

# Protocol C-02b

SECTION: C-02b

TITLE: Adult Cardiopulmonary Arrest – **ALS** algorithms

REVISED: July 01, 2024

## ADULT CARDIOPULMONARY ARREST – ALS

### Box #1:

#### If adequate CPR is being performed upon arrival :

1. Confirm cardiopulmonary arrest.
2. Transition to High-Performance CPR (see *Appendix 30: High-Performance Resuscitation*) while applying DEFIB pads
3. Move on to, “**Box 4.**”

### Box #2:

#### Sudden, witnessed arrest in the presence of EMS:

1. Perform High-Performance CPR (see *Appendix 30: High-Performance Resuscitation*) only long enough to apply DEFIB pads.
2. Move on to, “**Box 4.**”

### Box #3:

#### If inadequate CPR, or no CPR at all, is being performed upon arrival:

1. Initiate/Perform High-Performance CPR (see *Appendix 30: High-Performance Resuscitation*)
2. During (and without interruption or compromising) High Performance CPR:
  - a. Apply Defib pads
  - b. Prepare/establish Airway Management and/or vascular access
  - c. Medications/other Interventions
3. Move on to, “**Box #4,**” after approximately 2 minutes/200-220 Compressions completed

### Box #4:

#### Rhythm Check

1. **\*\*Pre-charge Monitor before pause. Energy Settings as described in *Appendix 11: Electrical Therapy.***

#### VF/Pulseless VT:

- a) **Shock**
- b) Immediately resume HP-CPR without pause for rhythm check.
- c) Advanced airway management/Vascular Access as appropriate

#### Asystole/PEA:

- a) No shock indicated.
- b) Immediately resume HP-CPR.
- c) Advanced airway management/Vascular Access as appropriate

#### ROSC:

- a) Evaluate for POST-ROSC /TTM protocol (See *Protocol C-09: POST-ROSC*)
- b) Advanced airway management and Vascular Access as appropriate
- c) Provide hemodynamic support and other interventions.
- d) Monitor closely for re-arrest

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### Box #5:

#### Rhythm Check

1. **\*\*Pre-charge Monitor before pause. Energy Settings as described in Appendix 11: Electrical Therapy.**

VF/Pulseless VT:	Asystole/PEA:	ROSC:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Shock</b></li> <li>b) Immediately resume HP-CPR without pause for rhythm check.</li> <li>c) Advanced airway management/Vascular Access as appropriate</li> </ol> <p><i>Medication Administration During CPR</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d) Epinephrine</li> <li>e) Antiarrhythmic</li> <li>f) <b>Additional pharmacologic therapies as indicated</b></li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) No shock indicated.</li> <li>b) Immediately resume HP-CPR.</li> <li>c) Advanced airway management/Vascular Access as appropriate</li> </ol> <p><i>Medications Administration During CPR</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d) Epinephrine</li> <li>e) <b>Additional pharmacologic therapies as indicated</b></li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Evaluate for POST-ROSC /TTM protocol (See <i>Protocol C-09: POST-ROSC</i>)</li> <li>b) Advanced airway management and Vascular Access as appropriate</li> <li>c) Provide hemodynamic support and other interventions.</li> <li>d) Monitor closely for re-arrest</li> </ol>

### Box #6:

#### Treat possible Causes

Search for & treat possible contributing factors:

- a) **Hypovolemia**
- b) **Hypoxia**
- c) **Hydrogen ion (acidosis)**
- d) **Hypo-/hyperkalemia**
- e) **Hypothermia**
- f) **Toxins**
- g) **Tamponade, cardiac**
- h) **Tension Pneumothorax**
- i) **Thrombosis (coronary or pulmonary)**
- j) Other potential precipitating causes (i.e. Hypoglycemia, etc)
  - a. **Obtain a BG as soon as feasible.**

**Return to Box #5**

\* HP-CPR refers to “High-Performance CPR” as described in *Appendix 30: High-Performance Resuscitation) Appendix 30.*

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Continue this sequence until:

- a) Transport/transfer of care is complete.
- b) Resuscitative efforts are terminated. (See Appendix 26 "IN-FIELD DEATH/POST/DNR")
- c) A rhythm/condition change occurs.

If a rhythm/condition change occurs, treat it according to its respective algorithm/protocol.

## Consider as appropriate:

### *Electrical Therapy*

- Deliver manual defibrillation as indicated. (See Appendix 11: Electrical Therapy).

