

Kathleen R. DeCataldo, Esq.
Assistant Commissioner
Office of Student Support Services
89 Washington Avenue, Room 318-M EB
Phone: (518) 486-6090 Web: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/>

District Superintendents of BOCES

CPR and AED use, assure that AED equipment is provided in an instructional facility where students are present and during any school-sponsored athletic contest or school-sponsored competitive athletic event held at any location. Schools are encouraged to plan for these emergencies and develop protocols and communication plans recommended in [Managing Emergency Health Care and Communicable Diseases in the School Setting, October 2022](#).

Although SCA is rare² -- the incidence of sudden cardiac death (SCD) on the playing field is 0.61 in 100,000 -- there are steps parents/guardians and school personnel can take to identify students who may be at risk and help to identify students exhibiting signs or

- Use of diet pills, performance-enhancing supplements, energy drinks, or drugs such as cocaine, inhalants, or “recreational” drugs.⁵
- Elevated blood pressure or cholesterol.
- History of health care provider ordered test(s) for heart related issues.
- Family History Risk Factors:
 - Family history of known heart abnormalities or sudden death before 50 years of age
 - Family members with *unexplained* fainting, seizures, drowning, near drowning or car accidents before 50 years of age
 - Structural heart abnormality, repaired or unrepaired
 - Any relative diagnosed with the following conditions:
 - Enlarged Heart/ Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy/Dilated Cardiomyopathy
 - Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy
 - Heart rhythm problems, long or short QT interval
 - Brugada Syndrome
 - Catecholaminergic Ventricular Tachycardia
 - Marfan Syndrome- aortic rupture
 - Heart attack at 50 years or younger
 - Pacemaker or implanted cardiac defibrillator (ICD)

Any student with such signs or symptoms, family history or personal risk factors should be evaluated by a health care provider.

[First Aid and CPR/AED Requirement \(nysed.gov\)](#) for coaches include this mandatory content.

For questions, please contact the Office of Student Support Services at studentsupportservices@nysed.gov or 518-486-6090.