

## **EMSAC OCTOBER 2025**

# **CPR Quality**

- Push hard (at least 2 inches [5cm] and fast (100-120/min) and allow complete chest recoil.
- Minimize interruptions in compression.
- Avoid excessive ventilation
- Change compressor every 2 minutes or sooner if fatigued
- Quantitative waveform capnography if end tidal CO2 is low or decreasing reassess
   CPR quality

# **Shock Energy for Defibrillation**

- Biphasic: manufacturer recommends (e.g. initial dose of 120-200J): if unknown use maximum available.
- Second and subsequent doses should be equivalent, and higher doses may be considered.
- Minimize peri-shock pause to <5 seconds. Pre-charge AED/defibrillator at 1:45 to get ready to deliver shock at 2 minutes.
- Always resume chest compressions immediately after rhythm analysis or shock.
- **EXCEPTION**: If a patient goes into VF/pulseless VT while monitored or attached to an AED or defibrillator, a shock must be administered immediately.
- If there is no shock advised, resume compressions for another 2 minutes before next rhythm analysis/femoral pulse check.
- Vector change: If a shockable rhythm continues past the third shock, attach
  a second set of defibrillator pads in a chest position to provide alternate
  vector defibrillation and switch vectors.

# **Drug Therapy**

- Epinephrine IV/IO dose: 1mg every 3-5minutes, up to 4 doses
- Amiodarone IV/IO dose:
  - First dose: 300mg bolusSecond dose: 150mg

## Advanced airway

- <u>BLS airway</u>: 30:2 compression ventilation ratio <u>OR continuous ventilation [1 breatherery 6 seconds (10 breaths/min])</u>
- Supraglottic airway (first line) or endotracheal intubation advanced airway. Do NOT stop compressions to place advanced airway.
- Waveform capnography to confirm and monitor advanced airway tube placement
- Advanced airway: continuous ventilation [1 breath every 6 seconds (10 breaths/min]

# **Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC)**

- Check for pulse and blood pressure
- Abrupt sustained increase in end tidal (typically >40mmHg)
- See Protocol 2.05 Adult Post-Cardiac Arrest or Return of Spontaneous

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#### **Circulation**

# **Reversible Causes**

#### Hypoxia:

- Bag-mask vVentilation with O2 (via BVM, supraglottic airway (e.g. iGel) or ET tube)
- Insert airway adjuncts as appropriate
- Target O2 saturation 94 95%

## Hydrogen Ion (Acidosis):

Assure adequate ventilation to blow off CO2

#### Hypovolemia:

- Give Normal Saline bolus
- If secondary to blood loss, early transport

#### **H**ypothermia:

Rewarm if the patient is hypothermic

#### Hyperkalemia:

- Give Calcium Chloride
- Consider Sodium Bicarbonate only after Calcium Chloride when treating suspected hyperkalemia
- Consider in-line Albuterol via BVM

#### Hypokalemia: Consider early transport

<u>Hypoglycemia</u>: Check blood glucose and correct hypoglycemia per Protocol 2.03 Altered Mental Status

<u>Tension Pneumothorax:</u> Relieve tension pneumothorax per Protocol 7.06 Needle Thoracostomy

Torsades de Pointes: After defibrillation give Magnesium Sulfate

**Toxins:** Treat signs and symptoms of drug toxicity:

- If QRS widening from Tricyclic Antidepressant Overdose, give Sodium Bicarbonate. May repeat
- If calcium channel blocker overdose, give Calcium Chloride May repeat in 10 min.
- If opiate overdose is suspected, consider Naloxone

Tamponade (cardiac) or Thrombosis, pulmonary or cardiac: Consider early transport

# **EMSAC OCTOBER 2025**

# **High Performance CPR Team Set Up**

Assign functional positions based on available personnel. One person may do one or more of the recommended functional positions listed below:

# **Compressor:**

Does Performs chest compressions

#### Airway:

- Opens airway
- Provides bag-mask ventilation with O2. Inserts airway adjuncts as appropriate.
- Target O2 saturation 94 95%.

# AED/Monitor/Defibrillator:

Operates AED/monitor/defibrillator

# **IV/IO Medications:**

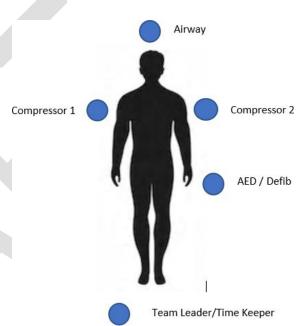
ALS role – gets IV/IO access and gives medications.

# **Team Leader/Time Keeper:**

- Assigns team roles (or assumes roles if not assigned)
- Provides team feedback.
- Records intervention and medication times. Announces when next interventions and medications due
- Records frequency and duration of CPR interruptions.

