

Chemist staff in Wexford help save life of man who suffered cardiac arrest on street

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Heroes...Dawn Foley, left, and Louise Beegan of McCauley's Pharmacy

Two hero pharmacy workers helped save the life of a man who collapsed with a cardiac arrest.

Louise Beegan and Dawn Foley rushed to the stricken man's aid when he fell ill on Wexford's main street.

The pair performed CPR on him and used a heart-reviving defibrillator from their pharmacy, Sam McCauley's in Redmond Square.

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A member of the public ran into the chemist looking for help when the man collapsed shortly after midday last Friday, February 2.

Supervising pharmacist Louise and staff member Dawn went to assist before Dawn ran back to retrieve a defibrillator.

Louise said: "We cut off the man's shirt with a scissors; Dawn and I used the defibrillator to try to resuscitate him.

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To the rescue...Sam McCauley's chemist on Redmond Square in Wexford

"There was a man from the Coastguard and another woman who had worked on the ambulance service and between us, we did chest compressions and CPR as well.

"There was about 20 people looking on. We did what we could and then the ambulance arrived and worked on him."

The ambulance service confirmed the man suffered a cardiac arrest.

Two ambulances and a Rapid Response Vehicle attended the scene and worked together to resuscitate the man.

He was taken to Wexford General Hospital and later to Waterford where he is recovering.

His relatives posted messages of thanks to those who assisted him on social media.

Ms Beegan said the incident was shocking, adding that while she has undergone numerous training courses, it was her first time using a defibrillator in a real-life incident.

She said it was fortunate that Sam McCauley's had its own defibrillator in the store, having fundraised and bought the vital life-saving device at the beginning of last year.

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