

Housestaff Quick Reference: Rapids & Codes

July 2024 – June 2025

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Updates

(e-mail ethan.krauspe@hsc.utah.edu if there is additional information you think would be useful in this guide or if you identify any errata)

- 05/14/2025: Released to Residents

Logistics – The U

Call 1-2222 if:

- Patient is pulseless or in respiratory arrest (**C-Arrest Team** activation)
- Admitted patient with sudden change in mental status, vital signs or experiences acute distress (**Inpatient RRT** activation)
- Any visitor, clinic patient or employee is injured or requiring urgent/emergent medical attention (**Outpatient RRT** activation)
- Anyone displays stroke symptoms (**Brain Attack** activation)

Who Shows Up

OUTPATIENT RRT
2 EMT/Paramedics,
stretcher, monitor

INPATIENT RRT
House Sup, IM
Resident, SICU RN,
Pharmacy

C-ARREST TEAM
Anesthesia, IM Resident,
SICU RN, EMT, MICU
Resident, House Sup, RT,
Pharmacy

BRAIN ATTACK
Neuro Attending, Stroke Fellow,
Neuro Res, NCC RN to acute care
areas, Pharmacy, Phlebotomy, 12
lead, CT scanner held

STEMI
For a patient with ST elevation or a
new left bundle branch block, call
x12222 to activate the Cath Lab

**New in 2025: PCCM Fellow will show up to all codes at the
U of U if activated between 7AM – 7PM**

Brain Attack (Acute Neurologic Change)

Is Your Patient Experiencing an Acute Neuro Change?

	INPATIENT BRAIN ATTACK IV Thrombolytic +/- IR Intervention	NEUROLOGY CONSULT	RAPID RESPONSE OR CODE BLUE
Symptoms	Disabling stroke-like symptoms less than 24 hours old: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual field cut • Abnormal eye movement • Inability to speak • Loss of coordination • Focal (one-sided) weakness • Brainstem Syndrome symptoms (issues with breathing, hearing, vision, swallowing, speech, etc.) 	Place a neurology consult order if: Stroke symptoms are greater than 24 hours old OR for ANY non-stroke-like symptom including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seizure or status epilepticus • Altered mental status with no other focal deficit • Fatigue or generalized weakness • Tremors <p style="text-align: center;">If the change is acute, note "URGENT" in page.</p>	RRT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HR <45 or >125 • SBP <90 or acute BP change • RR <10 or >30 • SpO2 <90% or increased O2 demand • Acute change in level of consciousness or mental status CODE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiopulmonary arrest (no pulse or breathing within 10 seconds)
Imaging	Non-Contrast CT Head AND CTA Head/Neck (will be placed by CT tech)	Per Neurology Consult	N/A
Who determines the page?	Any staff member who discovers the symptomatic patient – Call 12222 for Brain Attack activation	Patient's primary service team	Any staff member – Call 12222 for activation
Who receives the page?	Neurology Resident, NCC RN, CT tech, Radiology Resident, Pharmacy, Scribe, Social work, EKG, CXR	Inpatient Consult - Neurology Resident	RR team or CODE team as appropriate

STEMI or new LBBB Protocol

*****Page Cardiology Fellow on-call first for guidance*****

- There is a Cardiology Fellow in-house 24/7. If your clinical suspicion is high and you are unable to reach a cardiology fellow, consider activating the cath lab as below (x1-2222) and initiate work-up.
- Consult with Cardiology fellow and/or pharmacist prior to initiating Heparin or a P2Y12 inhibitor

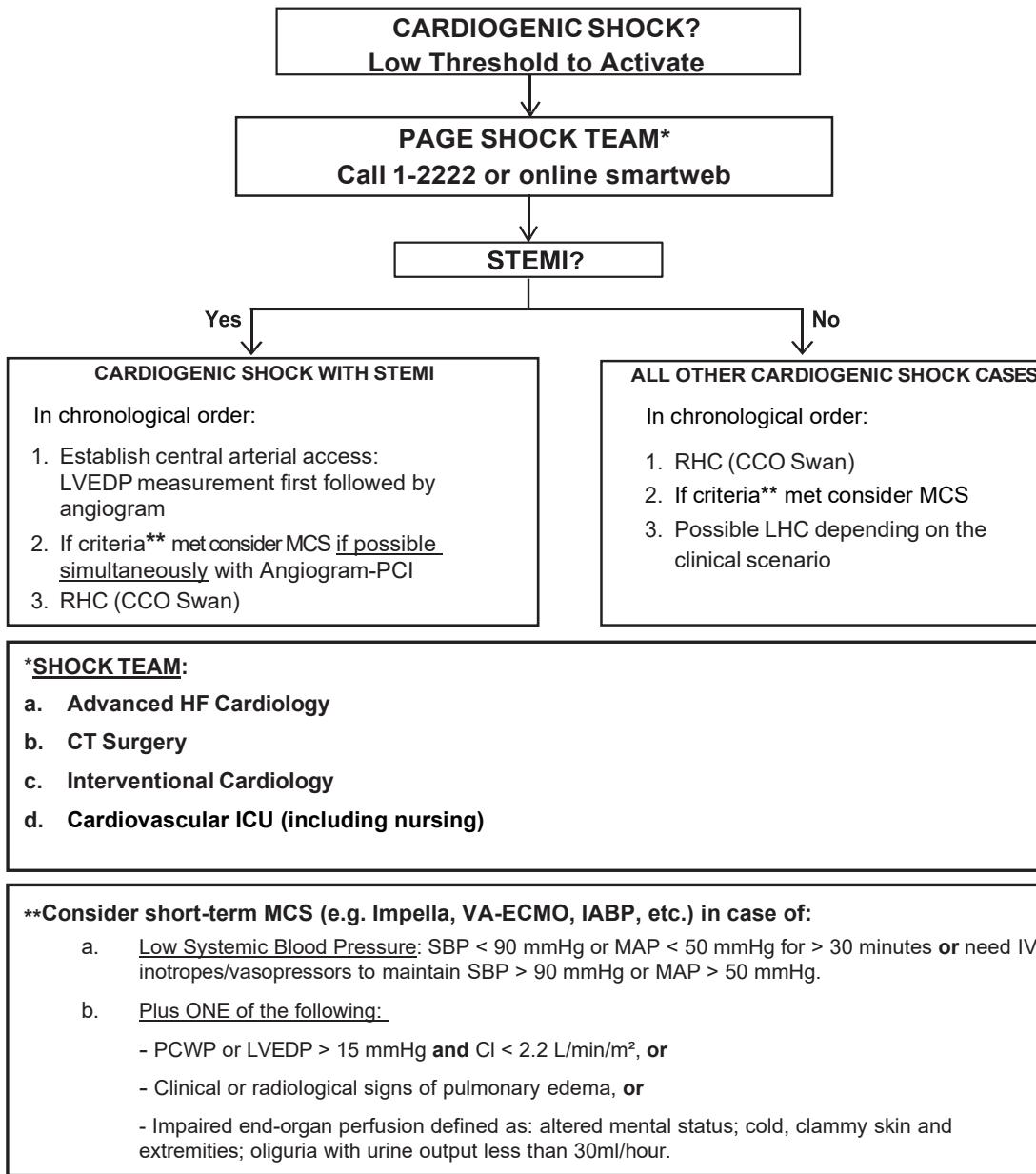
Pre-Cardiac Cath Lab Arrival

- Activate Cardiac Catheterization Lab: **1-2222**.
- Place 2 large bore IVs, preferably on the left side with extension tubing.
- Infuse NS at 30 mL/hr.
- Administer oxygen to keep SaO₂ > 90%.
- Draw blood for CBC, BMP, high-sensitivity troponin, aPTT, and PT/INR.
- Administer appropriate medications:
 - Aspirin 324 mg by mouth (81 mg x 4 chewable tablets) or 300 mg PR.
 - Heparin ACS/MI Protocol:
 - Heparin 60 units/kg IV bolus (maximum 4,000 units).
 - Heparin continuous IV infusion at 12 units/kg/hr (maximum weight of 125 kg).
 - Ticagrelor 180 mg (90 mg x 2 tablets) or prasugrel 60 mg (10 mg x 6 tablets) if no history of stroke (and avoid use in patient s< 60 kg or > 75 years old).
 - Atorvastatin 80 mg.

Cardiogenic Shock Team



Cardiogenic Shock-Sequence of Major Diagnostic and Therapeutic Interventions



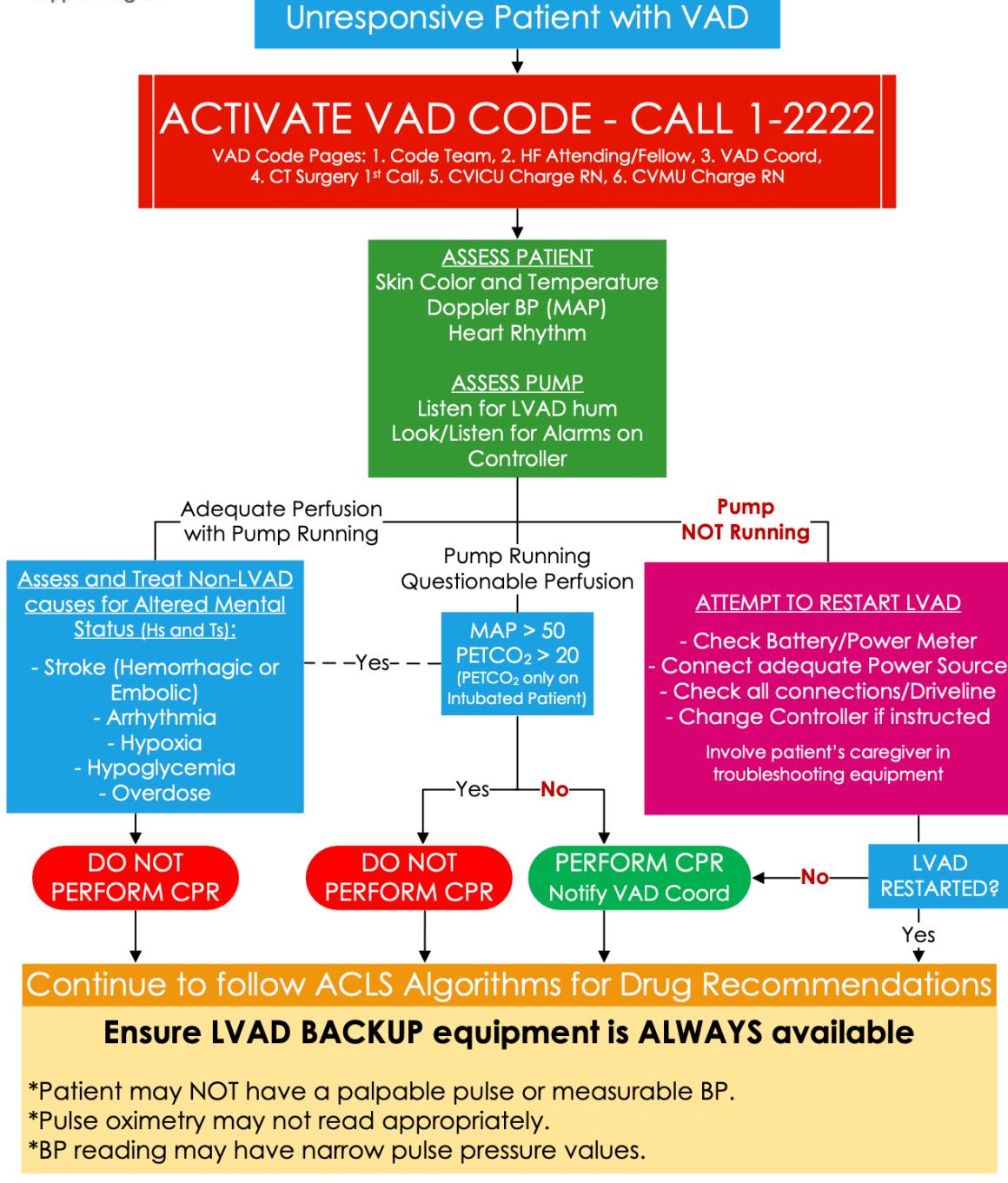
NOTE: If mechanical ventilation is required in the cath lab the Anesthesiology Service should be involved. Per request of the Anesthesia Department if possible notify the on call anesthesiology team as early as possible.

