BLS ADULT CARDIAC ARREST ALGORITHM

ProMed CERTIFICATIONS

Ensure Safe Scene

VICTIM APPEARS UNRESPONSIVE

- SHOUT OUT FOR NEARBY HELP
- ACTIVATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM (ERS)
- FIND AND OBTAIN AED
- » Send someone else if others are present

Assess Patient and Check Pulse

Check pulse for 5-10 seconds while assessing patient for any breathing or gasping for air.

Pulse; Regular Breathing →

Monitor Patient

Continue until emergency responders arrive

Pulse; Irregular Breathing →

Rescue Breathing

1 breath/5-6 seconds (10-12 breaths / minute)

At 2-minute mark: activate Emergency Response System

Every 2 minutes: continue rescue breathing and check pulse

Administer naloxone if patient is possibly experiencing opioid overdose

No Pulse

No Pulse: No Breathing

At this point: ERS activated; AED is present or is being brought in by someone else

Perform CPR

Use 30:2 ratio (compressions to breaths) and use AED as soon as it is brought to you.

Arrival of AED

Rhythm Check

Determine if rhythm is shockable

Shockable →

IF RHYTHM IS SHOCKABLE

- Give patient 1 shock
- Immediately resume CPR for 2 minutes
- » AED will prompt rhythm check
- Continue until victim moves or ALS providers arrive

Not Shockable →

IF RHYTHM IS NOT SHOCKABLE

- Immediately resume CPR for 2 minutes
- » AED will prompt rhythm check
- Continue until victim moves or ALS providers arrive

This Algorithm is based on the latest (2020) American Heart Association standards and guidelines

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