#### **Next Compressor:**

Continuously checking femoral pulse. Switch at end of cardiac cycle (2 minutes).



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#### SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

#### **PREGNANCY**

- If patient is obviously gravid or known to be > 20weeks gestation, focus on early transport to OB and STAR designated center.
- Most common causes of maternal cardiac arrest are hemorrhage, cardiovascular diseases (including myocardial infarction, aortic dissection, and myocarditis), amniotic fluid embolism, sepsis, aspiration pneumonitis, pulmonary embolism, and eclampsia.
- If patient is receiving IV/IO Magnesium pre-arrest, stop infusion and switch to Normal Saline unless the arrest was due to seizure activity.
- During CPR, have a provider manually displace gravid uterus to patient's left side.
- If ROSC is achieved, displace uterus or place padding under backboard for 30° tilt to patients left side. in Left Lateral Decubitus Position.
- Anticipate difficult airway; experienced provider preferred.
- Normal Saline fluid bolus. Reassess and repeat as indicated.
- Flush line with Normal Saline prior to giving Calcium Chloride. May repeat in 10 min.

## VENTRICULAR ASSIST DEVICE (LVAD)

See Protocol 2.19 Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD)

#### **DOCUMENTATION**

- Initial "At Patient Side" time
- Intervention and medication times
- Use accelerometer ("puck") to track CPR unless LUCAS is being used
- Patient response to interventions and medications (rhythm changes; pulses with and without CPR, ROSC).
- ROSC or death pronouncement time
- Bystander CPR prior to arrival and duration if not already a required field

#### **AFTER CARE**

#### **IF ROSC**

See Protocol 2.05 Adult and Pediatric Post-Cardiac Arrest or Return of Spontaneous Circulation

IF NO ROSC after 20 minutes OPTIONS:

Asystole/PEA at 20 minutes OR VF/pVT at 30 minutes:

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# If persistent VF/pVT (after 3 defibrillation attempts):

- Transport to a STAR center with ongoing CPR
   OR
- Contact Base Hospital Call Base Physician for recommendations

# If non-shockable rhythm:

- Review criteria for Discontinuing Resuscitative
   Efforts (See Policy 4049) OR
- Contact Base Hospital -Physician for recommendations



# 2.04 MEDICAL CARDIAC ARREST EMSAC OCTOBER 2025

# **ALL Cardiac Arrests - High Performance CPR**

See Figure 1 for High Performance Team Organization.

Current Advanced Cardiac Life Support should be followed in conjunction with this protocol/algorithm

**Start CAB (compressions, airway, breathing)** when patient is unconscious/unresponsive, not breathing normally and no pulse is detected within 10 seconds.

#### **Compressions**

- Do five (5) cycles of chest compressions at 30:2 compression/ventilation ratio OR continuous ventilation
- Push hard (at least 2 inches) and fast (100-120/min).
- Allow complete chest recoil.
- Minimize compression interruptions.
- Next up team compressor is continuously checking quality of femoral pulse and is ready torotate to the compressor position at the end of the cardiac cycle (2 minutes).
- Rotate compressors every 2 minutes or sooner if fatigued.

#### **AED/Defibrillator**

- While CPR is in progress, turn on AED/defibrillator and apply pads (anterior posterior if possible) and accelerometer ("puck").
- Shock on a 2 minute cycle. Pre-charge AED/Defibrillator at 1:45 to get ready to deliver shock at 2 minutes.
- Minimize peri-shock pause to less than 5 seconds.
- Change out rescuer on chest compressions during peri-shock pause.
- After first 30 compressions, analyze rhythm. Clear patient and shock if indicated. Resume compressions for another 2 minutes before next rhythm analysis.
- Always resume chest compressions immediately after rhythm analysis or shock.
- **EXCEPTION**: If patient goes into VF/pulseless VT while monitored or attached to an AED or defibrillator, a shock must be administered immediately.
- If no shock advised, resume compressions for another 2 minutes before next rhythmanalysis/femoral pulse check.
- If a shockable rhythm continues past the third shock, attach a second set of

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defibrillator pads in a chest position to provide alternate vector defibrillation and switch vectors, or attach a second defibrillator with a second set of defibrillator pads as soon as one is available to provide alternate vector defibrillation.

# **Airway/Ventilation:**

- Open airway. Provide bag-mask ventilation. Pause compressions 2 seconds or less to ventilate during 30:2 or continuous ventilation.
- Ventilate enough to cause chest rise. Avoid excessive ventilation (too fast or too much volume).
- Inserts airway adjuncts as appropriate. Do NOT stop chest compressions during advanced airway insertions.
- Asynchronous ventilations every 6 seconds once advanced airway is in place or every 10th compression

#### **IV/IO Medications:**

• ALS provider obtains IV/IO access and gives medications as appropriate.

