

The Survival Chain Partners represented by Dr. Malek Mohammad, President of the Lebanese Society of Cardiology (LSC), Dr. Hussain Isma'eel, Director of the Vascular Medicine Program at AUB, Dr. Mazen El-Sayed, President of the Lebanese Society of Emergency Medicine (LSEM), Remy Rebeiz Young Heart Foundation and Yohan For Life Foundation reached a cooperation agreement to partner with the Civil Defense on their National Public Access Defibrillator Program.



People in the photo from left to right: Mr. Nabil Salhani, Head of Training at Civil Defense, Dr. Malek Mohammad President of the LSC, General Raymond Khattar, General Director of the Civil Defense, Dr. Hussain Isma'eel, Director of the VMP at AUB, Dr. Mazen El-Sayed, President of the LSEM and Miss Safaa Fares Coordinator of AED Deployment Program.

This agreement includes training 500 Civil Defense personnel on CPR and automated external defibrillator (AED) use, training 1700 individuals from the community on CPR and AED and distributing 44 AEDs as part of the first wave. These AEDs will be linked to the Civil Defense and Dr. Mazen El-Sayed through the Emergency Department at AUBMC will provide the medical oversight, while the LSC and LSEM together provide the scientific umbrella for this program.

The survival rate from out of hospital cardiac arrest is less than 5% in Lebanon compared to 50% in developed parts of the world. The Survival Chain Partners are working on improving this situation and have worked with the health committee in the Lebanese Parliament to submit an amendment to Criminal Law 567 to introduce a section that parallels what is known as the Good Samaritan Law in the USA and Europe to encourage bystander CPR and AED use. The above agreement is the second step in this group's plan.

