

# LIFEPAK<sup>®</sup> 20/20e DEFIBRILLATOR/MONITOR

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When charging paddles in the wells, or using the test plug during a user test, why does the LIFEPAK 20/20e defibrillator/monitor output at 79 joules instead of the expected higher energy dosage?

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## **Explanation:**

On LIFEPAK 20/20e defibrillators with cprMAX™ technology, if the standard paddles are in the paddle wells or touching face to face (“shorted paddles”) when the defibrillator is charged, the device limits the available energy to 79 joules. This prevents damage to the internal circuits.

If the defibrillator is charged to at least 80 joules and energy is discharged when the hard paddles are seated in the paddle wells or touching face-to-face, the display indicates 79J and the automatic printout annotates time, date and 79J shock.

This also applies when using a test plug.

If the defibrillator is charged to 80 joules or more with paddles in the paddle wells, and then the paddles are removed and placed on a patient, the defibrillator continues charging to the selected energy and defibrillation may be completed as usual. When charging the defibrillator with the paddles on the patient’s chest, the defibrillator automatically adjusts the waveform voltage and current duration based on the patient’s impedance. This automatic adjustment does not occur when the defibrillator is charged with the paddles seated in the paddle wells.

## **Steps to resolve:**

To ensure correct patient impedance readings, always charge the defibrillator when the standard paddles (hard paddles) or QUIK-COMBO® electrodes are in contact with the patient’s chest.

## **References:**

LIFEPAK 20 defibrillator/monitor Operating Instructions, Section 4

LIFEPAK 20e defibrillator/monitor Operating Instructions, Section 4

## **Applies to:**

LIFEPAK 20 defibrillator/monitor with cprMAX™ technology

LIFEPAK 20e defibrillator/monitor

**For further information, please contact your Physio-Control representative at 800.442.1142 or visit our website at [www.physio-control.com](http://www.physio-control.com)**