



# **Medications in cardiac arrest** R.Asgharl MD FCCM

# The primary goal $\implies$ restoration of spontaneous rhythm.

#### Epinephrine

- beneficial effects vasoconstriction.
- 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 <u>endotracheally</u> at a dose of 2 to 2.5 mg.

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

#### Vasopressin

- Vasopressin is a nonadrenergic vasoconstrictor
- Dose: <u>1 dose of vasopressin 40 units IV/IO may</u> 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 perfusing rhythm, 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 <u>oxyhemoglobin</u> saturation curve and inhibit oxygen release.
  - c) Produce hypernatremia and hyperosmolarity.
  - d) Produces <u>excess CO2</u>, which freely diffuses into myocardial and cerebral cells and may paradoxically contribute to <u>intracellular acidosis</u>.
  - 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, or 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>, empirical fibrinolytic therapy can be considered.

### **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	Dose	Remarks
Adenosine	0.1 mg/kg (maximum 6 mg) Second dose: 0.2 mg/kg (maximum 12 mg)	Monitor ECG Rapid IV/IO bolus with flush
Amiodarone	5 mg/kg IV/I0; may repeat twice up to 15 mg/kg Maximum single dose 300 mg	Monitor ECG and blood pressure; adjust administration rate to urgency (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)
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	Higher doses may be used with organophosphate poisoning
Calcium Chloride (10%)	20 mg/kg IV/I0 (0.2 mL/kg) Maximum single dose 2 g	Administer slowly
Epinephrine	0.01 mg/kg (0.1 mL/kg 1:10,000) IV/IO 0.1 mg/kg (0.1 mL/kg 1:1000) ET* Maximum dose 1 mg IV/IO; 2.5 mg ET	May repeat every 3–5 minutes
Glucose	0.5-1 g/kg IV/I0	Newborn: 5–10 mL/kg D <sub>10</sub> W Infants and Children: 2–4 mL/kg D <sub>25</sub> W Adolescents: 1–2 mL/kg D <sub>50</sub> W
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 g	
Naloxone	Full Reversal: <5 y or $\leq$ 20 kg: 0.1 mg/kg IV/I0/ET* $\geq$ 5y or >20 kg: 2 mg IV/I0/ET*	Use lower doses to reverse respiratory depression associated with therapeutic opioid use (1–5 mcg/kg titrate to effect)
Procainamide	15 mg/kg IV/IO Adult Dose: 20 mg/min IV infusion to total maximum dose of 17 mg/kg	Monitor ECG and blood pressure; Give slowly-over 30-60 minutes. Use caution when administering with other drugs that prolong QT (obtain expert consultation)
Sodium bicarbonate	1 mEq/kg per dose IV/IO slowly	After adequate ventilation 19



## Intravenous Access in CPR

- 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> ("LEAN") 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:
  - <u>myocardial trauma</u>, <u>lacerated coronary arteries</u>, <u>pericardial effusion</u>, and <u>refractory ventricular</u> <u>fibrillation</u>

 use of this route is <u>reserved as a last resort</u> after all other methods have failed.

# THANKS