### *Vasopressors (for all cardiac arrest rhythms unless contraindicated)*

- Epinephrine
  - IV/IO: 1 mg 1:10,000 IVP every 3-5 minutes,

### *Airway Management:*

- Secure the airway using means best determined by good clinical decision making.
- See "Appendix 2: Advanced Airway Support Supplement" for guidelines for current and anticipated clinical needs

### *Anti-arrhythmic therapy: (For maintenance infusions, see protocol C-09 – "Post-ROSC Care")*

- Lidocaine (Xylocaine)
  - IV/IO: 1.0 to 1.5 mg/kg IV bolus, can repeat in 3-5 minutes not to exceed 3 mg/kg or 300 mg in 30 minutes (not including infusion)
- Amiodarone
  - IV/IO 300 mg initial dose.
  - Consider repeat x1 150 mg 3-5 min.
- Magnesium Sulfate
  - IV/IO: 2 g every 5 minutes,
  - 1<sup>st</sup> line for Torsades or refractory V-Fib/Pulseless V-Tach.
  - Administer in conjunction with lidocaine if hypomagnesemia is suspected.
  - Consider for refractory VF/pulseless VT.

### *Treat underlying causes:*

- Treat underlying causes simultaneously with High-Performance CPR but do not sacrifice the quality of CPR while doing so. High-Performance CPR remains the top priority.

### *Sedation for CPR-induced consciousness (Confirm continued pulseless-ness):*

- Ketamine:
  - IV/IO 1-2 mg/kg for CPR-induced consciousness. May repeat if needed in 5-10 minutes.

### *Other specific therapy:*

- Sodium bicarbonate for known hyperkalemia, suspected acidosis, TCA toxicity, and prolonged resuscitation.
  - IV/IO: 1 mEq/kg repeated in 10 minutes (if still in arrest) at 0.5 mEq/kg. The minimum initial dose is 50 mEq.
  - Follow TCA recommendations if TCA overdose is suspected
  - Consider dilution of Bicarb if given IO
- Calcium chloride for suspected hyperkalemia, calcium channel blocker OD, or suspected hypocalcemia
  - IV/IO: 500-1000 mg IVP
  - Administer sodium bicarbonate at 1 mEq/kg afterward for suspected hyperkalemia. **Flush line thoroughly between medications**

**ADULT CARDIOPULMONARY ARREST -- ALS**

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## ADULT CARDIOPULMONARY ARREST – ALS

- Narcan (naloxone) for suspected narcotic overdose *with cardiac arrest*
  - IV/IO: 2 mg repeated PRN
- Dextrose 50% for hypoglycemia
  - IV/IO: 12.5-50 g
  - (Consider dilution of Dextrose if given IO or through small veins)

### Physician Pearls:

**Continue the High-Performance CPR (see Appendix 30: High-Performance Resuscitation) sequence until:**

1. Transfer to a higher level of care occurs.
2. Patient regains a pulse
  - a. Initiate supportive care (i.e. oxygen via non-rebreather or BVM assisted breaths if necessary.)
  - b. Monitor for rearrest closely
3. Resuscitative efforts are terminated (See *Protocol G-04: Special Resuscitation Situations*)

\* In addition to BLS interventions, an advanced airway, and *at least* 20 minutes of rhythm-appropriate therapy should have been performed before considering termination of efforts. See *Protocol G-04: Special Resuscitation Situations* for further considerations.

**ETCO<sub>2</sub>:** Use waveform ETCO<sub>2</sub> as a gauge for the effectiveness of resuscitation as well as monitoring ETT placement.

**Treat underlying causes simultaneously with High-Performance CPR (see Appendix 30: High-Performance Resuscitation) but do not sacrifice the quality of CPR while doing so. High-Performance CPR remains the top priority.** Search for, consider, & treat possible contributing factors (as the scope of practice allows):

- Hypovolemia
- Hypoxia
- Hydrogen ion (acidosis)
- Hypo-/hyperkalemia
- Hypothermia
- Toxins
- Tamponade, cardiac
- Tension Pneumothorax
- Thrombosis (coronary or pulmonary)
- Other potential precipitating causes (i.e. Hypoglycemia, etc)
  - Obtain a BG as soon as feasible.

**VASCULAR ACCESS:** IV access is the preferred method of vascular access with IO as a secondary option if IV access is unsuccessful.

**ENERGY SETTINGS:** See *Appendix 11: Electrical Therapy Procedures and Guidelines*. Most ACCESS AEDs and Monitors have been set to deliver max energy settings (200 j), though this does not preclude the use of different devices/settings when needed.