CCO Swan: continuous cardiac output thermodilution flow-directed pulmonary artery catheter; IV: intravenous; LHC: left heart catheterization; LVEDP: left ventricular end-diastolic pressure; MAP: mean arterial pressure; MCS: mechanical circulatory support; PCI: percutaneous coronary intervention; RHC: right heart catheterization; SBP: systolic blood pressure; STEMI: ST elevation myocardial infarction.

MCS/LVAD Codes



MCS/VAD CODE PATIENT ASSESSMENT



Massive Transfusion Protocol

Consider if massive uncontrolled hemorrhage, or massive hemorrhage is highly anticipated (> 6 units RBCs in 2 hours)

- MTP can be activated by calling Blood Bank and requesting MTP activation
- The following information is required for activation:
 - Patient full name & MRN
 - Authorizing Physician's full name
 - Caller's full name & Title
- Blood Bank will prepare:
 - 6 RBC + 6 FFP + 1 platelet and release these from the Blood Bank each time someone presents to retrieve blood products.
- Blood Bank does not deliver, someone needs to physically present to the Blood Bank each time additional product is required. They must have patient name and MRN with them in order to confirm proper patient identification.
- MTP will remain active for **12 hours** or until a physician cancels, which ever occurs first.

[Hospital Directory & Map](#)

Admitting.....	A10	Maternal Fetal Diagnostics.....	E22
Burn Intensive Care.....	C41	Maternal Newborn Care.....	A20
Cafeteria.....	A01	Medical Intensive Care.....	B40
Cardiac Prep and Recovery	A41	MRI / Nuclear Medicine.....	C14
Cardiac Rehab.....	F51	Neuro Acute Care.....	A30
Cardiovascular.....	C10	Neuro Critical Care.....	D30
Cath Lab Check In.....	A40	Newborn Intensive Care.....	C22
Dental.....	E10	OB Emergency Services.....	D21
Dermatology.....	E12	Ortho Trauma & Surgery.....	D60
Dexa	A31	Outpatient Burn Care.....	C40
Dialysis.....	B02	Pediatrics.....	F12
Ear, Nose and Throat	E11	Perinatal Care.....	E22
ECT and Dental Procedure	F30	Pharmacy.....	A12
EEG.....	E01	Pulmonary.....	F13
Emergency Care Unit.....	C11	Pulmonary Lab	D01
Emergency	B10	Radiology.....	C12
Endocrinology	F17	Radiology File Room	C13
Endoscopy	D01	Rehabilitation Center	F15
EP Lab	D42	Rehabilitation Psychology	F16
Gastroenterology	F13	Rheumatology.....	E18
Hearing Aid Services.....	E11	Surgery.....	B30
Infectious Diseases	F14	Surgery	E16
Inpatient Medical Rehab	F20	Surgical Intensive Care.....	B21
Internal Medicine	A50	Surgical Specialty.....	B50
Internal Medicine	D50	Travel	F17
Internal Medicine	E19	Urgent Care	B12
Internal Medicine Pulmonary.....	D40	Urgent Care Check In.....	B11
Interventional Radiology.....	F18	Urology.....	E14
Kidney and Liver	B01	Urogynecology.....	E15
Lab	A11	Women's Health.....	E20
Labor and Delivery Check In	C20	Women's Special Care.....	D20
Labor and Delivery	C21	5701-5718	F50



LEVEL

1

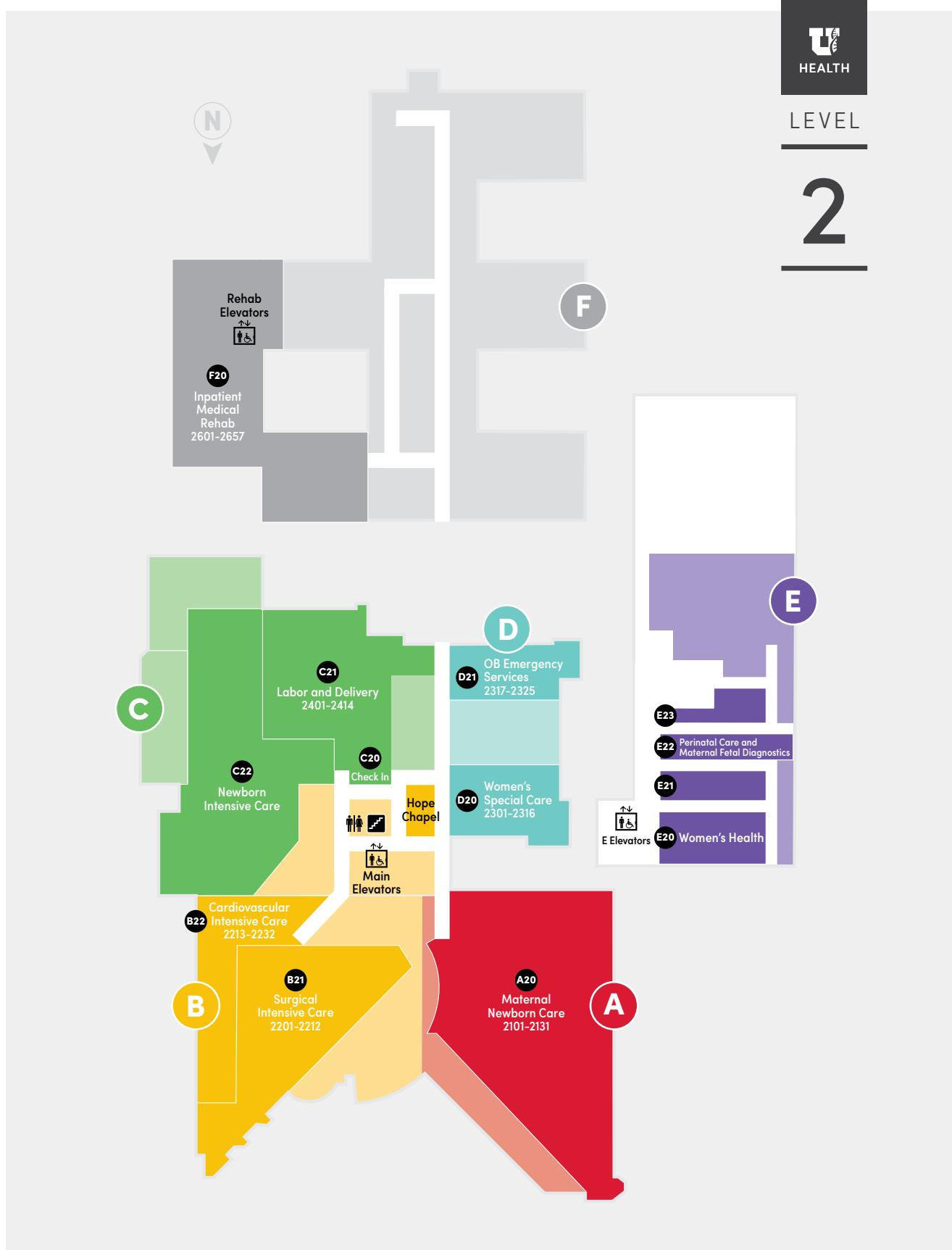


- (i) Information
- (:) Customer Service
- (↑↓) Elevators
- (↙↗) Escalator
- (↗) Stairs
- (♂♀) Restrooms
- (bag) Gift Shop
- (coffee) Starbucks
- (ATM) ATM Machine
- (P) Parking



