**Cardioplumonary Resuscitation Policy**

Revised November 2016

**GDoc Policy**

All staff who work in areas which provide patient care will have regular training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and use of an AED.

All staff should use the Basic Life Support algorithm of the Resuscitation Council (see below) unless they have been trained in more advanced life support. Clinical staff who have been trained and are competent in Intermediate or Advanced Life Support should use those algorithms. The ILS and ALS algorithms are not shown below to avoid any risk of confusion in an emergency situation but are available on the Resuscitation Council website.

Always make sure it is safe to approach before you attempt resuscitation.

**Resuscitation of Children**

It is much better to use the adult BLS algorithm on a child than to delay resuscitation. However, the adult algorithm can be adapted to make it more suitable for a child with the following steps:

* Give 5 initial rescue breaths before starting chest compressions.
* If you are on your own, perform CPR for 1 minute before going for help.
* Compress the chest by at least one third of its depth, approximately 4 cm for the infant and approximately 5 cm for an older child. Use two fingers for an infant under 1 year; use one or two hands as needed for a child over 1 year to achieve an adequate depth of compression.

