BLS Healthcare Provider
Adult Cardiac Arrest Algorithm—2015 Update

Verify scene safety.

Victim is unresponsive. Shout for nearby help. Activate emergency response system via mobile device (if appropriate). Get AED and emergency equipment (or send someone to do so).

Normal breathing, has pulse

Monitor until emergency responders arrive.

No breathing or only gasping, no pulse

Check rhythm. Shockable rhythm?

Yes, shockable

Give 1 shock. Resume CPR immediately for about 2 minutes (until prompted by AED to allow rhythm check). Continue until ALS providers take over or victim starts to move.

No, nonshockable

Resume CPR immediately for about 2 minutes (until prompted by AED to allow rhythm check). Continue until ALS providers take over or victim starts to move.

No normal breathing, has pulse

Provide rescue breathing: 1 breath every 5-6 seconds, or about 10-12 breaths/min.
- Activate emergency response system (if not already done) after 2 minutes.
- Continue rescue breathing; check pulse about every 2 minutes. If no pulse, begin CPR (go to "CPR" box).
- If possible opioid overdose, administer naloxone if available per protocol.

By this time in all scenarios, emergency response system or backup is activated, and AED and emergency equipment are retrieved or someone is retrieving them.
BLS Healthcare Provider
Pediatric Cardiac Arrest Algorithm for the Single Rescuer—2015 Update

Verify scene safety.

Victim is unresponsive. Shout for nearby help. Activate emergency response system via mobile device (if appropriate).

Activate emergency response system (if not already done). Return to victim and monitor until emergency responders arrive.

Normal breathing, has pulse

No normal breathing, has pulse

Look for no breathing or only gasping and check pulse (simultaneously). Is pulse definitely felt within 10 seconds?

No breathing or only gasping, no pulse

Witnessed sudden collapse?

Yes

Activate emergency response system (if not already done), and retrieve AED/defibrillator.

No

CPR

1 rescuer: Begin cycles of 30 compressions and 2 breaths. (Use 15:2 ratio if second rescuer arrives.) Use AED as soon as it is available.

After about 2 minutes, if still alone, activate emergency response system and retrieve AED (if not already done).

AED analyzes rhythm. Shockable rhythm?

Yes, shockable

Give 1 shock. Resume CPR immediately for about 2 minutes (until prompted by AED to allow rhythm check). Continue until ALS providers take over or victim starts to move.

No, nonshockable

Resume CPR immediately for about 2 minutes (until prompted by AED to allow rhythm check). Continue until ALS providers take over or victim starts to move.

Provide rescue breathing: 1 breath every 3-5 seconds, or about 12-20 breaths/min.

• Add compressions if pulse remains ≤60/min with signs of poor perfusion.

• Activate emergency response system (if not already done) after 2 minutes.

• Continue rescue breathing; check pulse about every 2 minutes. If no pulse, begin CPR (go to “CPR” box).
Verify scene safety.

Victim is unresponsive. Shout for nearby help. First rescuer remains with victim. Second rescuer activates emergency response system and retrieves AED and emergency equipment.

Monitor until emergency responders arrive.

Normal breathing, has pulse

Look for no breathing or only gasping and check pulse (simultaneously). Is pulse definitely felt within 10 seconds?

No normal breathing, has pulse

Provide rescue breathing: 1 breath every 3-5 seconds, or about 12-20 breaths/min.
- Add compressions if pulse remains ≤60/min with signs of poor perfusion.
- Activate emergency response system (if not already done) after 2 minutes.
- Continue rescue breathing; check pulse about every 2 minutes. If no pulse, begin CPR (go to “CPR” box).

No breathing or only gasping, no pulse

CPR
First rescuer begins CPR with 30:2 ratio (compressions to breaths). When second rescuer returns, use 15:2 ratio (compressions to breaths). Use AED as soon as it is available.

AED analyzes rhythm. Shockable rhythm?

Yes, shockable

Give 1 shock. Resume CPR immediately for about 2 minutes (until prompted by AED to allow rhythm check). Continue until ALS providers take over or victim starts to move.

No, nonshockable

Resume CPR immediately for about 2 minutes (until prompted by AED to allow rhythm check). Continue until ALS providers take over or victim starts to move.

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