LEVEL

2

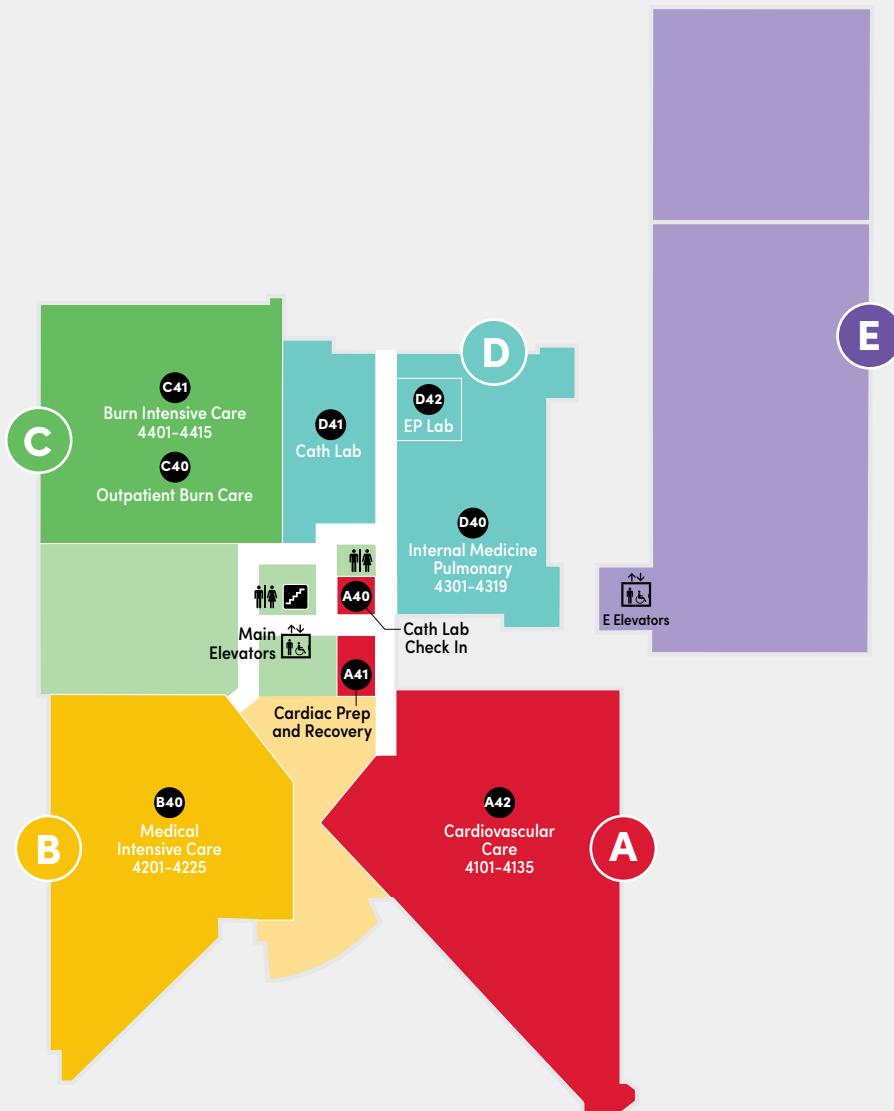


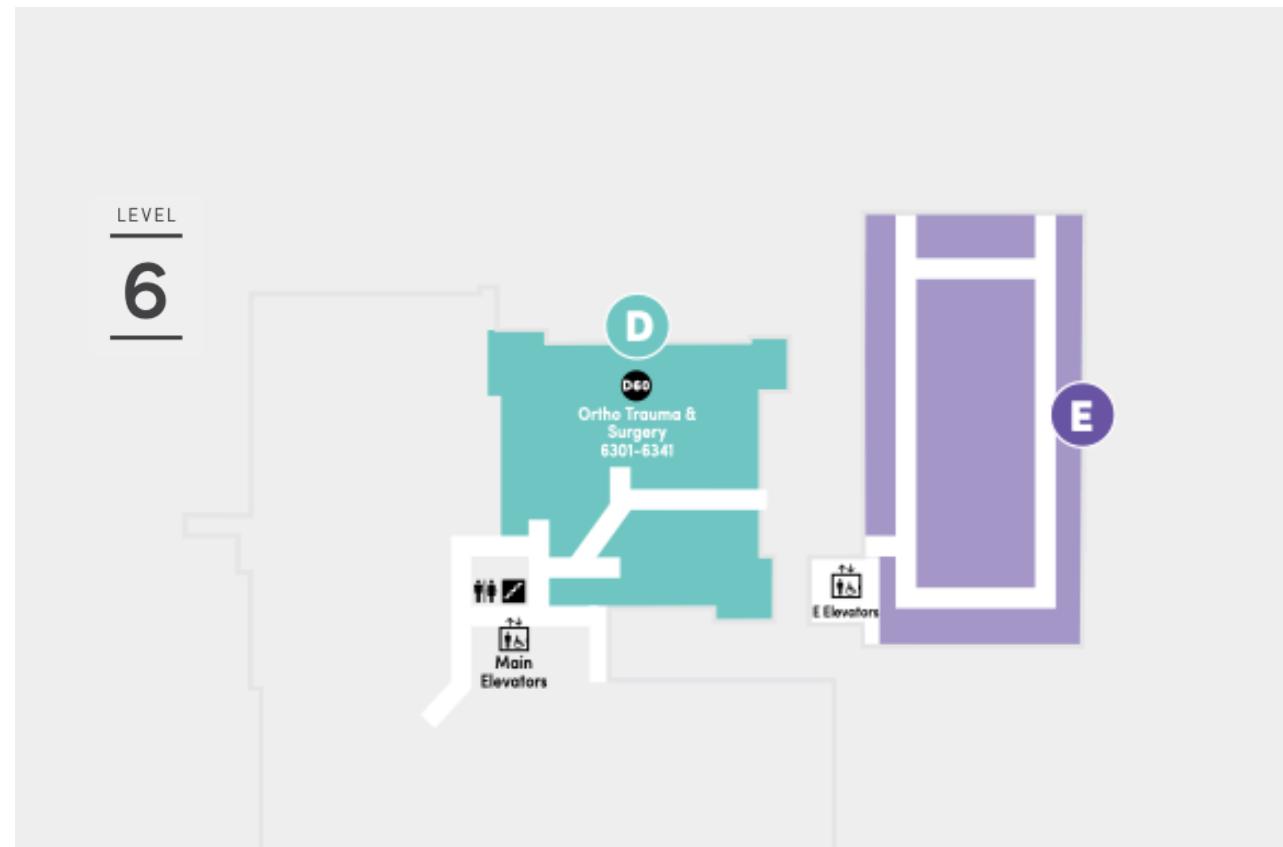
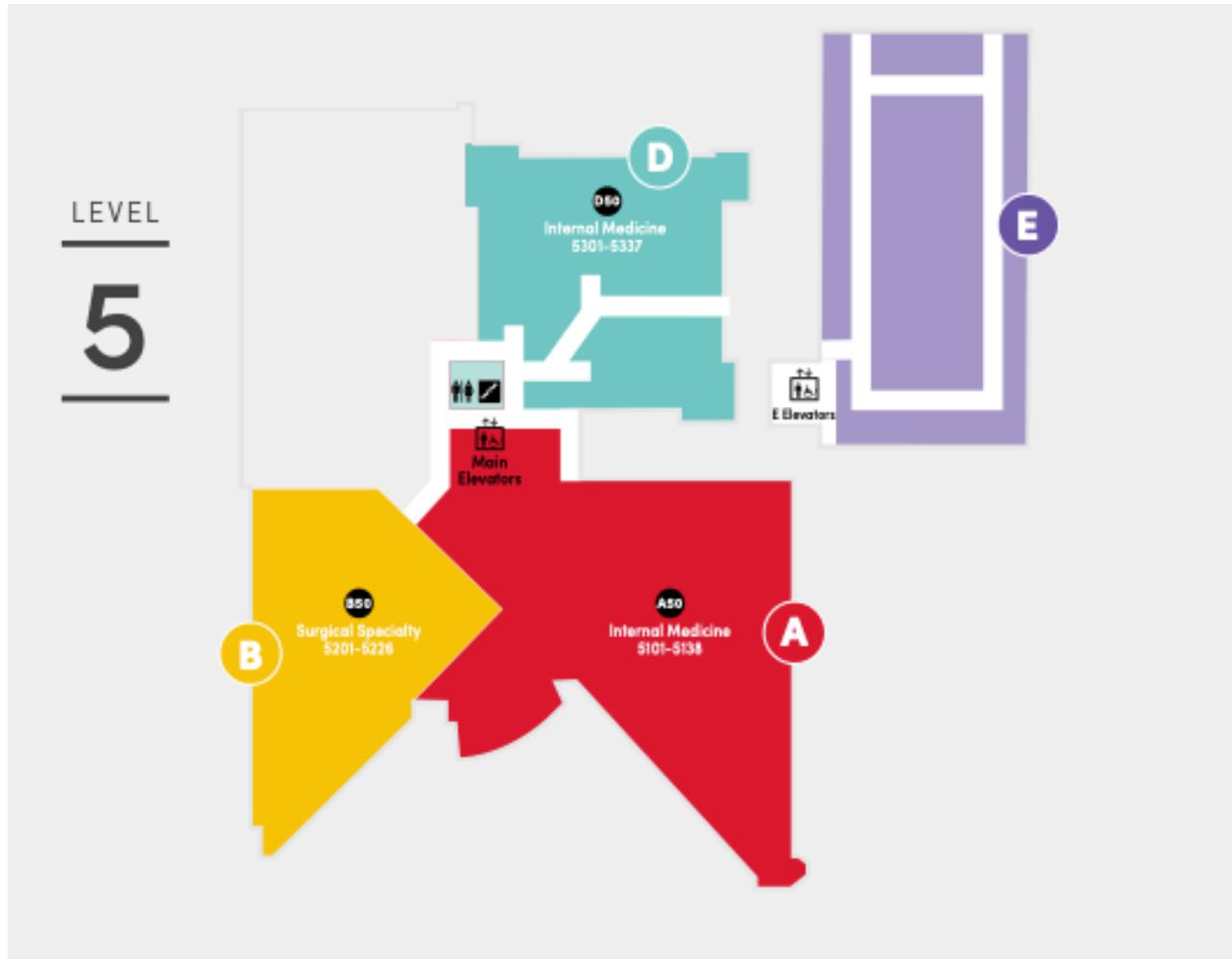


