Pediatric Supraventricular Tachycardia

**History**
- Past medical history
- Medications or Toxic Ingestion
  (Aminophylline, Diet pills, Thyroid supplements, Decongestants, Digoxin)
- Drugs (nicotine, cocaine)
- Congenital Heart Disease
- Respiratory Distress
- Syncope or Near Syncope

**Signs and Symptoms**
- Heart Rate: Child > 180/bpm
  Infant > 220/bpm
- Pale or Cyanosis
- Diaphoresis
- Tachypnea
- Vomiting
- Hypotension
- Altered Level of Consciousness
- Pulmonary Congestion
- Syncope

**Differential**
- Heart disease (Congenital)
- Hypo / Hyperthermia
- Hypovolemia or Anemia
- Electrolyte imbalance
- Anxiety / Pain / Emotional stress
- Fever / Infection / Sepsis
- Hypoxia
- Hypoglycemia
- Medication / Toxin / Drugs (see HX)
- Pulmonary embolus
- Trauma
- Tension Pneumothorax

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**Universal Patient Care Protocol**

**Stable**
- Continuous Cardiac Monitor
  Attempt to Identify Cause
  Narrow QRS duration < 0.08 s

**Unstable or Pre-arrest**
(No palpable BP, Altered mental status)

- Continuous Cardiac Monitor
- Attempt to Identify Cause
- Narrow QRS duration < 0.08 s

**Pearls**
- **Recommended Exam:** Mental Status, Skin, Neck, Lung, Heart, Abdomen, Back, Extremities, Neuro
- Carefully evaluate the rhythm to distinguish Sinus Tachycardia, Supraventricular Tachycardia, and Ventricular Tachycardia
- Separating the child from the caregiver may worsen the child’s clinical condition.
- Pediatric paddles should be used in children < 10 kg or Broselow-Luten color Purple
- Monitor for respiratory depression and hypotension associated if Diazepam or Midazolam is used.
- Continuous pulse oximetry is required for all SVT Patients if available.
- Document all rhythm changes with monitor strips and obtain monitor strips with each therapeutic intervention.
- As a rule of thumb, the maximum sinus tachycardia rate is 220 – the patient’s age in years.