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# Pediatric Advanced Life Support

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<http://www.provinz.bz.it/se/paednotmed/>



# **Italian PALS statistics**

- **15 courses in Trento province (1998-2000)**
- **74 provider courses (2000-2006)**
- **1357 providers**
- **91 instructors**
- **5 instructors of instructors**
- **8 instructor courses**
- **130 Italian PBLs Training Centers**

# **Aims and Objectives**

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- **Aetiology of cardiac arrest in children**
- **Reducing mortality and morbidity**
- **Recognising respiratory and circulatory failure**
- **Initial management plan**

# **Aetiology of Cardiac Arrest in Children (1)**

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## **Primary Cardiac Arrest**

- **Common in adults, less common in children**
- **Sudden, unpredictable onset**
- **Due to arrhythmia (VF or pulseless VT)**
- **Hypoxia and acidosis not initially present**
- **Outcome depends on early defibrillation**

# **Aetiology of Cardiac Arrest in Children (2)**

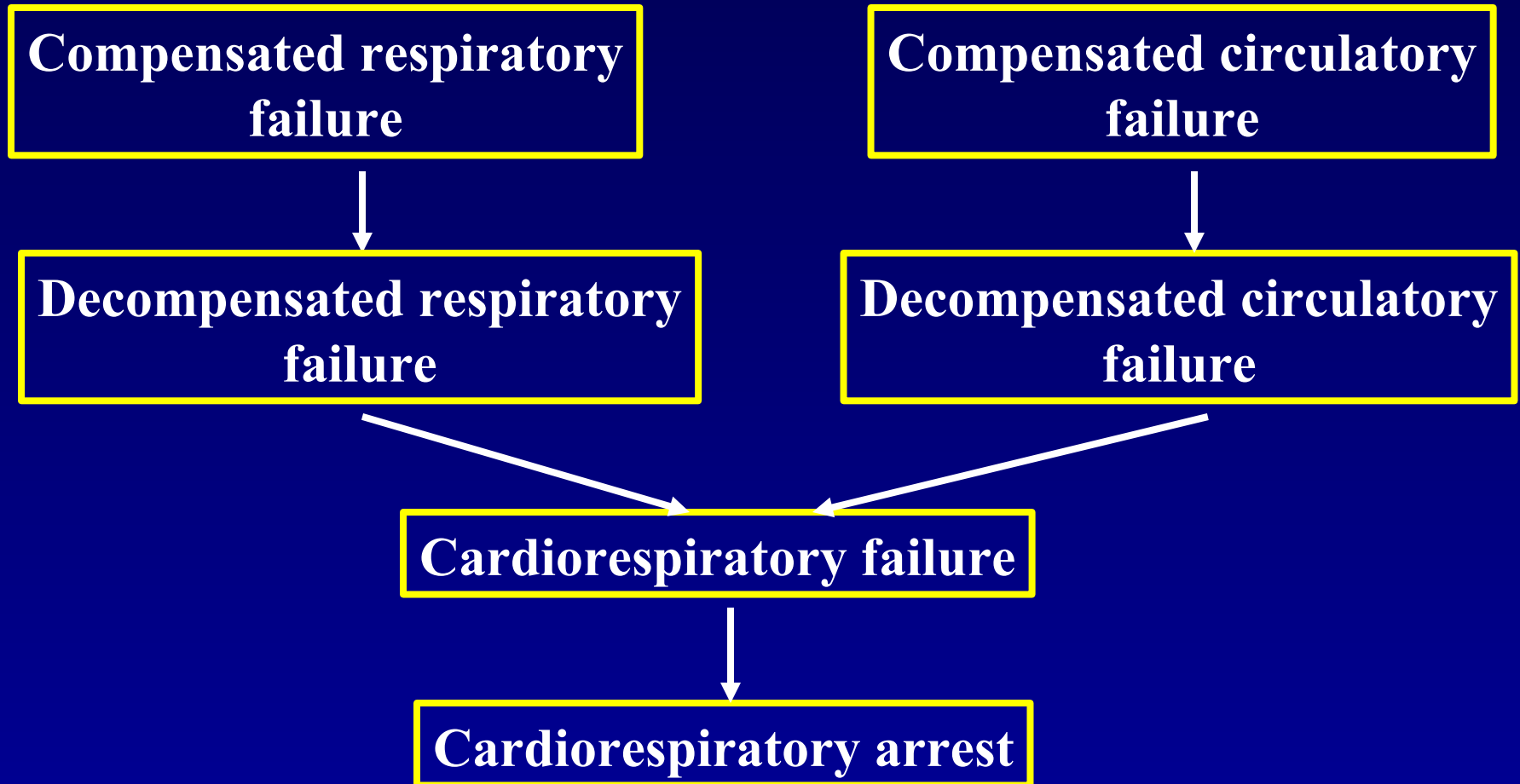
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## **Secondary Cardiac Arrest**

