

ASSISTING THE ALS PROVIDER

Primary Care Paramedicine

Module: 21
Section: 03



ACP scope includes;

Airway Management

- Endotracheal intubation
- Surgical airways

Electrical Therapy

- Cardioversion
- Pacing

Treatment Options

- Needle decompression

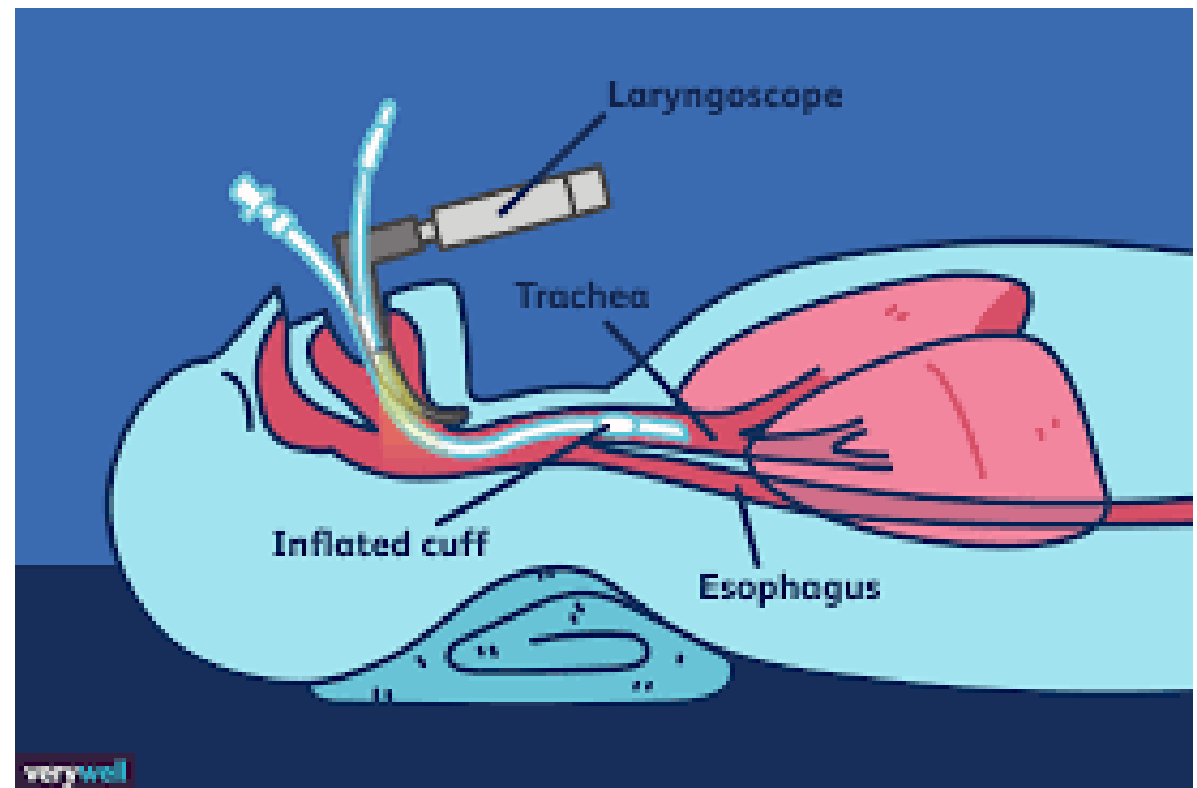
Admin Routes and Pharmacology

- IO
- ETT
- Multiple medications

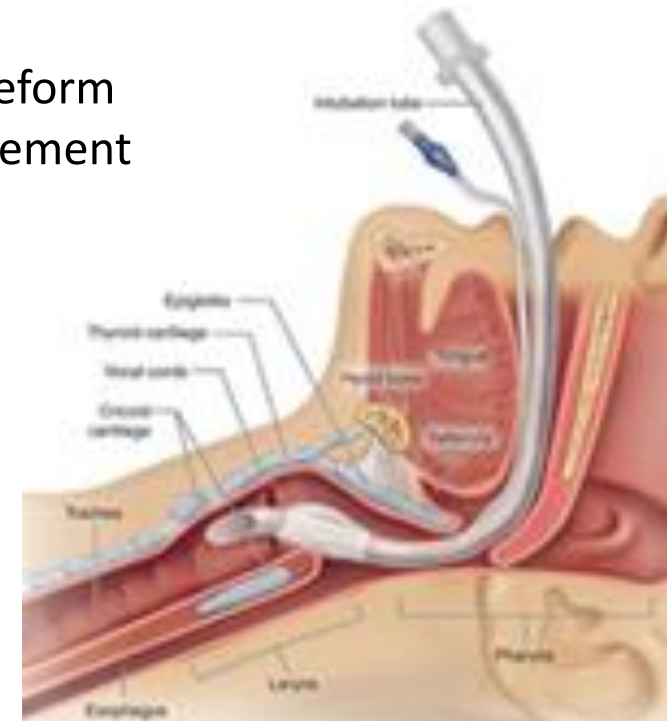
- When can it be used
 - Cardiac arrests
 - Respiratory arrests
 - Patients where complete obstruction of the airway is imminent; burns, anaphylaxis
 - Unconscious pt. unable to protect own airway
- Indicated:
 - Obtain an airway
 - Correct an airway
 - Prevent an airway compromise



- Macintosh or Miller blade
- Laryngoscope
- 10ml syringe
- Water - soluble lubricant
- ETT
- Stylet
- Securing device
- BVM
- Suction device
- Stethoscope
- Rescue airway



- Set up and check all the equipment needed (test ETT, light on laryngoscope, set up BVM)
 - Position the patient; sniffing position
 - Pre-oxygenate patient with BVM
 - Grasp laryngoscope in left hand, insert on the right side of the tongue and advance (pushing tongue to the left side)
 - Lift the laryngoscope to visualize the vocal cords, if unable to see apply BURP
 - Pass the ETT through the vocal cords
 - Withdraw the stylet and inflate cuff
 - Connect the BVM and ventilate
 - Secure device in place with twill tape
- Verify tube placement via
 - Visualize tube through cords
 - Misting of the tube
 - Chest rise and fall with ventilations
 - Auscultation
 - Breath sounds on both sides of chest
 - Stomach
 - End tidal CO₂ waveform
 - Saturation improvement



Surgical Airway (Surgical Cricothyrotomy)

- Indicated:

