

Asystole



History

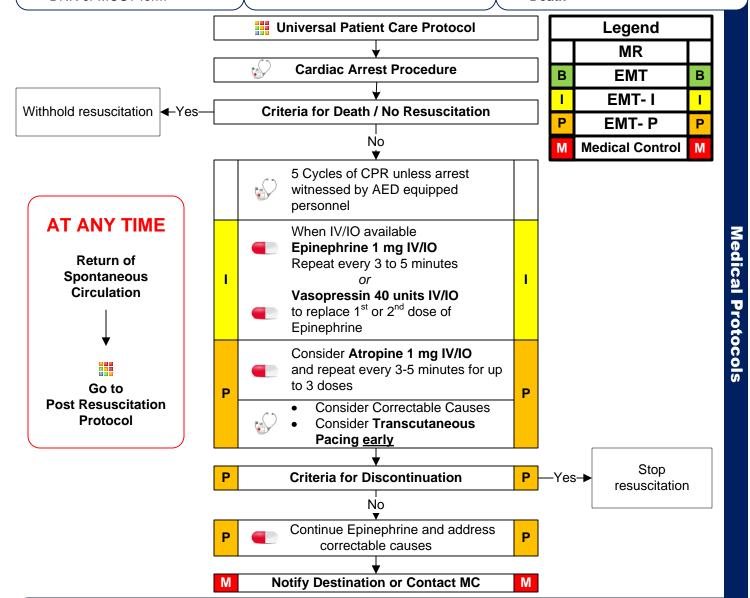
- Past medical history
- Medications
- Events leading to arrest
- End stage renal disease
- Estimated downtime
- Suspected hypothermia
- Suspected overdose
- DNR or MOST form

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



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
- Tension Pneumothorax
- Hypovolemia
- Hypoglycemia
- Hyperkalemia
- Overdose (Narcotics, Tricyclic Antidepressants, Calcium Channel Blockers, Beta Blockers)