- **Most common form in children**
- **Heart stops due to ischaemia or hypoxia secondary to another condition**
- **Arrest rhythm is usually bradycardia, progressing to asystole**
- **Hypoxia initially present**
- **Outcome depends on prevention or prompt resuscitation**

# Pathways to Cardiac Arrest in Children

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# Pathways to Cardiac Arrest in Children

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**Successful resuscitation in children depends upon early recognition of respiratory and circulatory failure and measures to prevent progression to cardiac arrest**

# What is wrong with these children?

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# **Respiratory Failure: Definitions**

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## **Respiratory failure**

- **The loss of ability of the respiratory system to maintain adequate blood levels of CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub>**

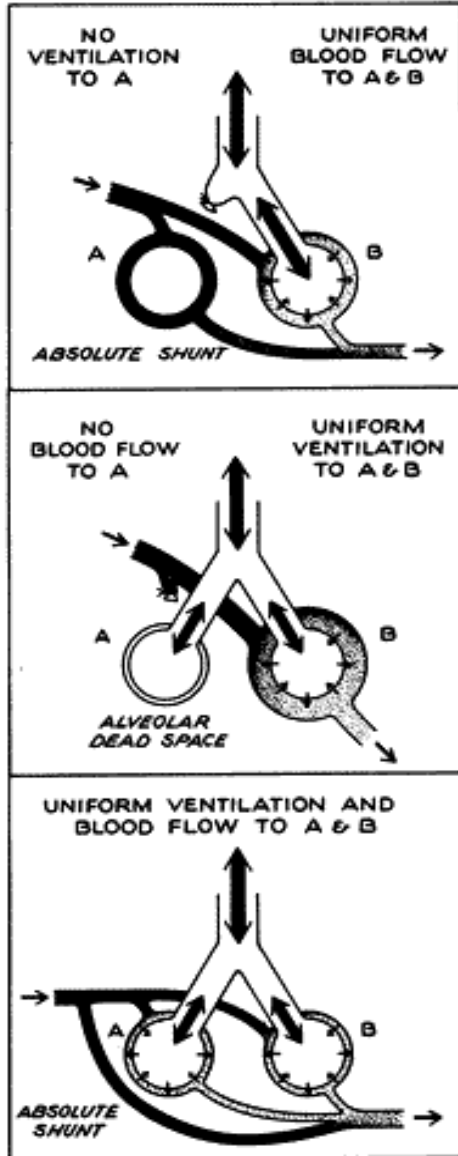
## **Respiratory distress**

- **Clinical state with increased work of breathing**

**Respiratory failure can exist without respiratory distress**

# Pathophysiology of Respiratory Failure (1)

Due to mismatch of ventilation and perfusion in lung units



# Pathophysiology of Respiratory Failure (2)

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Due to inadequate movement of gas in and out of the lungs

**Minute ventilation = Tidal volume x resp rate**

1400ml/min	140ml	10/min
1400ml/min	70ml	20/min
1400ml/min	35ml	40/min

Respiratory failure can occur with respiration which is either too slow *or* too fast

# Assessment of Respiratory Insufficiency

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**A**

**B**

**C**

**Assess, change, reassess**

# Assessment of Respiratory Insufficiency: Airway



- Chest movement does not imply a clear airway
- Listen and feel for air movement and noises
- Is the airway:
- Clear and safe?
- At risk?
- Obstructed?