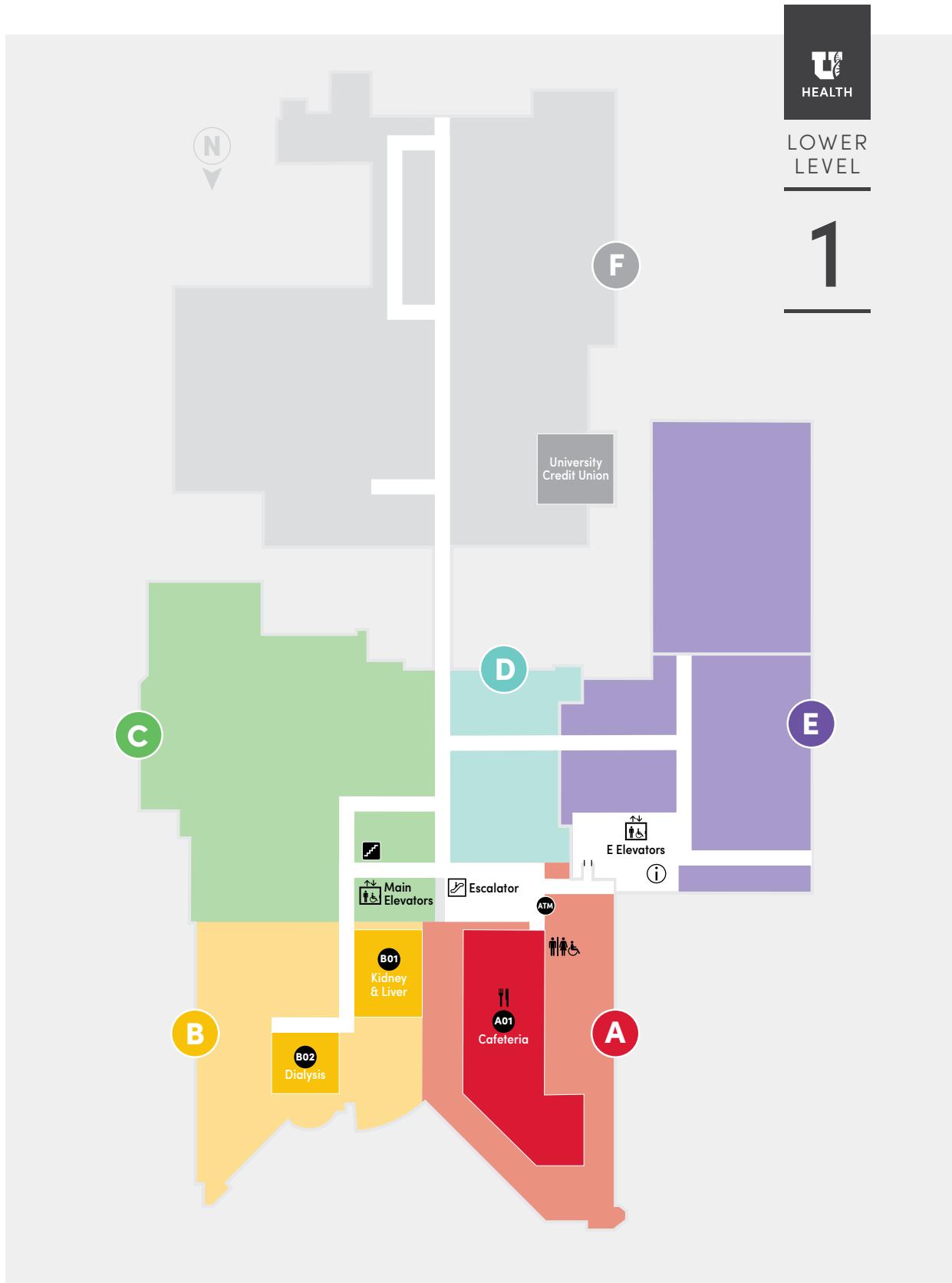


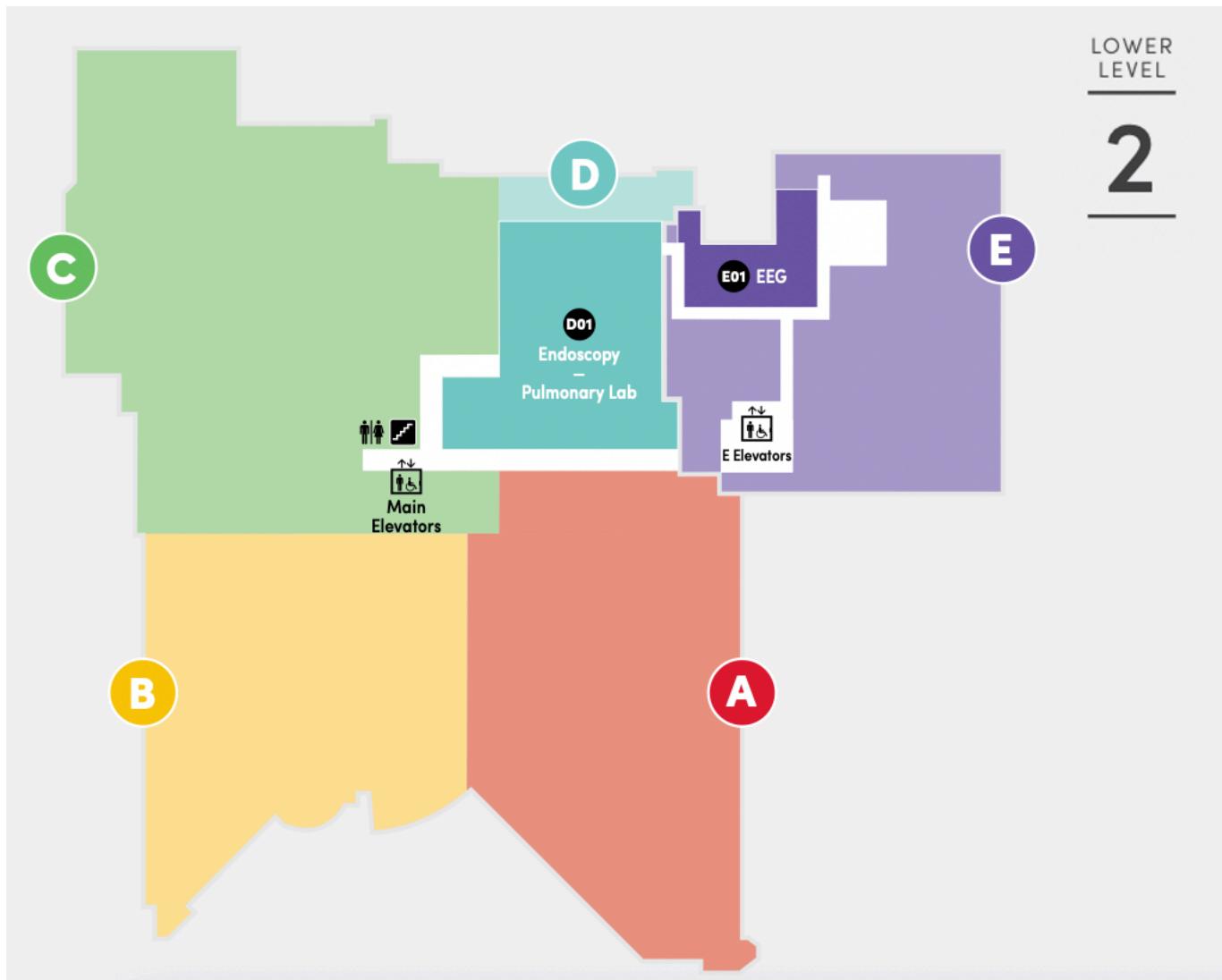
LEVEL

4









Logistics – VA

Activation

- (1) Blue button (inpatient rooms)
- (2) Anywhere else (Bldg 1 or 14) dial “#6”- pause – “**666**”, and state:
 - “code blue”
 - Building # and floor
 - Geographic area
 - Room #
- (3) Any medical emergency for a non-admitted patient who is inside the main hospital **will page out as a code blue**. Stabilize and transfer to ER.
- (4) If not in Bldg 1 or 14, call 911

Who ELSE shows up

- (1) MICU Resident and Intern (24/7)
- (2) ED attendings – can intubate, assist with access (24/7)
 - a. *Maintain leadership of code unless ED team to assume care for transfer to ED. Pass off code to ED team w/ closed loop communication*
- (3) 3x RNs - 2 from ICU, 1 from tele (24/7)
- (4) 2x RTs - 1 for airway, 1 for iStat labs (24/7)
- (5) Clinical Nurse Officer (CNO) – code recorder, facilitate transfers (24/7)
- (6) Pharmacy Support (**7am to 7pm**) – **no overnight pharmacist**

Acute Stroke Protocol

- Assign intern roles
- VS, POC glc, time of sxs onset
- Intern A - **Page neuro senior**
- Intern B – orders
 - STAT CTH w/o, CTA H&N
 - **Depending on the time of day, you may need to page a CT or MRI technician. The Neuro on-call Senior may be able to contact them for you OR the CNO can assist with getting ahold of imaging technicians.**
 - CBC, PT/PTT, INR, BMP, Trop, EKG

Massive Transfusion Protocol

- (1) Alert the RRT/Code Team & CNO as they will be able to help facilitate activation
- (2) “Orders” tab → blood bank orders → scroll down, select “MASSIVE TRANSFUSION PROTOCOL”
- (3) Call blood bank immediately

STEMI

1. Alert Telemetry Tech
2. Alert CNO (x1006)
3. Page cardiology STAT

Paging Cardiology (A Smartweb Caveat):