- Can't Ventilate
- Can't Intubated



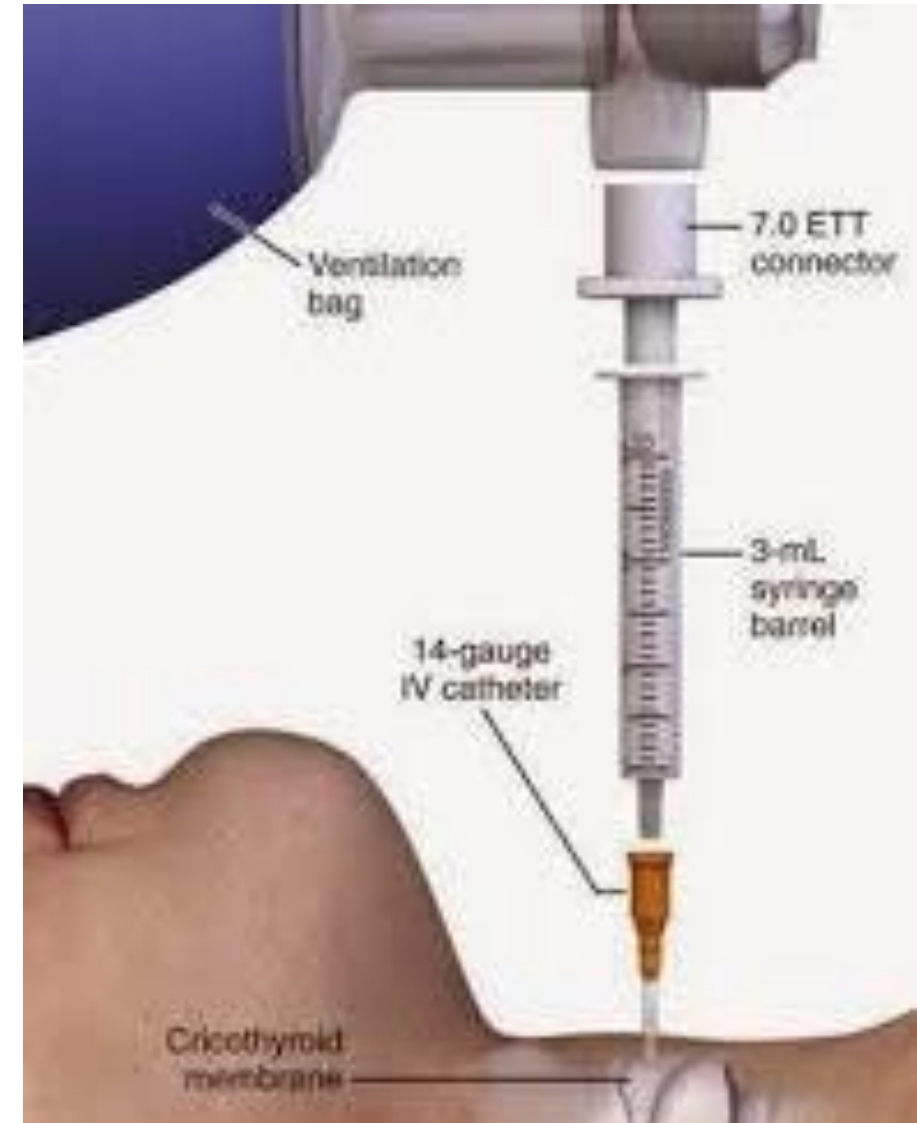
- Equipment;

- Suction device
- ETT
- Gauze
- Scalpel
- BVM
- Stethoscope
- Iodine

- Universal Precautions
- Place pt. in supine position - with neck in neutral position
- Palpate the cricothyroid membrane (between the thyroid and cricoid cartilages)
- Prep area with iodine wipe
- Stabilize the thyroid cartilage with non-dominant hand
- Use scalpel to make vertical incision through skin; visualize cricothyroid membrane
- Use scalpel to make transverse incision to perforate membrane
- Insert the scalpel handle and rotate 90 degrees or use finger to open the airway
- Insert ETT into the airway
- Inflate cuff of ETT
- Attach BVM and ventilate
- Confirm placement (see ETI confirmation techniques)

What about pediatrics?

- Needle Cricothyroidotomy
 - Age; < 12 years old (due to smaller membrane and close proximity to vasculature)
 - 14 gauge IV catheter, attached to a 3ml syringe with a 7.0 ETT adapter - insert into cricothyroid membrane
 - Attach BVM



Synchronized Cardioversion



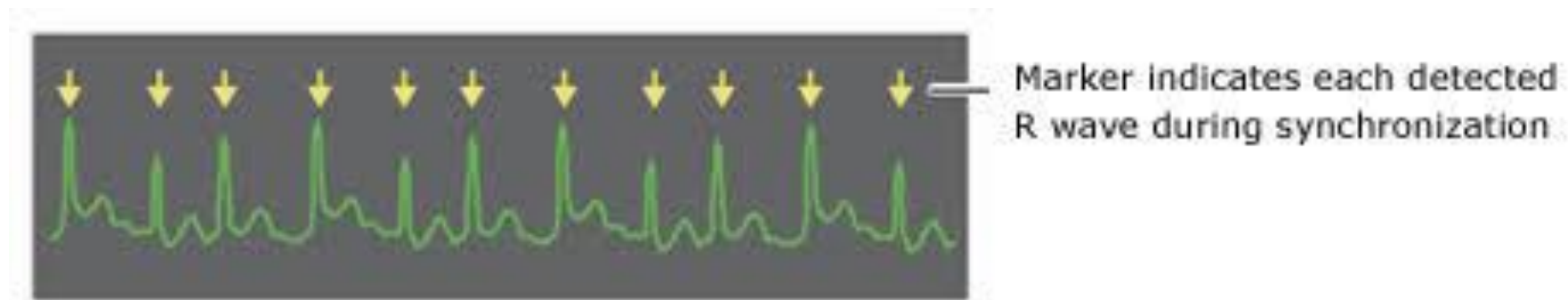
BEFORE
Heart Rhythm in
Atrial Fibrillation

