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Asistol is defined as a heart failure rhythm in which there is no noticeable electrical activity on the ECG monitor. Consequently, it is sometimes referred to as the flat line. Confirming that a flat line is indeed asystole is an important step in the ACLS protocol. Make sure that a flat line is not another rhythm that looks like a flat line. Fine VF may seem like an istol, and the flat line on the monitor may be caused by an operator error or equipment failure. Below are the common causes of isoelectric line that are not a flat line: 1. free or disconnected wires; 2. Loss of ECG monitor power; 3. low signal growth on the ECG monitor. Aistol for many patients is the result of prolonged illness or cardiac arrest, and the prognosis is very poor. Few patients are more likely to have a positive result and successful treatment of cardiac arrest with asystole is usually associated with the detection and correction of the underlying cause of asystole. H and T's ACLS should be considered to determine any underlying cause that might precipitate the aysthol. Some of the most common reasons to stop or withhold resuscitation efforts are: DNR STATUS Threat to the safety of family rescuers or personal information such as a living family or advanced directives rigor mortis Asystole is dealt with using the correct branch of the cardiac arrest algorithm. Click below to view the Cardiac Arrest Algorithm chart. When done click again to close the chart. See the Cardiac Arrest Algorithm Chart. Members Download Hi-Resolution PDF here. Vasopressor vasopressor is a medicine that produces vasoconstrictor and increased blood pressure. The vasopressor that is used to treat the right branch of the cardiac arrest algorithm is epinephrine. Epinephrine is mainly used for its vasoconstrictor effect. Vasculature is important during CPR because it will help increase blood flow to the brain and heart. In the treatment of aysthol, epinephrine can be given as soon as possible, but its administration should not delay the onset or continuation of CPR. After the initial dose, epinephrine is given every 3-5 minutes. Rhythm check should be carried out in 2 minutes (5 cycles) of CPR. Limit rhythm checks by less than 10 seconds to minimize cpr breaks. Pulse checks should be carried out when a rhythm check shows a change in rhythm in a rhythm that is organized and can generate a pulse. Home Free Resources ACLS Heart Stop Algorithms PPC Start Algorithm. Start CPR with hard and quick compression, about 100 to 120 per minute, allowing the breasts to fully recoil. Give the patient oxygen and attach a monitor or defibrillator. Make sure to minimize breaks in chest compression and avoid excessive use of a ratio of 30 to 2 compressions to ventilation, if no airways are installed. Rhythm Rhythm Check the rhythm, making sure that the pause in chest compressions is no more than 10 seconds. VF/pVT (Shocking Rhythm). If there is a shocking rhythm, either v-fib or without a v-tach pulse, start the defibrillator charging sequence and resume chest compression until the defibrillator is charged. Shock. When the defibrillator is charged, declare a shock warning and make sure no one touches the patient. Shock patient with an initial dose of 120 to 200 joules. Checkpoint - 2 min. Immediately resume the checkpoint within 2 minutes, and establish IV access. Rhythm shocking? Check your pulse and rhythm for no more than 10 seconds every 2 minutes. No. If the patient shows signs of spontaneous circulatory return, or ROSC, enter post-heart care. If there is no heart rate present and no pulse, continue CPR and go to the asistole or PEA algorithm. Yes - Shock. If the rhythm is shocking, declare a shock warning and make sure that no one touches the patient. Manage the shock. CHECKPOINT - 2 min. Continue with the checkpoint for 2 minutes. Give the patient a vasopressor, such as epinephrine every 3 to 5 minutes, and examine the advanced airways and capnography, giving 1 breath every 6 seconds as soon as the advanced airways are in place. Rhythm shocking? Check your pulse and rhythm for no more than 10 seconds every 2 minutes. No. If the patient shows signs of spontaneous circulatory return, or ROSC, enter post-heart care. If there is no heart rate present and no pulse, continue CPR and go to the asistole or PEA algorithm. Yes - Shock. If the rhythm is shocking, declare a shock warning and make sure that no one touches the patient. Manage the shock. CHECKPOINT - 2 min. Continue with the checkpoint for 2 minutes. Consider giving a patient an antiarrhythmic drug such as amiodarone for fire-resistant v-fib or pulse-free v-tach, and treat reversible causes. Use Hs and Ts to remember: hypovolemic, hypoxia, hydrogen ions, hypo and hyperkalemia, hypothermia, pneumatic tension, tamponade, toxins and thrombosis. Rhythm shocking? Check your pulse and rhythm for no more than 10 seconds every 2 minutes. Yes. If the rhythm changes to a V-fib or V-tach shock rhythm, go to this algorithm and prepare to shock the patient. CPC - 2 min. If the patient shows signs of spontaneous circulatory return, or ROSC, enter post-heart care. If a non-sockable rhythm is present and there is no pulse, continue