# **Assessment of Respiratory Insufficiency: Breathing**

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- **Respiratory rate**
- **Tidal volume**
- **Work of breathing (WOB)**
- **Oxygenation**

# Assessment of Respiratory Insufficiency: Breathing

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## Respiratory rate:

**Varies with age, fever, pain and anxiety as well as respiratory insufficiency**

Age	<1	2-5	5-12	>12
Resp rate	30-40	20-30	20-24	12-20

**It is more important to monitor the trend in respiratory rate than to rely on the absolute value**

# Assessment of Respiratory Insufficiency: Breathing

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**Tidal volume;** look, listen, feel

- Compare one side with the other
- Subjective assessment; breath sounds should be audible in both bases
- Feel for the trachea; is it central?
- Noises!



# Assessment of Respiratory Insufficiency: Breathing

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## Noises

- **Stridor:** Inspiratory noise; airway obstruction above the thoracic inlet
- **Wheeze:** Expiratory noise; airway obstruction below the thoracic inlet
- **Grunting:** Expiratory noise; attempt to raise the end-expiratory lung volume

# Signs of Respiratory Distress (increased WOB)

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- Tachypnoea
- Head bobbing
- Anxious demeanour
- Flared nostrils
- Grunting
- Stridor or wheeze
- Exhaustion



# Assessment of Respiratory Insufficiency: Oxygenation

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**Cyanosis is an unreliable sign of hypoxia**

- **Absence of cyanosis does not imply good oxygenation**
- **Central cyanosis does imply hypoxia**
- **Use a pulse oximeter**
- **What  $\text{FiO}_2$  is required to maintain good saturations?**

# Compensated or Decompensated?

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## Signs of decompensation

- Increasing respiratory rate
- **Respiratory rate  $<10$  or  $>55$**
- **Sudden fall in respiratory rate**
- Reduced interaction with carers
- **Exhaustion**
- **Decreasing level of consciousness**

# What is wrong with this child?

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# Assessment of Circulatory Failure

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**A**

**B**

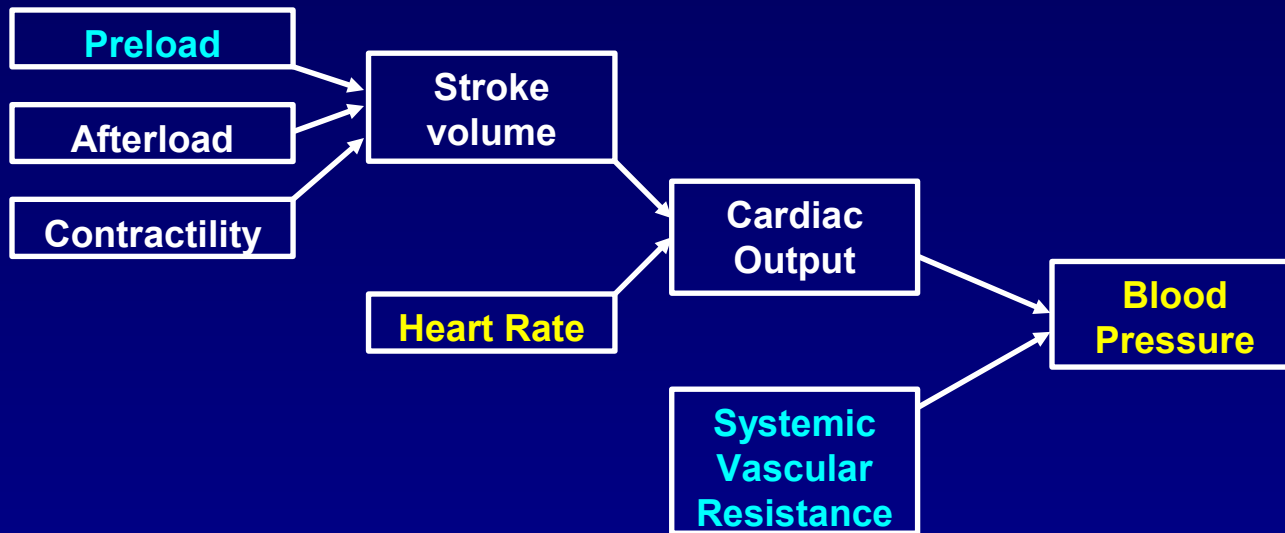
**C**

**Assess, change, reassess**

# Assessment of Circulatory Failure

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Relationships between variables affecting cardiac output and blood pressure



