



Medications in cardiac arrest

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Epinephrine

- Dose: 1 mg IV/IO every 3 to 5 minutes
- <u>Higher doses</u> may be indicated to treat specific problems, such as <u>a</u>-blocker or calcium channel blocker overdose.
- If IV/IO access is delayed or cannot be established, epinephrine may be given endotracheally at a dose of 2 to 2.5 mg.

 Do not administer <u>catecholamines</u> and <u>sodium</u> <u>bicarbonate</u> simultaneously through an IV <u>catheter</u> or tubing because alkaline solutions <u>such as the bicarbonate inactivate the</u> <u>catecholamines.</u>

Vasopressin

- Vasopressin is a nonadrenergic vasoconstrictor
- Dose: 1 dose of vasopressin 40 units IV/IO may replace either the first or second dose of epinephrine
- removal of vasopressin has been noted in the Adult Cardiac Arrest Algorithm

Amiodarone

- Amiodarone affects sodium, potassium, and calcium channels and has adrenergic blocking properties.
- considered for: VF or pulseless VT unresponsive to shock delivery, CPR, and vasopressor.
- Dose: 300 mg IV/IO can be followed by 1 dose of 150 mg IV/IO.

Precautions

- If the patient has a <u>perfusing rhythm</u>, administer the drug as <u>slowly</u> (over 20 to 60 minutes)
- Decrease the infusion rate if there is prolongation of the QT interval or heart block
- stop the infusion if the QRS widens to 50% of baseline or hypotension develops.
- Amiodarone should not be administered together with another drug that causes QT prolongation, such as procainamide.

Lidocaine

- Lidocaine may be considered if amiodarone is not available.
- The initial dose is 1 to 1.5 mg/kg IV.
- Additional doses of 0.5 to 0.75 mg/kg IV push may be administered at 5- to 10-minute intervals to a maximum dose of 3 mg/kg.

Magnesium Sulfate

- Indication: VF/pulseless VT is associated with torsades de pointes,
- Dose: 1 to 2 g IV/IO bolus
- Routine administration of magnesium sulfate in cardiac arrest is not recommended unless torsades de pointes is present.
- Precautions Magnesium produces vasodilation and may cause hypotension if administered rapidly.

Atropine

Atropine has been removed from the cardiac arrest algorithm.

Sodium Bicarbonate

- Adverse effects of bicarbonate during cardiac arrest.
 - a) Compromise CPP by reducing SVR
 - b) Create extracellular alkalosis that will shift the oxyhemoglobin saturation curve and inhibit oxygen release.
 - c) Produce hypernatremia and hyperosmolarity.
 - d) Produces excess CO2, which freely diffuses into myocardial and cerebral cells and may paradoxically contribute to intracellular acidosis.
 - e) Exacerbate central venous acidosis and may <u>inactivate</u> simultaneously administered <u>catecholamines</u>.

- Routine use is not recommended
- In some special resuscitation situations, bicarbonate can be beneficial:
 - preexisting metabolic acidosis, hyperkalemia, tricyclic antidepressant overdose,.
- initial dose of 1 mEq/kg

Calcium

- Routine use is not recommended.
- Calcium administration is not recommended for pediatric cardiopulmonary arrest in the absence of documented <u>hypocalcemia</u>, <u>calcium channel blocker overdose</u>, <u>hypermagnesemia</u>, or <u>hyperkalemia</u>.

Fibrinolysis

- Should not be routinely used.
- When <u>pulmonary embolism</u> is presumed or known to be the <u>cause of cardiac arrest</u>, <u>empirical fibrinolytic therapy can be</u> <u>considered</u>.

IV Fluids

- If cardiac arrest is associated with extreme volume losses, hypovolemic arrest should be suspected.
- These patients present with signs of circulatory shock advancing to PEA. In these settings intravascular volume should be promptly restored.