- 7a-7p: “VAMC-Cardiology” in smartweb
- 7p-7a: “Cardiology” in smartweb

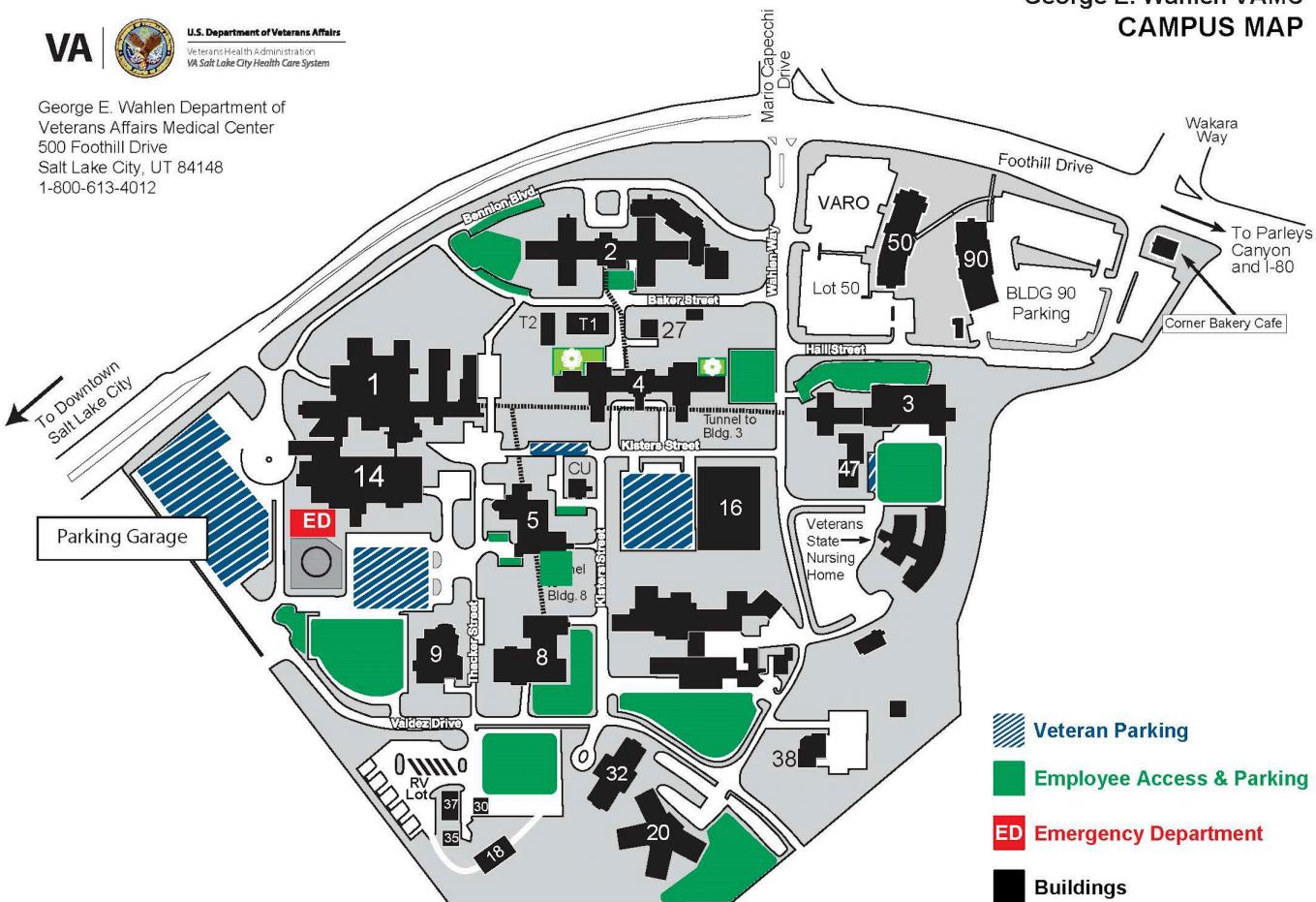
Campus Map

- **Main Hospital** = Building 1 and 14
- **Building 1**
 - G: Onc Clinic/Coffee Shop
 - 1F: Rads/Pod/SleepMed/PT & OT
 - 2F: 2E/2W/Tele/Cath lab/PT/AMU
 - 3F: 3W/3E/ICU
 - 4F: GI lab/Derm/OP clinics
- **Building 14**
 - G: Blue Clinic/ED/Ophtho/OP pharmacy
 - 1F: Sim center/lab
 - 2F: Dialysis/Pulm Lab/AMU
 - 3F: OR/PACU



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CAMPUS MAP



Logistics – IMC

General Overview & Who Shows Up

RRTs and Codes at IMC are typically well supported by nursing staff, RTs, and attending physicians. The primary challenge for residents often lies in **maintaining clear leadership and communication** due to the large number of responders.

Note:

- House staff DO NOT respond to Internal Response overhead calls.
- House staff DO NOT respond to Code Stroke calls.

Who Shows Up:

- RRTs → You/your team PLUS CICU RN, RN Supervisor, **Pharmacist**, RT, EKG tech, ABG & Lab techs
- Codes → Same as above **PLUS STICU attending and team**

RRTs → Escalation to ICU

If a patient requires ICU-level care, **start the escalation process early** to avoid delays in transfer:

1. **Be vocal and clear about your plan.**
Announcing your clinical thinking early helps the team (especially nursing and bed management) begin coordinating ICU bed availability.
2. **RN supervisor will contact ICU attending.**
They will vocera one of the ICU attendings to assess and potentially accept the patient.
3. **You are responsible for a verbal handoff.**
The RN supervisor will usually hand you a vocera device with the ICU attending already on the line.
Provide a concise, structured handoff.
4. **Stay with the patient.**
Remain involved until the patient physically arrives in their ICU bed.

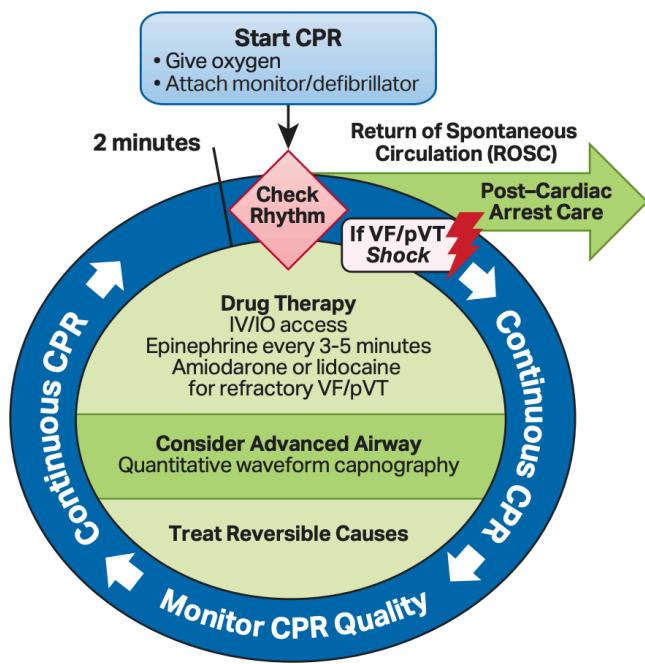
Maintaining Leadership During Codes

Clear leadership is critical for effective code management at IMC:

- If the **ICU attending or primary team** arrives, you can **offer them leadership** of the code.
- If you **transition code leadership, announce it clearly** to the room (e.g., “Dr. [Name] is now leading the code”). This avoids confusion and ensures continued coordination.

ACLS Algorithms

Adult Cardiac Arrest (Circular)



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CPR Quality

- Push hard (at least 2 inches [5 cm]) and fast (100-120/min) and allow complete chest recoil.
- Minimize interruptions in compressions.
- Avoid excessive ventilation.
- Change compressor every 2 minutes, or sooner if fatigued.
- If no advanced airway, 30:2 compression-ventilation ratio.
- Quantitative waveform capnography
 - If PETCO₂ is low or decreasing, reassess CPR quality.

Shock Energy for Defibrillation

- Biphasic:** Manufacturer recommendation (eg, initial dose of 120-200 J); if unknown, use maximum available. Second and subsequent doses should be equivalent, and higher doses may be considered.
- Monophasic:** 360 J

Drug Therapy

- Epinephrine IV/IO dose:** 1 mg every 3-5 minutes
- Amiodarone IV/IO dose:** First dose: 300 mg bolus. Second dose: 150 mg.
or
- Lidocaine IV/IO dose:** First dose: 1-1.5 mg/kg. Second dose: 0.5-0.75 mg/kg.

Advanced Airway

- Endotracheal intubation or supraglottic advanced airway
- Waveform capnography or capnometry to confirm and monitor ET tube placement
- Once advanced airway in place, give 1 breath every 6 seconds (10 breaths/min) with continuous chest compressions

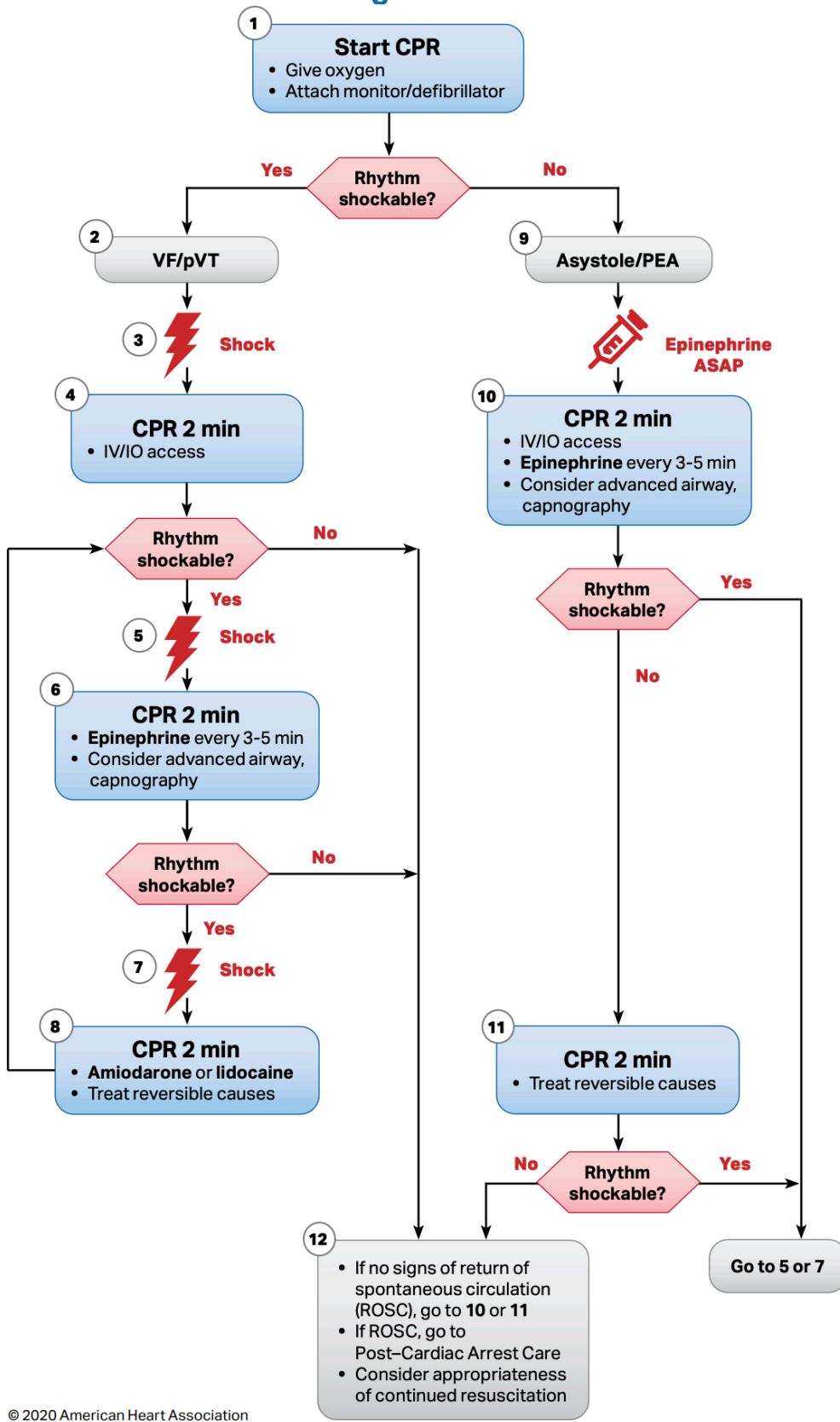
Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC)

- Pulse and blood pressure
- Abrupt sustained increase in PETCO₂ (typically ≥40 mm Hg)
- Spontaneous arterial pressure waves with intra-arterial monitoring

