

CARDIAC EMERGENCIES

Cardiac Arrest – Asystole C5

ASYSTOLE

1. CPR unless patient meets criteria for determination of death. Minimize interruptions in CPR.
2. Advanced airway management (may be deferred if bag-mask ventilation adequate)
3. **IV or IO ACCESS TKO**
4. **EPINEPHRINE 1:10,000** 1 mg IV or IO - repeat every 3-5 minutes
5. **ATROPINE** 1 mg IV or IO – repeat every 3-5 minutes to total dose of 3 mg
6. Consider treatable causes:
 - **Hydrogen Ion (Acidosis)** – history of diabetes, renal failure or pre-existing acidosis
 - **SODIUM BICARBONATE** 1 mEq/kg IV or IO. Do not administer if ventilation is ineffective.
 - **Hyperkalemia** – history of diabetes, renal failure, dialysis
 - **CALCIUM CHLORIDE** 500 mg IV or IO – may repeat in 5-10 minutes
 - **SODIUM BICARBONATE** 1 mEq/kg IV or IO. Do not administer if ventilation is ineffective.
 - **Hypothermia**
 - Warming measures
 - **Tablets (drug overdose)**
 - If tricyclic antidepressant or aspirin overdose, **SODIUM BICARBONATE** 1 mEq/kg IV or IO
7. Consider termination of efforts
8. **Contact Base Hospital if any questions or if additional therapy is required**
If rhythm is unclear and possibly ventricular fibrillation, defibrillate as for ventricular fibrillation.