with CPR. Pulse electrical activity (PEA) and asystole are linked by heart rhythms in that they are life-threatening and unshockable. Asistol is a flat line ECG (Figure 27). There may be subtle movement from the baseline (drifting flat line), but there is no noticeable cardiac electrical activity. Always make sure that reading asystole is not a user or a technical error. Make sure the patches have good contact with the person, the leads are connected, get installed properly, and power on. PEA is one of the many wave forms of ECG (including sinus rhythm) without detectable pulse. PEA can include any pulsed wave form except VF, VT or asistole. Hypovolemia and hypoxia are the two most common causes of PEA. They are also the most easily reversible and should be at the top of any differential diagnosis. If a person has a return to spontaneous circulation (ROSC), proceed after cardiac arrest care. Atropine is no longer recommended in cases of PEA or aysthol. The regularity of the Rhythm is almost flat line. Rate There is no course. P Wave there are no P waves present. Interval PR interval PR cannot be measured due to the lack of P waves present. THE LDC There are no SYSTEMS complexes present. Reversible causes of cardiac arrest H's The T's Hypovolemia Tension pneumothorax Hypoxia Tamponade H' (acidosis) Toxins Hypo/Hyperkalemia Thrombosis (coronary) Hypoglycemia thrombosis (pulmonary) Hypothermia Injury (unrecognized) Table 9 Always check that reading is not a failure of equipment. Make sure the patches make good contact with the person, all the cables are connected, get installed properly, and power on. Hypovolemia and hypoxia are easy to reverse and are the two most common causes of PEA. Although there is no evidence that atropine has a detrimental effect during bradycardia or asystolic cardiac arrest, regular use of atropine during PEA or asystole has not been shown to have a therapeutic benefit. Thus, ILCOR removed atropine from the guidelines of cardiac arrest. STANDARD dose EPINEPHRINE IS VASOPRESSOR OF CHOICE Preliminary studies have shown that epinephrine in higher doses can lead to improved results in resuscitation. However, studies conducted after the publication of the 2010 guidelines failed to show any benefit over the standard dose of 1 mg of epinephrine. Similarly, in 2010, ILCOR ILCOR suggested an alternative vasopressor called vasopressin, which can be used instead or after the first dose of epinephrine. Subsequent studies have shown that vasopressin does not bring any benefit about the standard dose of epinephrine. Without demonstrating superiority, both high doses of epinephrine and vasopressin were removed, simplifying the ACLS algorithm. Back to: Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Certification Course of the ACLS Cases Last Update: May 31, 2020 Version Management: This document is relevant to the latest 2016 American Heart Association® Guidelines for PPC and ECC. These guidelines are relevant until they are replaced on 21 October 2020. If you are reading this page after October 21, 2020, please contact the ACLS Training Center for support@acsls.net for an updated document. The management of the patient in cardiac arrest asystole follows the same way as the management of PEA. The main priorities remain the same: following steps in the ACLS Pulseless Arrest algorithm and identifying and correcting any curable, underlying astole causes. The algorithm assumes that the safety of the scene has been ensured, personal protective equipment is used, and there are no signs of apparent death. Start with an initial examination to assess the patient's condition: in the absence of breath and pulse in the presence of aystole (present in two hooks) should consider discontinuing the effort. Follow the ACLS Pulseless Arrest Algorithm For Asystole: Check the patient's rhythm, you can earn less than 10 seconds for the assessment. Check for the presence of asystole in at least two leads. Resuming CPR at compression rates from 100-120 per minute. Rotate team members every 2 minutes with rhythm breaks to help maintain high quality CPR. Once access to IV or IO is available, administer epinephrine 1 mg IV/IO. Do not stop CPR for the introduction of drugs. During CPR, search and treat possible causes (see Reversible Causes, H and T in the PDF version). Check the rhythm. If electrical activity is not present (the patient is in asystole), resume CPR. If electrical activity is present, see if the patient has a pulse. If the patient does not have a pulse or has any doubts about the pulse, resume CPR. If there is a good pulse and organized rhythm, start after resuscitation. Access to IV/IO is a priority for air traffic management. If advanced airways are installed, change to continuous chest compressions without breathing pauses. Give 10 breaths per minute (once every 6 seconds) and check the rhythm every 2 minutes. Without pulse or electrical activity on the ECG, the emergency team must decide when resuscitation efforts should stop. It is necessary to take into account the wishes of the patient and the problems of the family. © 2020 Training Center Privacy Conditions Returns Returns Returns

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