Reversible Causes

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Hypovolemia | • Tension pneumothorax |
| • Hypoxia | • Tamponade, cardiac |
| • Hydrogen ion (acidosis) | • Toxins |
| • Hypo-/hyperkalemia | • Thrombosis, pulmonary |
| • Hypothermia | • Thrombosis, coronary |

Adult Cardiac Arrest Algorithm



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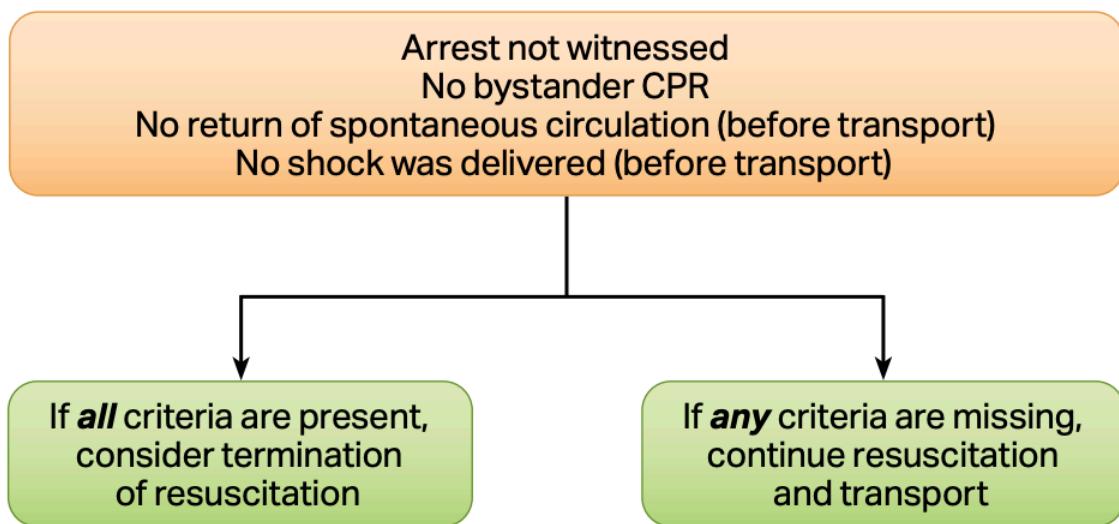
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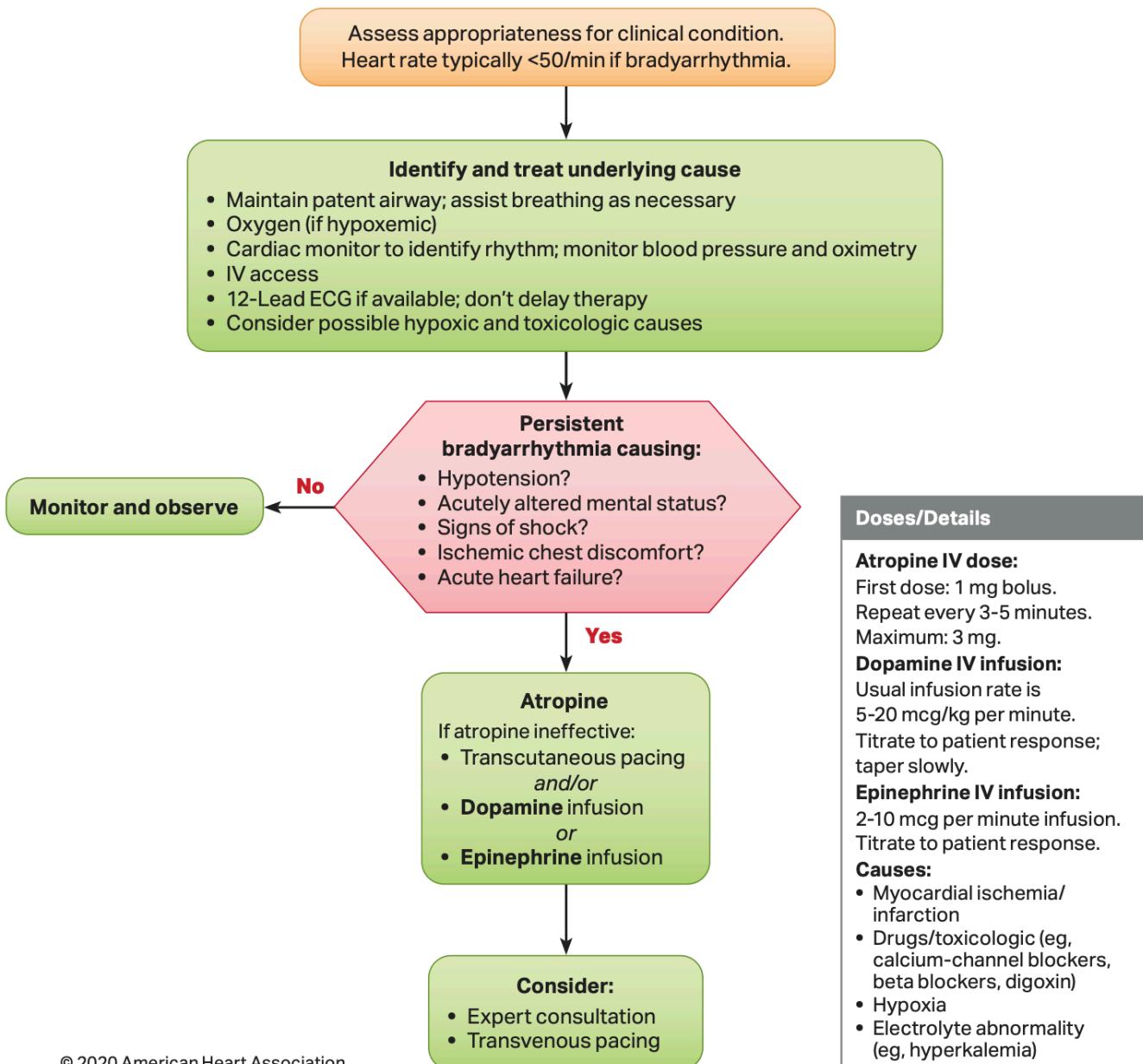
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- Hypoxia
- Hydrogen ion (acidosis)
- Hypo-/hyperkalemia
- Hypothermia
- Tension pneumothorax
- Tamponade, cardiac
- Toxins
- Thrombosis, pulmonary
- Thrombosis, coronary

ACLS Termination of Resuscitation



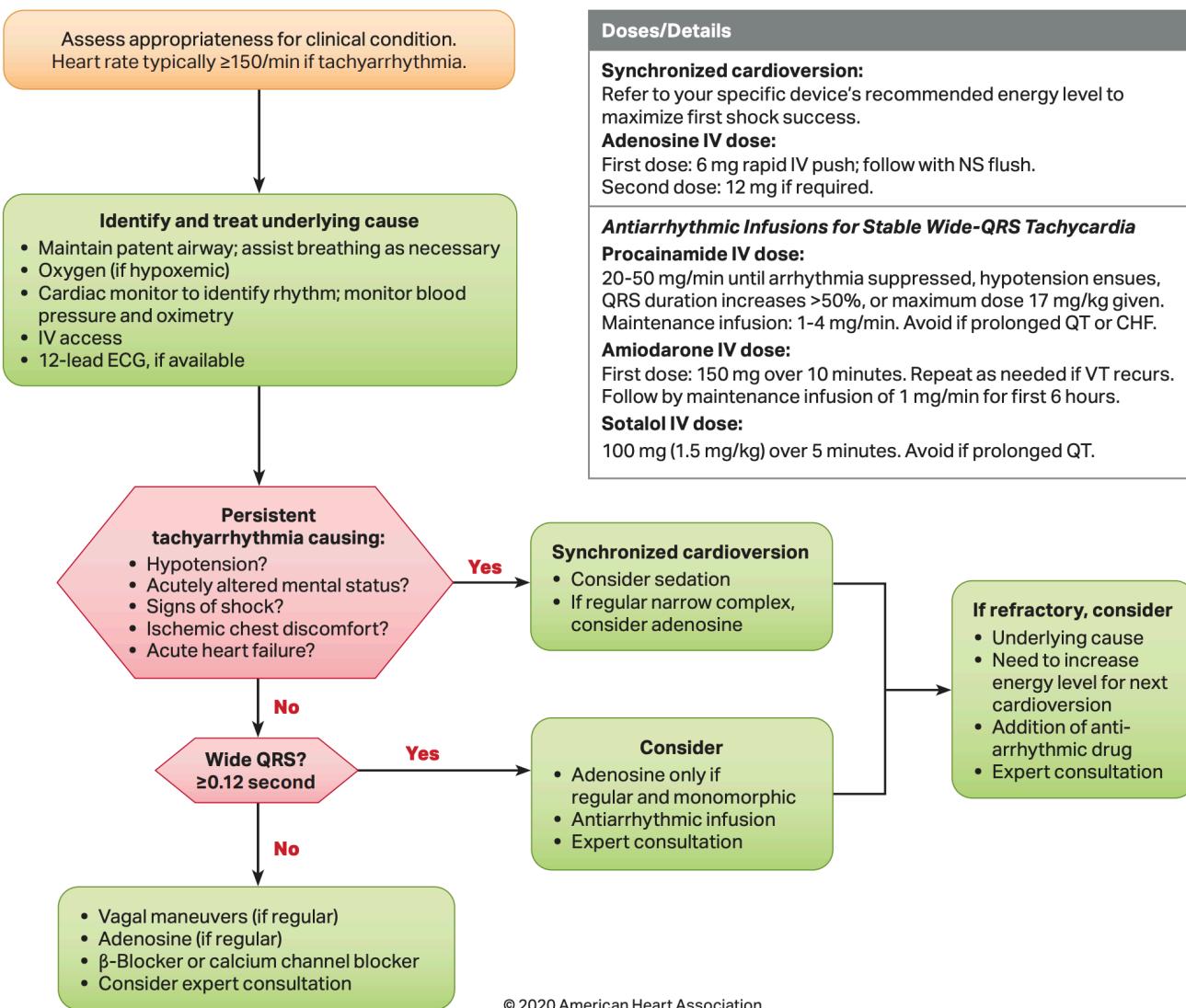
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Adult Bradycardia Algorithm