AFTER
Normal
Heart Rhythm

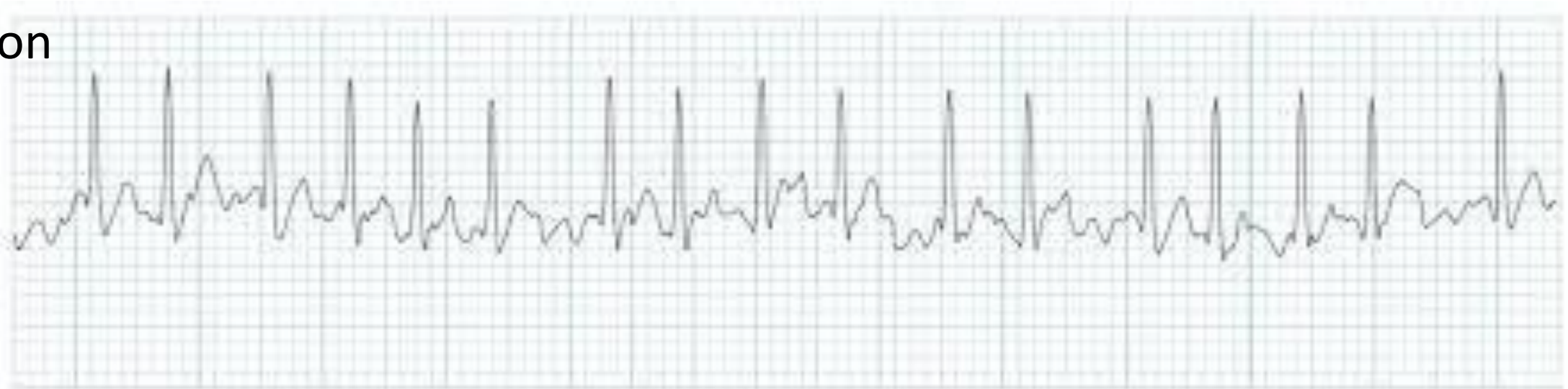
A diagram illustrating the process of synchronized cardioversion. On the left, under the heading 'BEFORE', the text reads 'Heart Rhythm in Atrial Fibrillation'. A red heart icon with a lightning bolt symbol is positioned above a red and orange defibrillator. The defibrillator's screen shows a chaotic, irregular ECG waveform. On the right, under the heading 'AFTER', the text reads 'Normal Heart Rhythm'. The same red heart icon is positioned above a blue and orange defibrillator. The defibrillator's screen shows a regular, organized ECG waveform. A blue line connects the two defibrillators, indicating the transition from the irregular rhythm to the normal rhythm.

In “electrical cardioversion,” the heart is shocked to convert it from an irregular pumping rhythm back into a normal sinus rhythm.

- Intended to completely depolarize the heart, in hopes that the SA node (pacemaker) will take over at its intrinsic rate
- Used to “reset” tachydysrhythmias
- Synch - means to mark where the relative refractory period is, so we do not shock them during this period (or it may put person into a VF)



