## Asystole

### History
- Past medical history
- Medications
- Events leading to arrest
- End stage renal disease
- Estimated downtime
- Suspected hypothermia
- Suspected overdose
- DNR or MOST form

### Signs and Symptoms
- Pulseless
- Apneic
- No electrical activity on ECG
- No auscultated heart tones

### Differential
- Medical or Trauma
- Hypoxia
- Potassium (hypo / hyper)
- Drug overdose
- Acidosis
- Hypothermia
- Device (lead) error
- Death

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### Universal Patient Care Protocol

**Cardiac Arrest Procedure**

**Criteria for Death / No Resuscitation**

### Withhold resuscitation
- Yes

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### AT ANY TIME

Return of Spontaneous Circulation

Go to Post Resuscitation Protocol

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### Medication Administration

**Universal Patient Care Protocol**

**Cardiac Arrest Procedure**

**Criteria for Death / No Resuscitation**

### Stop resuscitation

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### Pearls

- **Recommended Exam: Mental Status**
- Always confirm asystole in more than one lead.
- Successful resuscitation of Asystole requires the identification and correction of a cause. Causes of Asystole include:
  - Acidosis
  - Hypoxemia
  - Hypoglycemia
  - Hyperkalemia
  - Overdose (Narcotics, Tricyclic Antidepressants, Calcium Channel Blockers, Beta Blockers)