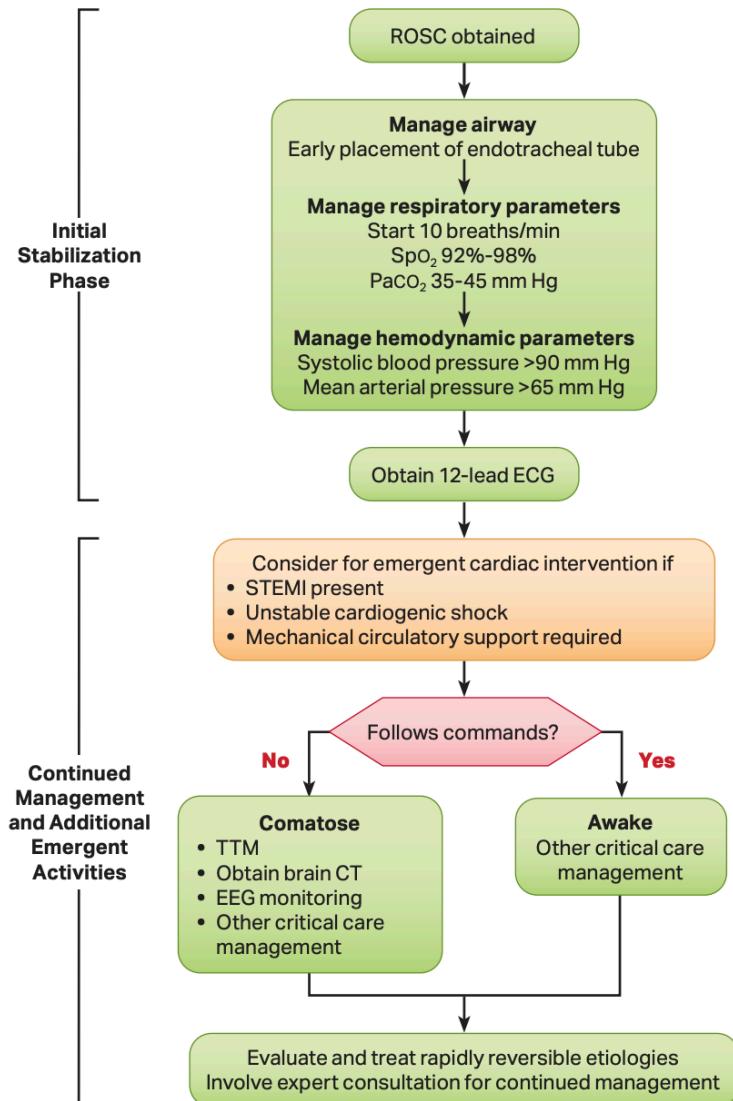
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Adult Tachycardia with a Pulse



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Post Cardiac Arrest Care Algorithm



Initial Stabilization Phase

Resuscitation is ongoing during the post-ROSC phase, and many of these activities can occur concurrently. However, if prioritization is necessary, follow these steps:

- Airway management: Waveform capnography or capnometry to confirm and monitor endotracheal tube placement
- Manage respiratory parameters: Titrate FiO₂ for SpO₂ 92%-98%; start at 10 breaths/min; titrate to PaCO₂ of 35-45 mm Hg
- Manage hemodynamic parameters: Administer crystalloid and/or vasopressor or inotrope for goal systolic blood pressure >90 mm Hg or mean arterial pressure >65 mm Hg

Continued Management and Additional Emergent Activities

These evaluations should be done concurrently so that decisions on targeted temperature management (TTM) receive high priority as cardiac interventions.

- Emergent cardiac intervention: Early evaluation of 12-lead electrocardiogram (ECG); consider hemodynamics for decision on cardiac intervention
- TTM: If patient is not following commands, start TTM as soon as possible; begin at 32-36°C for 24 hours by using a cooling device with feedback loop
- Other critical care management
 - Continuously monitor core temperature (esophageal, rectal, bladder)
 - Maintain normoxia, normocapnia, euglycemia
 - Provide continuous or intermittent electroencephalogram (EEG) monitoring
 - Provide lung-protective ventilation

H's and T's

- Hypovolemia
- Hypoxia
- Hydrogen ion (acidosis)
- Hypokalemia/hyperkalemia
- Hypothermia
- Tension pneumothorax
- Tamponade, cardiac
- Toxins
- Thrombosis, pulmonary
- Thrombosis, coronary

RRT Quick Reference by Scenario

CODES		Code/Rapid Data to Obtain	Bradycardia	Hypotension
A-Access	Non-Senior On Tasks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Confirm code status ▪ Confirm/stop IV infusions ▪ Run tele/print strips ▪ Check labs, med list ▪ Notify attending, family 	<input type="checkbox"/> Preceding events <input type="checkbox"/> Code Status <input type="checkbox"/> Access <input type="checkbox"/> Vitals <input type="checkbox"/> Focused exam <input type="checkbox"/> POCT glucose <input type="checkbox"/> One-liner, PMH <input type="checkbox"/> Recent procedures <input type="checkbox"/> Last TTE <input type="checkbox"/> Run MAR <input type="checkbox"/> Infusions <input type="checkbox"/> EKG <input type="checkbox"/> Tele <input type="checkbox"/> Last labs (Hgb, K, etc) <input type="checkbox"/> ABG/VBG	Conduction disease, R sided MI, vagal, med effect, ↑ICP, hypothyroidism, hypoxemia Atropine 0.5-1mg q3-5m, max 3mg Dopamine 2-20mcg/kg/min Epinephrine 2-10mcg/min Isoproterenol 2-10mcg/min Transcutaneous pacing (midaz/fentanyl or ativan/dilaudid) Transvenous pacing (cards consult)	Cardiogenic: MI, ADHF, BB/CCB toxicity, acute myocarditis, valvular disease (AS) Distributive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> S-Sepsis A-Adrenal Insuff A-Anaphylax S-Spinal Shock L-Liver dz S-Sleeping T-Toxin Hypovolemic: bleeding, diuresis, removal w/ HD, insensible losses Obstructive: PE, tamponade
B-Backboard	LABS TO ORDER Stat ABG with K & Hgb, CBC, BMP, LFTs, lactate, T&S, coags, fibrinogen, cardiac enzymes		Tachycardia Narrow: AVRT/AVNRT, AF/AFlutter, AT, MAT Wide: MMVT, PMVT, SVT w/ aberrancy, pacemaker mediated	Acute Hypoxemia Aspiration Mucus plug Pneumonia Pulm edema PE Pneumothorax Pleural effusion
C-Code Status			Synchronized Cardioversion Narrow/regular: 50-100J Narrow/irregular: 120-200J Wide/regular: 100J Wide/irregular: 150-200J	Hypercarbia ↑RR: sedatives, central sleep apnea, OHS, brainstem stroke, tumor, infection, hypothyroidism
D-Defib			Medications Narrow/reg: adenosine (6, 12, 12) Wide/reg: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Amio: 150mg → 1mg/min- Lido: 100mg → 50mg q5 x3 → 1-2 mg/min- Procainamide: 20-50mg/min until hypoTN or QRS ↑50% → 1-4 mg/min- consider adenosine unless WPW Wide/irreg: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- PMVT: amio, lido; tx ischemia- Torsades: Mg 2mg, ↑HR Isoprot.- AF+WPW: procainamide, ibutilide (1mg) (adenosine, BB/CCB, dig)	AMS CNS: CVA, ICH, sz, infxn, PRES Metabolic toxins: NH3, CO2, BUN, Na, glucose Exogenous toxins: meds, drugs, w/d Vitals: HTN/HoTN, hypoglycemia, hypoxemia Misc: TTP, AI, hypothyroid
D-Drips			ACS ASA 325, heparin, statin, TNG, BB Cath lab if HD unstable, refractory CP, VT	
E-Epi				
E-Electricity (150-200J; tele)				
F-Fluids				
F-Family				
G-Glucose				
H's and T's:			GIB 2 large bore IV, T&S, IVF, pRBC, IV PPI 40mg. Octreotide 50mcg + CTX if portal HTN. Correct coagulopathy. RICU if hematemesis.	
				PE
			Intermediate-High risk: PE w/ abnormal VS (tachycardia, hypotension), evidence of R heart strain (TTE, EKG, or +biomarkers), central or saddle PE →	
			Order: TTE, EKG, CBC w diff, PT/PTT, BMP, LFTs, lactate, D-dimer, Trop, NT-proBNP, T&S, LENIs	
			tPA: Pulseless → 50mg/2m, 50mg in 30m Pulse → 100mg/2h Follow w/ heparin gtt	
			Contraindications: prior ICH, ischemic CVA <3mo., active bleeding, CNS surgery/trauma (<2-3mo)	
				Seizure
			Lorazepam 2-4mg IV x2, diazepam 20mg PR, or levetiracetam 20mg/kg	
				Anaphylaxis
			Epi 0.3-0.5 IM (1:1000; 1mg/mL); or 0.1-0.3mg IV (1:10,000; 0.1mg/mL) → repeat q5-15min; start gtt if >3 required	
			Other agents: Benadryl 50mg, methylpred 125mg, albuterol neb, IVF	

Code & RRT Medications (Alphabetical)

Emergency Medications (ADULT ACLS MEDICATIONS)

