

CARDIAC EMERGENCIES

Cardiac Arrest – Public Safety Defibrillation C2

BASIC THERAPY – Public Safety Defibrillation

NON-TRANSPORTING UNIT

1. CONFIRM:

- unconscious, pulseless, and apneic or
- unconscious, pulseless with agonal respirations
- if 1-8 years of age, attach pediatric electrodes, if available. If not, attach adult electrodes if able to do so without electrodes touching

IF TRAUMA: Prepare patient for immediate transport. As time permits, prior to transport unit arrival, initiate defibrillation protocol

2. If **unwitnessed** or there is a known down time of 5 minutes or greater with no effective CPR
- CPR for 2 minutes
 - If patient remains unconscious, pulseless and apneic proceed to 3

If **witnessed** and the down time is less than 5 minutes proceed to 3

3. Attach Defibrillator and Initiate Analyze/Defibrillation

- Clear bystanders and crew
- Have machine analyze the patient's rhythm

3.1 If the rhythm is **shockable**

- Clear bystanders and crew
- Deliver shock
- Resume CPR
- Machine will reanalyze rhythm as indicated by manufacturer protocol

3.2 If the rhythm is **NOT shockable**

- Resume CPR beginning with chest compressions
- Machine will reanalyze the rhythm as indicated by manufacturer protocol

4. If the patient begins breathing or becomes responsive:

- Maintain airway
- Assist ventilations as necessary
- Check blood pressure, if equipment is available

If the patient again stops breathing or becomes unresponsive:

- Clear bystanders and crew
- Have the machine analyze the patient's rhythm
- Proceed as in 3 above

5. If a paramedic unit arrives to transport the patient, turn the patient over to paramedic personnel when you reach the point where CPR is appropriate. If turnover is delayed, continue to provide care according to this protocol.
6. If a BLS unit, without defibrillation capability, arrives to transport the patient, accompany the patient to the hospital providing care enroute. Deliver no more than nine (9) defibrillations on-scene prior to beginning transport.