Glucose

- infants may develop hypoglycemia when energy requirements rise.
- Check blood glucose concentration during the resuscitation and treat hypoglycemia promptly

Procainamide

- Procainamide prolongs the refractory period of the atria and ventricles and depresses conduction velocity.
- 500mg interval (max 17mg/kg)
- Precautions
- Infuse procainamide very slowly (over 30 to 60 minutes)
- Decrease the infusion rate if there is prolongation of the QT interval, or heart block;
- stop the infusion if the QRS widens to 50% of baseline or hypotension develops.
- Do not administer together with another drug causing QT prolongation, such as amiodarone.

Table 1. Medications for Pediatric Resuscitation Medication Remarks Dose Adenosine 0.1 mg/kg (maximum 6 mg) Monitor ECG Rapid IV/IO bolus with flush Second dose: 0.2 mg/kg (maximum 12 mg) Amiodarone 5 mg/kg IV/IO; may repeat twice up to 15 mg/kg Monitor ECG and blood pressure; adjust administration rate to urgency Maximum single dose 300 mg (IV push during cardiac arrest, more slowly-over 20-60 minutes with perfusing rhythm). Expert consultation strongly recommended prior to use when patient has a perfusing rhythm Use caution when administering with other drugs that prolong QT (obtain expert consultation) Higher doses may be used with organophosphate poisoning Atropine 0.02 mg/kg IV/I0 0.04-0.06 mg/kg ET* Repeat once if needed Minimum dose: 0.1 mg Maximum single dose: 0.5 mg Calcium Chloride 20 mg/kg IV/I0 (0.2 mL/kg) Administer slowly (10%)Maximum single dose 2 g **Epinephrine** 0.01 mg/kg (0.1 mL/kg 1:10,000) IV/IO May repeat every 3-5 minutes 0.1 mg/kg (0.1 mL/kg 1:1000) ET* Maximum dose 1 mg IV/IO; 2.5 mg ET 0.5-1 g/kg IV/I0 Newborn: 5-10 mL/kg D₁₀W Glucose Infants and Children: 2-4 mL/kg D₂₅W Adolescents: 1-2 mL/kg D₅₀W Lidocaine Bolus: 1 mg/kg IV/IO Infusion: 20-50 mcg/kg/minute Magnesium Sulfate 25-50 mg/kg IV/IO over 10-20 minutes, faster in torsades de pointes Maximum dose 2 q Full Reversal: Use lower doses to reverse respiratory depression associated with Naloxone <5 y or ≤20 kg: 0.1 mg/kg IV/I0/ET* therapeutic opioid use (1-5 mcg/kg titrate to effect) \geq 5v or >20 kg: 2 mg IV/I0/ET* Monitor ECG and blood pressure: Procainamide 15 mg/kg IV/I0 Adult Dose: 20 mg/min IV infusion to total maximum Give slowly-over 30-60 minutes. Use caution when administering dose of 17 mg/kg with other drugs that prolong QT (obtain expert consultation)

1 mEq/kg per dose IV/IO slowly

Sodium bicarbonate 19

After adequate ventilation





- The preferred venous access site during CPR is the largest, most accessible vein that does not require the interruption of resuscitation.
- Peripheral venous access is attempted before attempting other forms of vascular access

Methods of Drug Delivery

- Jugular Venous
- Peripheral Venous
- Intraosseous
- Intra-tracheal
- Intra-cardiac

- <u>lidocaine, epinephrine, atropine, and naloxone</u>
 <u>("LEAN")</u> can be given via the endotracheal tube
- Flush with a minimum of 5 mL normal saline followed by 5 assisted manual ventilations.
- typically the dose given by the endotracheal route is <u>2 to 3 times</u> the recommended IV dose.

IO Access

- Intraosseous (IO) cannulation provides access to venous plexus, enabling drug delivery similar to that achieved by central venous access.
- safe and effective for fluid resuscitation, drug delivery, and blood sampling

Intra-cardiac

- American Heart Association de-emphasized the use of intracardiac injections.
- there are several potential complications associated with this procedure:
 - myocardial trauma, lacerated coronary arteries, pericardial effusion, and refractory ventricular fibrillation
- use of this route is <u>reserved as a last resort</u> after all other methods have failed.

