

# CLINICAL ENGINEERING

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## Biomedical Equipment Maintenance

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### AFMLL Search Program Update!

Version 1.1 of the AFMLL search program update was distributed in January 1996. Fifty bases are currently using the program which allows viewing and searching of all data contained in the Clinical Engineering articles with the exception of attachments.

To receive a copy of the search program, please send your complete address, with a point of contact, to AFMLO/FOA, ATTN: Teri Baal (fax number DSN 343-2958, commercial (301) 619-2958, telephone extension 4182). Disk copies will be mailed within 30 days from receipt of your request.

To run the AFMLL search program you need:

- MS-Dos operating system version 3.1 or later
- Microsoft Windows 3.1 or Windows 95
- PC with 386SX or higher microprocessor
- Minimum of 8 meg of memory (RAM)
- Hard disk space required: 8MG
- EGA or higher resolution monitor
- Microsoft mouse or compatible pointing device

Please indicate if your facility has File Transfer Protocol (FTP) capability, and we will fax instructions for obtaining the files. A network compatible version of the program is also available upon request. (AFMLO/FOM, TSgt Benjamin Allen, DSN 343-7487)

### Clinical Engineering Index -- 1995

We are providing an alphabetical index which covers AFMLLs 1-95 through 26-95 to assist in locating articles previously published in the Clinical Engineering portion of the AFMLL. The index is included on pages 1 through 24 of Attachment 1. The articles, listed by title and AFMLL number, are divided into the categories listed below:

- ◇ Biomedical Equipment Maintenance
- ◇ Career Advisor's Corner
- ◇ Facility Management
- ◇ Medical Equipment Management
  - ◇ Shared Procurement
- ◇ Quality Assurance
  - ◇ Materiel Complaints
  - ◇ Recalls/Alerts

Please feel free to contact us if you have problems using the index or cannot locate a specific article. With our on-line database, we can help you locate articles quickly. (AFMLO/FOA, Ms. Rita Miller, DSN 343-4158)

### Suggestion - Cost Cutting Method for Monitoring Cardiac Patients During Transport

SSgt Marshall Fiscus of the 90MDOS, FE Warren AFB WY, submitted a suggestion offering a cost-cutting method for monitoring cardiac patients during transport. This suggestion is applicable in medical treatment facilities (MTFs) using the Physio Control Lifepak 300 automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) in ambulances to monitor cardiac patients during transport. This offers a \$15.95 savings per transfer, after an initial outlay for an alternate cable. The standard Lifepak 300 cable is normally used with "fast patch" electrodes (NSN 6515-01-345-9444, Physio Control part number 804545-001) at a cost of \$16.20 per package. By using a Physio Control monitoring cable - ECG (part number 804976-03, \$145) with disposable ECG electrodes (NSN 6515-01-160-

2537, \$3.67 per package of 30 each), patients can be monitored during transport for approximately 25 cents per trip. If the patient requires defibrillation, the original cable and “fast patch” electrodes would be reinstalled and used in accordance with existing directives.

Similar savings may be possible with other AED units, but each combination should be coordinated with the local Biomedical Equipment Maintenance Technician and the manufacturer.

Implementing this suggestion is optional. Specific benefits should be evaluated locally at each base. Facilities adopting this suggestion should complete an AF Form 1000-1, Suggestion Evaluation and Transmittal. Cite suggestion number (FEW 96-0003), and forward it to the originating office (90MW/MO, 7305 Randall Ave, FE Warren AFB WY 82005-2915) for determination of overall benefits on which to base an award. Information and guidance on the Air Force Suggestion Program can be found in AFI 38-401. (HQ AFMSA/SGSL, Randy Fontana, DSN 240-4128)

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## Career Advisor’s Corner

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### Medical Logistics Workshop Dates for Calendar Year (CY) 96

Information on upcoming medical logistics workshops scheduled for 25-29 March, and 24-27 June is provided in the Medical Materiel section, pages MM-4 and MM-5. During this workshop, there will be an extensive three-day maintenance session provided by Chief Christian. Maintenance attendees should be SSgt and above, to include junior officers. (AFMLO/FOM, CMSgt Al Christian, DSN 343-4040)

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## Facility Management

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## Directional Patient Maps

“Signage” (wayfinding for patients and visitors) is a continuous challenge for facility managers. It would be nice if we were able to give our patients maps directing them to the departments they are most likely to visit. Probably the best way to accomplish this task is through the use of Computer-Aided Design (CAD) software, provided your floor plans are up-to-date. If you do not have access to a CAD system, there are other ways of developing wayfinding maps. Captain Jack Arendale of Vandenberg Hospital gave a great presentation on map making at the Medical Logistics Symposium. **Attachment 1**, pages 25 through 31 are detailed instructions, prepared by Capt Arendale, on how to make a hospital “location/direction” map using Microsoft Excel and Powerpoint software. Capt Arendale is also a great source for information on automated security systems. He can be contacted at DSN 276-3216. (AFMLO/FOMF, 1Lt Dennis Ford, DSN 343-4119)

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## Quality Assurance

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### Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Recalls/Alert Notices

**Attachment 2**, paragraph 1, provides information on FDA medical equipment recalls and alerts. Personnel from clinical engineering, biomedical equipment maintenance, quality assurance, and safety should follow the guidance provided to ensure the effective maintenance and management of medical equipment. (AFMLO/FOM, Capt William Wood, DSN 343-4024)

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## Medical Equipment Management

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## **Shared Procurement Equipment Items Currently Available**

AFMML 4-96, Attachment 1, pages 5 and 6, contains a list of all current Shared Procurement contracts and optional contracts available through DPSC. If you plan to order any of these items for your facility, use the specific ordering instructions and overall program guidance contained in AFMML 4-96, pages CE-4 and CE-5. (AFMLO/FOM, Capt David Zemkosky, DSN 343-4028)

## **“Piggyback” Contracts Currently Available**

AFMML 02/03-96, Attachment 1, pages 1 and 2, contains a list of all current “piggyback” contracts currently available through DPSC. These contracts will allow facilities to “piggyback” requirements onto existing orders placed for specific quantities. Many of these contracts are designed to buy large quantities at the same price. The list in AFMML 02/03-96 includes available quantities and “Order By” dates. To order, send your requisitions to DPSC (using the MILSTRIP process), ATTN: Mr. J. Gallagher/DPSC-MQA, and reference the contract number (from the listing) in the notes section. (AFMLO/FOM, Capt David Zemkosky, DSN 343-4028)

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