Fibrillation



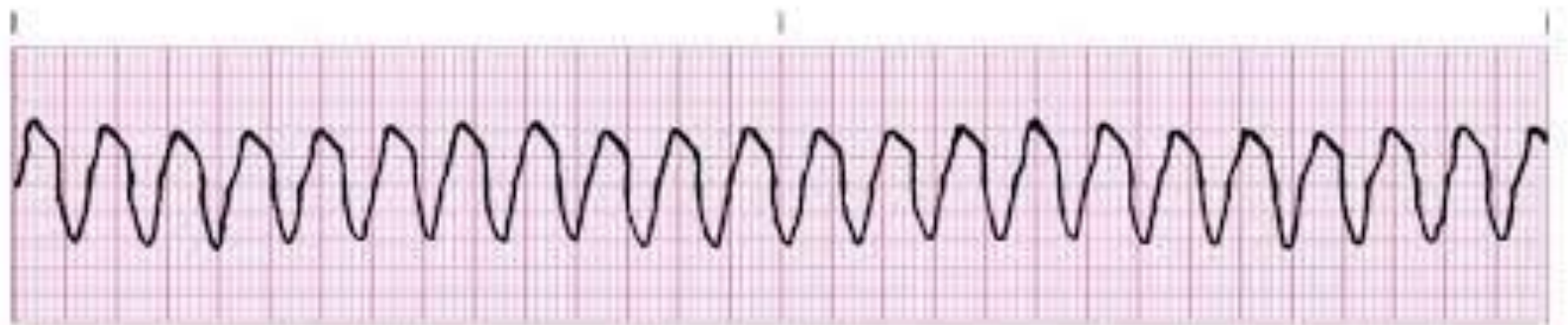
Flutter



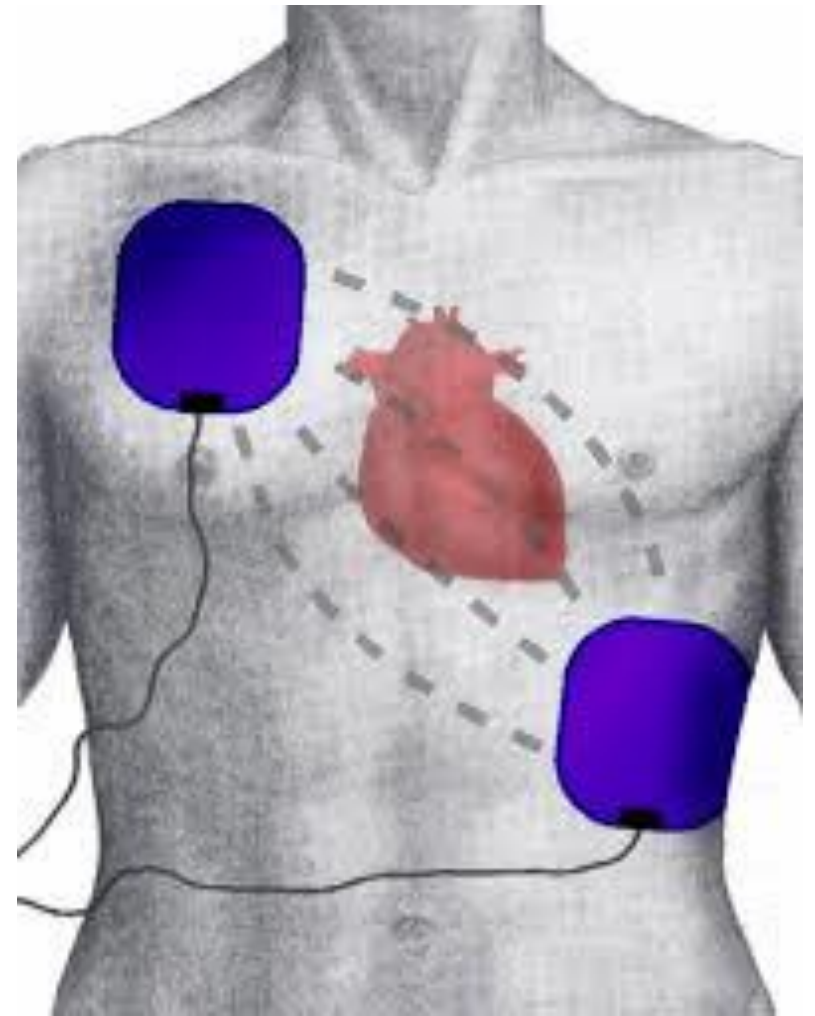
SVT



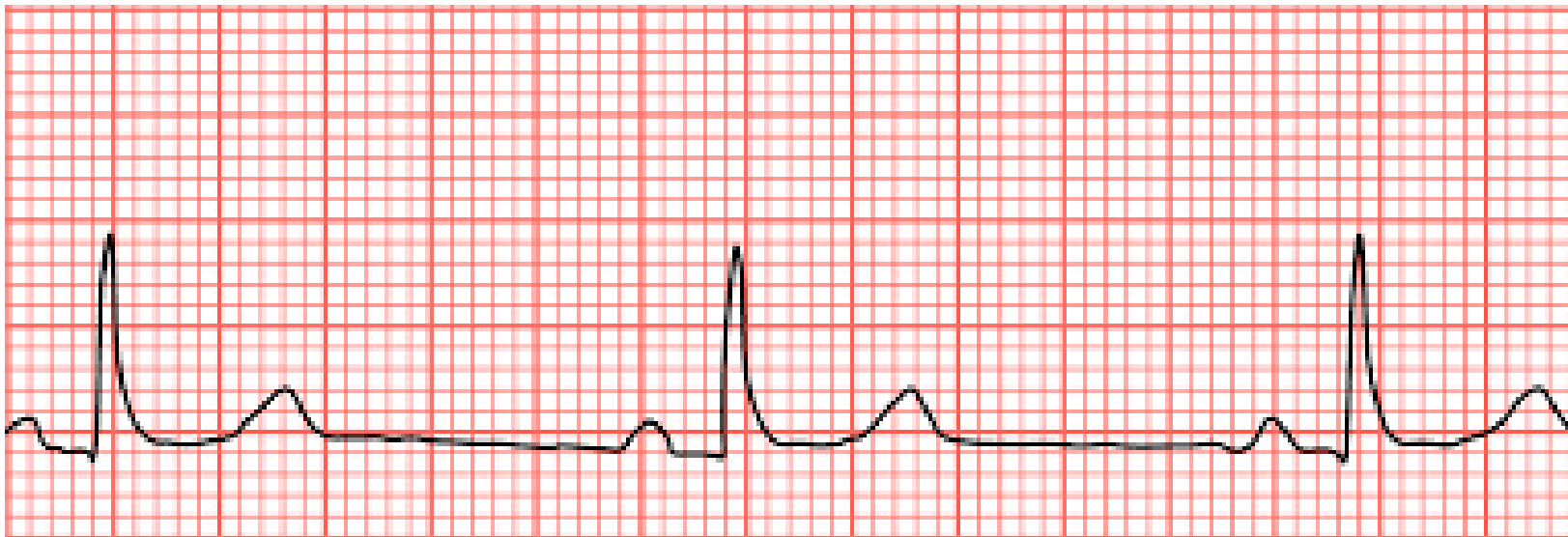
Ventricular tachycardia
(with a pulse)



- Apply defib. pads to pt.'s chest
- Administer sedation if needed
- Press the Sync button - ensure marker over R wave
- Select appropriate energy joules for pt. (100 J)
- Ensure everyone is clear from pt.
- Charge button
- Press and hold shock button to deliver shock
- Re-assess pt.



- Used for unstable bradycardia's not responding to atropine
- OR
- Unstable pt's with 2nd degree type II or 3rd degree AV block



- Apply limb leads to pt.
- Apply defib pads to pt.
- Administer sedation/pain management (As Req'd)
- Press Pacer button
- Set Pacer to the desired rate (60 – 70 bpm)
- Adjust / increase the Millivolts until electrical capture completed (presence of a wide QRS complex)
- Determine if mechanical capture has taken place; checking for pulse in pt. to match the monitor
- Check blood pressure to ensure adequate perfusion
- Administer subsequent doses of sedation if required



