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## Other

Currently, AEDs are not within immediate reach of many Australians due to the variety of different approaches to their regulation and provision. For any Australian suffering a sudden cardiac arrest, their chance of survival is heavily dependent on close proximity to an AED. This inequitable situation has to change. Some 23,000 to 33,000 Australians are estimated to suffer a sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) each year. For each minute that passes without treatment, the chance of survival is reduced by 10%, therefore there's a 10 minute "window of opportunity" to act. The average ambulance response times in Australia, whilst exceptional on a global scale is between 8-12 minutes. Overall Survival of SCA is estimated to be between 9% - 12%. Survival climbs to above 50% when CPR and Defibrillation is applied within 3 minutes. Currently only 1 in 4 workplaces have an AED installed. Existing Workplace Health and Safety laws, regulations and codes of practice say only that AEDs are optional. We all agree First Aid Kits and fire extinguishers plus training must be mandatory in workplaces because they save lives. Now, AEDs and training in their use, must become mandatory for all Australian workplaces so more Australians will survive their cardiac arrest.