

# **Pediatric Post Resuscitation**

#### **History**

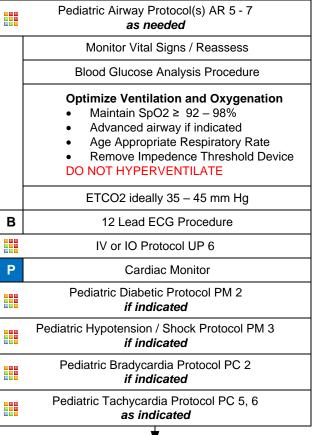
- Respiratory arrest
- Cardiac arrest

### Signs/Symptoms

Return of pulse

#### **Differential**

 Continue to address specific differentials associated with the original dysrhythmia



Hypotension Age Based

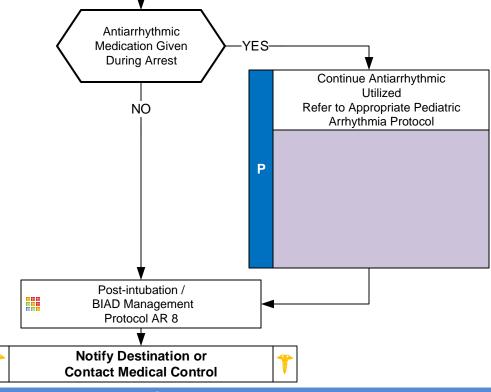
**0 – 31 Days** < 60 mmHg

1 Month to 1 Year < 70 mmHg

> than 1 Year
< 70 + ( 2 x age) mmHg</pre>

Arrhythmias are common and usually self limiting after ROSC

If Arrhythmia Persists follow Rhythm Appropriate Protocol





## **Pediatric Post Resuscitation**

#### **Pearls**

- Recommended Exam: Mental Status, Neck, Skin, Lungs, Heart, Abdomen, Extremities, Neuro
- Goals of care are to preserve neurologic function, prevent secondary organ damage, treat the underlying cause of illness, and optimize prehospital care. Frequent reassessment is necessary.
- Hyperventilation is a significant cause of hypotension and recurrence of cardiac arrest in the post resuscitation phase and must be avoided. Titrate FiO<sub>2</sub> to maintain SpO<sub>2</sub> of 92 - 98%.
- Use length-based or weight-based pediatric resuscitation system for medication, equipment, cardioversion, and defibrillation guidance. Pediatric paddles should be used in children < 10 kg.</li>
- Pain/sedation:
  - Patients requiring advanced airways and ventilation commonly experience pain and anxiety.
  - Unrelieved pain can lead to increased catecholamine release, ischemia, immunosuppression, and prolonged hospitalization.
  - Ventilated patients cannot communicate pain / anxiety and providers are poor at recognizing pain / anxiety.
  - Vital signs such has tachycardia and / or hypertension can provide clues to inadequate sedation, however they both are not always reliable indicators of patient's lack of adequate sedation.
  - Pain must be addressed first, before anxiety. Opioids are typically the first line agents before benzodiazepines. Ketamine is also a reasonable first choice agent.
- Ventilator / Ventilation strategies:
  - Tailored to individual patient presentations. Medical Control can indicate different strategies above.
  - In general ventilation with BVM should cause chest rise. With mechanical ventilation a reasonable tidal volume should be about 6 mL/kg and peak pressures should be < 30 cmH20.
  - Continuous pulse oximetry and capnography should be maintained during transport for monitoring.
  - Head of bed should be maintained at least 10 20 degrees of elevation when possible to decrease aspiration risk.
- EtCO2 Monitoring:
  - Initial End tidal CO2 may be elevated immediately post-resuscitation, but will usually normalize.
  - Goal is 35 45 mmHg but DO NOT hyperventilation to achieve.
  - EtCO2 should be continually monitored with advanced airway in place.
- Administer resuscitation fluids and vasopressor agents to maintain SBP at targets listed on page 1. This table represents minimal SBP targets.
- Targeted Temperature Management is recommended in pediatrics, but prehospital use is not associated with improved outcomes. Transport to facility capable of intensive pediatric care.
- Consider transport to facility capable of managing the post-arrest patient including hypothermia therapy, cardiology / cardiac catheterization, intensive care service, and neurology services.
- The condition of post-resuscitation patients fluctuates rapidly and continuously, and they require close monitoring. Appropriate post-resuscitation management may best be planned in consultation with Medical Control.