THE REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY PROTOCOLS

Non-Traumatic Cardiac Arrest and Severe Bradycardia (Pediatric)

CFR AND ALL PROVIDER LEVELS

For infants and children in non – traumatic cardiac arrest, or infants and children under 9 years of age with a heart rate less than 60 beats per minute (severe bradycardia) and signs of inadequate central (proximal) perfusion (decompensated shock):

- **1. Bradycardia:** A heart rate **less** than 60 beats per minute **and** signs of inadequate central perfusion (decompensated shock).
 - a. Assist ventilation at a rate of 20 breaths per minute.
 - b. Begin CPR, if the heart rate is not rapidly increasing following 30 seconds of assisted ventilation.
 - c. Check for a pulse every 2 minutes.
- 2. If the Infant or Child is in cardiac arrest:
 - a. Immediately initiate CPR per AHA guidelines.
 - b. If available, attach AED, analyze.
 - i. Pediatric-capable AED pads and cables should be used if available and appropriate.
 - c. Continue CPR until patient transported, or pulse returns at a rate greater than 60 beats per minute.
- 3. Continue assisted ventilation at a rate of 20 breaths per minute, once the heart rate is greater than 60 beats per minute.
- 4. Switch to high concentration mask or "blow by" oxygen once ALL of the following are true:
 - a. The heart rate is greater than 100 beats per minute
 - b. The respiratory rate is greater than 20 breaths per minute
 - c. Central cyanosis resolves

CFR STOP

EMT

- 5. Request ALS assistance.
- 6. Transport, keeping child warm.

EMT STOP

Paramedic

- 7. Begin cardiac monitoring.
- 8. If in Ventricular Fibrillation or pulseless Ventricular Tachycardia:
 - a. Immediately defibrillate at 4 joules/kg, using pads of appropriate size.
 - b. Immediately resume CPR for 5 cycles while defibrillator is recharging.
- 9. If still in Ventricular Fibrillation or pulseless Ventricular Tachycardia:
 - a. Immediately repeat defibrillation at 10 joules/kg, using pads of appropriate size.
 - b. Immediately resume CPR for 5 cycles while defibrillator is recharging.
- 10. Perform Advanced Airway Management if less invasive methods of airway management are not effective.
- 11. During transport, or if transport is delayed:
 - a. Intravascular access. (If two attempts at IV access are unsuccessful, obtain IO access.).
 - b. Administer Epinephrine 0.01 mg/kg (0.1 ml/kg of a 1:10,000 solution) IV bolus.

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- c. If still in Ventricular Fibrillation or pulseless Ventricular Tachycardia:
 - i. Immediately repeat defibrillation at 10 joules/kg, using paddles of appropriate size.
 - ii. Immediately resume CPR for 5 cycles while the defibrillator is recharging.
 - iii. Administer Amiodarone 5 mg/kg IV bolus.
- d. Repeat Epinephrine 0.01 mg/kg (0.1 ml/kg of a 1:10,000 solution) IV bolus every 3 5 minutes.

Paramedic STOP

Medical Control Options

If there is insufficient improvement in hemodynamic status:

- 1. Repeat any of the above Standing Orders.
- 2. Administer Naloxone IV bolus:
 - a. In patients two (2) years of age or older, 2 mg.
 - b. In patients, less than two (2) years of age, 1 mg.
- 3. Administer Dextrose 0.5 mg/kg, IV bolus:
 - a. Use 10% Dextrose in patients less than or equal to one (1) month of age.
 - b. Use 25% Dextrose in patients greater than one (1) month of age and less than 15 years of age.
- 4. Administer Sodium Bicarbonate 1 mEq/kg, IV bolus.
- 5. If Torsades de Pointes is present, administer Magnesium Sulfate, 25 50 mg/kg IV bolus.
- 6. Crystalloid fluid, 20 ml/kg.

Key Points / Considerations

- 1. The IV dose of Epinephrine for pediatric patients is 0.01 mg/kg (0.1 ml/kg of a 1:10,000 solution).
- 2. Refer all weight based fluids/medications to a Length Based Dosing Device.
- 3. **GUIDELINES FOR INFANT AND CHILD RESUSCITATION:** Cardiopulmonary resuscitation in an infant is performed utilizing chest compressions with interposed ventilations in a ratio of 15:2 at a rate of 120 events (105 compressions, 15 ventilations) per minute.
- 4. Automated defibrillation should not be delayed or withheld for any reason.
- 5. If the defibrillator is unable to deliver the recommended dose, use the lowest available setting
- 6. Do not delay CPR to wait for the automated external defibrillator (AED).

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