a paramedic who has

been involved in developing the S-Cut tool and starting the company ES Equipment with the purpose of further development, market and sell S-Cut in Sweden and internationally.

Reduced Risk for Damage

Apart from the time gain, using a cutter minimises the risk of cutting off tubes or ECG cords, or damaging the patient or oneself.

"A cutting tool is of great importance in the cases of cardiac arrests, and in motorcycle accidents, since it's almost impossible to cut through a motorcycle overall with a pair of scissors," says Doctor

Andreas Claesson, an experienced paramedic, who does research on cardiac arrest at Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm.

"Cutting tools have been used by paramedics for many years and we would like to see defibrillators equipped with cutters as well. Every year, around 5,000 cardiac arrests are reported by the ambulance services to the Swedish resuscitation council's register. Approx 1,500 are Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrests (OHCAs). If defibrillators were equipped with S-Cut, it's estimated that 54-75 more people in Sweden would survive cardiac arrest each year," Björn Åhlén concludes.



Doctor Andreas Claesson is an experienced paramedic, who does research on cardiac arrest at Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm.



Artur Aira, COO, Executive Vice President of AddLife AB and Elinor Hartung, Executive Search Consultant/Partner of TRANSEARCH International Sweden AB.

Executive Search Team with a Life Science Focus

The fact that the executive search organisation TRANSEARCH International has consultants dedicated to the life sciences is appreciated by many companies in the business. One example is AddLife that has been working with Transearch in several recruitments.

In each executive search, Transearch International creates a team of consultants and researchers with the appropriate industry knowledge.

"For us, it's important that the executive search team understands the needs and dynamics prevalent in life science businesses. That's one of the key reasons which made it attractive for us to work with Transearch in several executive recruitments," says Artur Aira, COO, Executive Vice President of AddLife AB (formerly Addtech Life Science), an enterprise of 25 companies, primarily active on the Nordic life science market in the fields of labtech and medtech.

Probing Deeper

To reduce the many uncertainties and risks in an executive hire Transearch has developed the Orxestra© method. It probes deeper at the qualifications of the candidate, and culture, performance, leadership and team fit are all taken into account.

"Among other things, they analyse the positions and dynamics present in the group of executives and how the group works. We especially appreciate their long-term commitment and that they work according to a transparent and professional process, with follow-ups of each recruitment," says Artur Aira, who warmly recommends executive search consultant Elinor Hartung and her team to other life science companies.