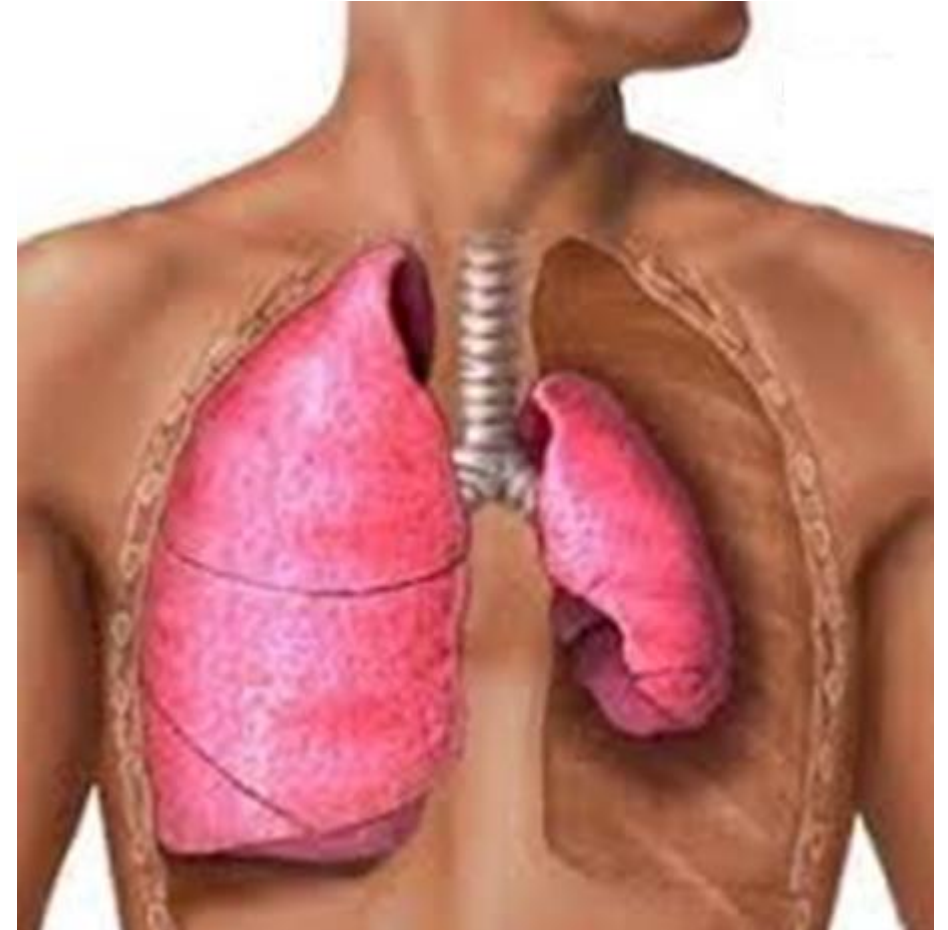
- To be used when unable to gain IV access
- Can be inserted into the
 - Proximal tibia
 - Proximal humerus
- Contraindications;
 - Long bone fractures
 - Vascular injury to that extremity
 - Previous IO in that limb (up to 24hrs prior)

Caution - Extravasation is the most common complications - which can lead to compartment syndrome

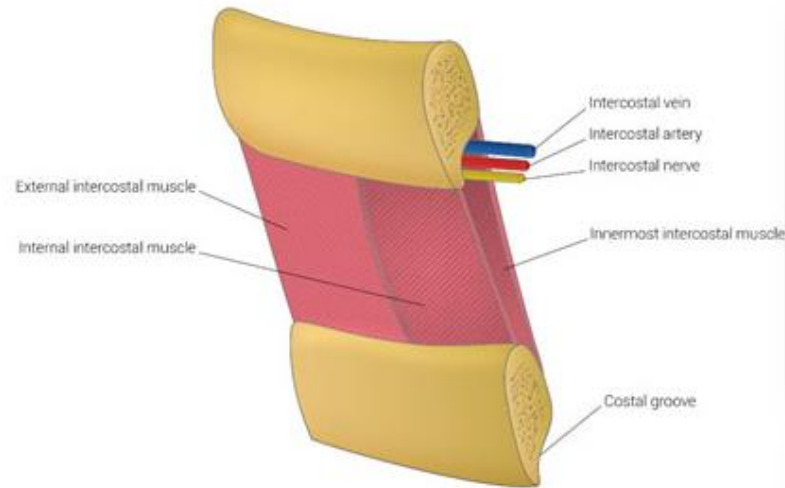




- S/S of tension pneumothorax
 - SOB, air hunger
 - chest pain
 - tachycardia
 - hypotension
 - mechanism of injury
 - absent breath sounds
 - JVD
 - tracheal deviation



