## Hillsborough County Fire Rescue STANDING ORDERS AND PROTOCOL

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Subject: CARDIAC ARREST – ASYSTOLE

Section #: 343.07

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1. General Cardiac Arrest Algorithm

- 2. Specific ALS Treatment
  - a. Epinephrine 0.01 mg/kg of a 1:10,000 solution (0.1 mL/kg) q 3-5 min IV/IO
- 3. If there is return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC), continue with the HCFR ROSC protocol.
- 4. If after twenty (20) minutes of asystole and ETCO<sub>2</sub> is <10 mm Hg, contact Medic-1 for consideration of termination of resuscitation efforts.
- 5. QA Points:
  - a. Consider possible causes that we can address:
    - i. Hypoxia
    - ii. Hypovolemia
    - iii. Hypoglycemia
    - iv. Drug Overdose
    - v. Hypothermia
    - vi. Tension Pneumothorax
  - b. Available evidence suggests that the routine use of atropine during PEA or asystole is unlikely to have a therapeutic benefit.
  - c. Pauses in compressions must be as short as possible.
  - d. Given that maintaining continuous compressions is of paramount importance, the initial capture of the airway will be with a multi-lumen airway device or a blind (LMA) airway device
  - e. If there is return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC), the airway may be converted to an ETT by an approved method at the discretion of the paramedic in charge