Drug	Preparation for Administration	Concentration	Standard Doses	Pump Rate
Adenosine	6 mg/2 mL vial	3 mg/mL vial	Loading dose: 6 mg IV (flush immediately) Repeat dose: 12 mg IV q1-2 min if needed	IVP: push as fast as possible & follow with NS 10 mL flush
Amiodarone	Bolus: Cardiac Arrest Draw up 300 mg for IVP/IO Drip: Place 150 mg in 100 mL D5W Pharmacy also has premade 150 mg/100 mL drips in Omnicell of critical care units	Bolus: 50 mg/mL Drip: 1.5 mg/mL	VF/pulseless VT: 300 mg IV push (may give an additional 150 mg dose in 10 min) Stable VT: 150 mg over 10 minutes Maintenance: 1 mg/min for 6 hours Then 0.5 mg/min for 18 hours Administer through 0.2 – 0.22 micron filter (Doses >2.2 g in 24 hours are associated with significant hypotension)	IVP 600 mL/hour for 10 min 40 mL/hour for 6 hours 20 mL/hour for 18 hours
Atropine	Premixed syringe: 1 mg/10 mL	0.1 mg/mL	Adult Bradycardia: 1 mg IV bolus every 3-5 minutes Maximum: 3 mg	IVP
DOBUTamine	Premixed drip: 500 mg/250 mL Fluid Restricted: 1000 mg/250 mL (Made by pharmacy)	2 mg/mL 4 mg/mL	Dose: 2-20 mcg/kg/min	
DOPamine	Premixed drip: 800 mg/250 mL Fluid Restricted: 1600 mg/250 mL (Made by pharmacy)	3.2 mg/mL 6.4 mg/mL	Dose: 5-20 mcg/kg/min (start with 5 mcg/kg/min and titrate up by 5 mcg every 2 minutes) (Rates > 20 mcg/kg/min are associated with vasoconstriction and tachyarrhythmia) ²	
EPINEPHrine	Premixed syringe: 0.1 mg/mL (1:10,000) Vial: 1 mg/mL (1:1,000) Drip: Place 4 mg in 250 mL NS	0.1 mg/mL 1 mg/mL Drip: 16 mcg/mL	Resuscitation: 1 mg every 3-5 minutes IV/IO Maintenance: 0.01-0.5 mcg/kg/min IV Anaphylaxis: 0.3-0.5 mg every 5-15 minutes IM Bradycardia: 0.1-0.5 mcg/kg/min IV ET tube dose: 2-2.5x IV dose (2-2.5 mg)	IVP No maximum rate
Isoproterenol	Drip: Place 1 mg in 250 mL NS (Made by pharmacy) Fluid Restricted: 4 mg/250 mL (Made by pharmacy)	Drip: 4 mcg/mL Conc. Drip: 16 mcg/mL	Dose: 2-10 mcg/min IV titrated to response	30-150 mL/hour Conc. Rate: 7.5 mg-37.5 mg/hr
Lidocaine	Premixed syringe: 100 mg/5 mL Premixed drip: 1 g/250 mL	20 mg/mL Drip: 4 mg/mL	Load (VF/VT): 1-1.5 mg/kg IVP over 2-3 minutes Refractory VF: Repeat with 0.5-0.75 mg/kg every 5-10 minutes Maximum: 3 doses or 3 mg/kg Maintenance: 1-4 mg/min ET tube dose: 2-2.5x IV dose (2-3.75 mg/kg)	IVP 15-60 mL/hour
Magnesium sulfate	Vial or syringe: 5 g/10 mL	500 mg/mL vial	Torsades : 1-2 g IV/IO over 1-2 minutes Can dilute with 10 mL of D5W or NS	IVP
Norepinephrine	Drip: Place 16 mg in 250 mL NS	Drip: 64 mcg/mL	Dose: 0.01-0.5 mcg/kg/min No maximum rate	

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Drug	Preparation for Administration	Concentration	Standard Doses	Pump Rate
Phenylephrine	Drip: Central - Place 40 mg in 250 mL NS Peripheral – Place 10 mg in 250 mL NS	Central drip: 0.16 mg/mL Peripheral drip: 0.04 mg/mL	Dose: 0.25-3 mcg/kg/min	
Procainamide	Drip: Place 1 gm in 250 mL NS	Drip: 4 mg/mL	Load: 20-50 mg/min until arrhythmia suppression, hypotension ensues, QRS prolonged by 50%, or total dose of 17 mg/kg infused	300-750 mL/hour
			Maintenance: 1-4 mg/min (avoid in patients with long QT or CHF)	15-60 mL/hour
Vasopressin	Drip: Place 20 units in 100 mL NS	Drip: 0.2 units/mL	Dose: 0.03 units/min	9 mL/hour

Other Emergency Medications

Drug	Preparation for Administration	Concentration	Standard Doses	Pump Rate
Flumazenil	0.5 mg/5 mL vial	0.1 mg/mL	1 st Dose: 0.2 mg IV over 30 seconds 2 nd Dose: 0.3 mg IV over 30 seconds 3 rd Dose: 0.5 mg IV over 30 seconds ² May repeat every minute or until total 3 mg given	IVP

Drug	Preparation for Administration	Concentration	Standard Doses	Pump Rate
Naloxone	Vial: 0.4 mg/1 mL Standard drip: Place 4 mg in 1 L NS or D5W Concentrated drip: Place 10 mg in 250 mL NS or D5W	Vial: 0.4 mg/mL Drip: 4 mcg/mL Conc. Drip: 40 mcg/mL	Opioid overdose: 0.4-2 mg IV/IM/SQ every 2-3 min Maximum: 6-10 mg over <10 min ² Continuous infusion: 0.2-6.25 mg/hour Reversal with therapeutic opioid doses: 0.02-2 mg IV/IM/SQ every 2-3 min ET tube dose: 2-2.5x IV dose	IVP Standard drip: 50-100 mL/hour
Etomidate	Premixed syringe or vial: 40 mg/20 mL	2 mg/mL	Induction: 0.2-0.6 mg/kg over 30-60 seconds Rapid Sequence Intubation: 0.3 mg/kg	IVP
Ketamine	Vial: 200 mg/mL Drip: 250 mg/250 mL (pharmacy made)	10 mg/mL Drip: 1 mg/mL	Induction: 1-2 mg/kg IV over 1 minute Maintenance: 0.1-0.5 mg/min	IVP
Cisatracurium (*Refrigerator*)	Vial: 10 mg/5mL Drip: 200 mg/40 mL	2 mg/mL Drip: 5 mg/mL	Load: 0.15-0.2 mg/kg IV over 5-10 seconds Maintenance: 1-10 mcg/kg/hour	IVP
Rocuronium (*Refrigerator*)	Vial: 100 mg/10 mL	10 mg/mL 1 mg/mL	Load: 0.6-1.2 mg/kg IV	IVP

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Drug	Preparation for Administration	Concentration	Standard Doses	Pump Rate
Succinylcholine (*Refrigerator*)	Vial: 200 mg/10 mL	20 mg/mL	Load: 0.6-1.5 mg/kg IV	IVP
Vecuronium	Vial: 10 mg Reconstitute vial with 10 mL NS Drip: 100 mg/100 mL	1 mg/mL	Load: 0.08-0.1 mg/kg IV Maintenance: 0.8-1.2 mcg/kg/min	IVP

Drug	Preparation for Administration	Concentration	Standard Doses	Pump Rate
Diazepam	Vial: 10 mg/2 mL	5 mg/mL	Status epilepticus: 5-10 mg IV over 1-2 minutes May repeat dose after 10-15 minutes Maximum: 30 mg	IVP Max: 5 mg/min in adults
Lorazepam (*Refrigerator*)	Vial: 2 mg/mL	2 mg/mL	Status epilepticus: 4 mg IV over 2-5 minutes May give an additional 4 mg after 10-15 minutes	IVP over 2-5 minutes Max: 2 mg/min
Fosphenytoin/ Phenytoin	Vial: 100 mg PE/2 mL	50 mg PE/mL	Status epilepticus: 15-20 mg/kg IV Maintenance: 4-7 mg PE/kg/day in 2-4 divided doses	IVP Max: 150 mg PE/minute
Diltiazem (*Refrigerator*)	Vial: 25 mg/5 mL Premixed drip: 125 mg/125 mL	5 mg/mL Premix: 1 mg/mL	Load: 0.25 mg/kg IV over 2 minutes May repeat 0.35 mg/kg in 15 minutes Maintenance: 5-15 mg/hour	IVP
Nicardipine	Premixed drip: 40 mg/200 mL Fluid restricted: 100 mg/250 mL (Made by pharmacy)	0.2 mg/mL 0.4 mg/mL	Acute hypertension: 5 mg/hour Titrate by 2.5 mg/hour every 5-15 minutes Maximum: 15 mg/hour	5-15 mg/hour

Drug	Preparation for Administration	Concentration	Standard Doses	Pump Rate
Nitroglycerin	Premix Glass bottle: 50 mg in 250 mL Fluid restricted: 100 mg/250 mL (Made by pharmacy)	0.2 mg/mL 0.4 mg/mL	Dose: 10-200 mcg/minute Titrate by 5-10 mcg/min every 5 minutes Max: 400 mcg/min	10-400 mcg/min
Nitroprusside	Drip: 50 mg/100 mL	0.5 mg/mL	Dose: 0.25-0.5 mcg/kg/min Titrate by 0.5 mcg/kg/min every 5 minutes Maximum: 10 mcg/kg/min	

Hematologic Emergency Medications

Drug	Preparation for Administration	Concentration	Standard Doses	Pump Rate
t-PA (Activase)	50 mg/50 mL 100 mg/ 100 mL (Made by pharmacy)	1 mg/mL	Stroke: Load: 0.09 mg/kg (max: 9 mg) over 1 minute followed by 0.81 mg/kg (max 81 mg) as a continuous infusion over 1 hour	
			Cardiac arrest due to PE: t-PA 50 mg IV bolus over 3-5 minutes followed by 50 mg IV bolus over 1 hour 15 minutes later if return of spontaneous circulation not achieved	
			Massive PE: t-PA 100 mg IV once	Infuse over 2 hours

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Drug	Preparation for Administration	Concentration	Standard Doses	Pump Rate
4-Factor prothrombin complex concentrate (Kcentra)	~500 units (Factor IX) per single-dose vial or ~1000 units (Factor IX) per single-dose vial (Made by pharmacy)	Varies	Acute major bleeding due to warfarin or reversal of warfarin for urgent procedure: Use is restricted to a single dose Dosing is individualized for INR and weight -INR 2 to < 4: 25 units/kg (max dose: 2500 units) -INR 4 to 6: 35 units/kg (max dose: 3500 units) -INR >6: 50 units/kg (max dose: 5000 units) May adjust +/- 10% to match vial contents	0.12 mL/kg/min (~3 units/kg/min)
			Sever bleeding in patients on direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs) or reversal of DOAC for urgent procedure: 2000 units once or 25-50 units/kg once (cap weight at 100 kg) (preferred for factor Xa inhibitors, eg: apixaban and rivaroxaban)	Max: 8.4 mL/min (~210 units/min)
			Acute major bleeding due to liver disease or trauma induced coagulopathy: 25 to 50 units/kg as a single dose (cap weight at 100 kg)	
Activated prothrombin complex concentrate (FEIBA)	~500 units per single dose vial (Made by pharmacy)	Varies	Severe bleeding in patients on direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs): 50 units/kg as a single dose (Last-line agent for factor Xa inhibitors; preferred for direct thrombin inhibitors, eg: dabigatran)	Max: 2 units/kg/minute

Reference:

- (1) Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support Provider Manual 2020.
 - (2) Drug Information Handbook 23rd edition, 2014-2015
 - (3) Lexi-Drugs. Lexicomp Online. Lexicomp; 2022.
 - (4) UUH Protocol for Massive Acute Pulmonary Embolism (PE), 2021
 - (5) UUH Guideline: 4-Factor Prothrombin Complex Concentrates (KCentra, FEIBA) General Use, 2022
- *Optimal endotracheal doses have not yet been established.