- ID second intercostal space, mid-clavicular on the affected side
- Prep area with iodine pad
- Insert a 14 gauge IV catheter, into the 2nd intercostal, mid-clavicular space
- Puncture parietal pleura
- Remove needle and leave catheter in place
- Secure
- If using a Heimlich valve ensure to keep reassessing to release air build up



Adenosine

- Class: Antiarrhythmic
- Indications: SVT
- Route: IV (large bore IV - closest to the heart as possible)
- Dose:
 - 6mg IV rapid push; repeat dose 12mg IV rapid push

Amiodarone

- Class: Antiarrhythmic
- Indications:
 - VF/VT in cardiac arrest (after defib and epi.)
 - VT with a pulse
 - Runs of VT post cardiac arrest
- Route: Given IV/IO
- Dose:
 - Cardiac arrest
 - 300mg IV push, repeat dose 150mg IV after 4min
 - VT with pulse
 - 150mg IV into 100ml bag run over 10 min

Atropine

- Class: Anticholinergic
- Indications:
 - Symptomatic bradycardia or unstable bradycardia
 - Organophosphate poisoning
- Route: IV/IO
- Dose:
 - Bradycardia 0.5mg every 3-5min
 - Organophosphate 2-4mg repeat every 20min

Calcium Chloride

- Class: Electrolyte
- Indications:
 - Cardiac arrest with suspected hyperkalemia (DKA / renal failure)
 - Suspected hyperkalemia with cardiovascular toxicity (wide QRS, peaked T-wave or hemodynamic instability)
 - Calcium chloride OD with symptomatic bradycardia or hemodynamic instability
 - Respiratory depression after infusing Mag. sulphate
- Route: Given IV/IO
- Dose: 1 g over 3 min repeat in 10 min

Diazepam

- Class: Benzodiazepine
- Indications:
 - Actively seizing patient (5 mg IV)
 - For sedation after ETI (2.5-5.0 mg IV)
 - Acute alcohol withdrawal with symptoms (5 mg IV) 0min

Dopamine

- Class: Sympathomimetic
- Indications:
 - Shock other than hypovolemic shock
 - Unstable bradycardia
- Route: Given IV/IO
- Dose: 5 mcg/kg/min
 - Max of 20 mcg/kg/min

Epinephrine

- Class: Sympathomimetic
- Indications:
 - Cardiac arrest 1:10,000 – 1 mg IV/IO
 - Near death anaphylaxis (no reaction to IM epi.) - 1:10,000 - 0.1 mg (1 ml from the 10 ml preload)

Fentanyl

- Class: Narcotic analgesic
- Indications:
 - Moderate to severe pain
 - Severe ischemic chest pain not lessened by nitrates
 - Palliative dyspnea
- Route: Given IM/IN/IV/SQ
- Dose: 25 - 50 mcg (200 mcg max)

Morphine

- Class: Narcotic analgesic
- Indications:
 - Same uses as fentanyl plus used for procedural sedation (cardioversion or fracture manipulation)
- Route: IV/IO/IM/SQ
- Dose: 2.5 – 5.0 mg (15 mg max)

Sodium Bicarbonate

- Class: Alkalinizing agent
- Indications:
 - Cardiac arrest associated with - hyperkalemia, renal failure, ASA OD, DKA
 - Sodium channel blocker overdose (TCA) with wide complex tachycardia or hemodynamic instability or cardiac arrest
- Route: Given IV/IO
- Dose: 1 mEq/kg initially (0.5 mEq/kg every 10 min)

Magnesium Sulfate

- Class: Electrolyte, smooth muscle relaxant, antiarrhythmic
- Indications:
 - Torsades de pointes (2 g IV push)
 - Severe asthma (2 g in 100ml NS bag over 5 min)
 - Pregnant patient in third trimester with seizures (Eclampsia) (4 g IV in 100ml bag over 30 min)

Midazolam

- Class: Benzodiazepine
- Indications:
 - Tonic-clonic seizures (5mg IN)
 - Sedation for ETI, pacing, cardioversion (1-2mg IV)
 - Chemical restraint for violent pts over 16 y/o (5mg IM or IN)
 - Procedural sedation (see above sedation)