Can be objectively measured

Can be subjectively assessed

# Assessment of Circulatory Failure

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- Heart rate
- Blood pressure
- Systemic vascular resistance
- Pre-load



# Assessment of Circulatory Failure: Heart Rate

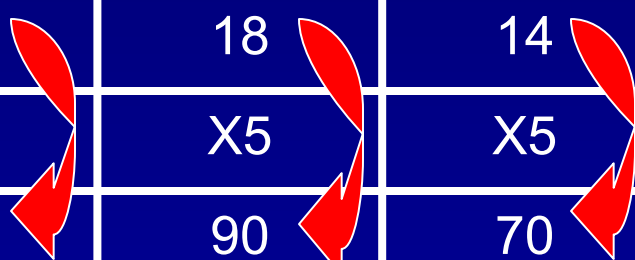
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## Heart rate:

Varies with age, fever and anxiety as well as circulatory failure

## Normal heart (HR) and respiratory (RR) rates by age

Age	>30 days	5 years	12 years	18 years
RR	30	20	18	14
		X5	X5	X5
HR	130	100	90	70



# Assessment of Circulatory Failure: Blood Pressure

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## Changes in systolic blood pressure with age

Age	Systolic BP (normal) mmHg	Systolic BP (lower limit) mmHg
0 –1 month	60	50
1 – 12 months	80	70
1 – 10 years	$90 + 2 \times \text{age}$	$70 + 2 \times \text{age}$
> 10 years	120	90

# **Assessment of Circulatory Failure: Blood Pressure**

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**Blood pressure is maintained by increases in SVR  
at the expense of perfusion of:**

- **Skin**
- **Kidneys/gut**

**When compensatory mechanisms fail, BP falls.  
Prior to cardiac arrest so dose perfusion of:**

- **Brain & heart**

# Assessment of Circulatory Failure: Skin Perfusion

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## Capillary refill

- Gently squeeze a finger (or toe) pulp until it blanches
- Release and observe the return of capillary blood
- > 2 seconds is abnormal

# Assessment of Circulatory Failure: Skin Perfusion

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- **Look** – for colour (mottling, pallor, peripheral cyanosis or rashes)
- **Feel** - for peripheral pulses, temperature and the line of demarcation between warm and cold

# **Assessment of Circulatory Failure: Renal Perfusion**

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**Urine output is an index of organ  
perfusion**

- **Nappy weights**
- **Urinary catheter?**

# **Assessment of Circulatory Failure: Pre-load**

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- **Jugular venous pulsation**
- **Enlargement of liver**
- **Moist sounds in lungs**
- **CXR**

# Compensated or Decompensated?

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## Signs of decompensation

- Increasing pulse rate
- **Sudden fall in pulse rate**
- **Hypotension**
- Oliguria
- Reduced interaction with carers
- **Decreasing level of consciousness**



# Types of Circulatory Failure

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	HR	BP	SVR	Pre-load
Hypovolaemic	↑	→	↑	↓
Distributive	↑	↓	↓	↓
Cardiogenic	↑	↓	↑ →	↑ →

# Cardiorespiratory Failure

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- There is always some respiratory compensation for circulatory failure and vice versa
- In severe illness it is not possible to determine which came first
- If untreated, this phase presages imminent cardio-respiratory arrest

# **Management, based on initial assessment**

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- **Stable and safe**
- **Compensated respiratory failure**
- **Decompensated respiratory failure**
- **Compensated circulatory failure**
- **Decompensated circulatory failure**
- **Cardio-respiratory failure**

# Compensated Respiratory Failure

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- Assess airway
- O<sub>2</sub> therapy (unthreatening)
- Monitoring (pulse oximetry, pulse and respiratory rate)
- IV access with topical anaesthesia
- Reassess

# Decompensated Respiratory Failure

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- **Maintain clear airway**
- **100% O<sub>2</sub>**
- **Support ventilation with bag/mask system**
- **Consider tracheal intubation and mechanical ventilation**

# Compensated Circulatory Failure

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- Assess airway
- O<sub>2</sub> therapy (unthreatening)
- Monitoring (pulse oximetry, pulse and respiratory rate, blood pressure)
- IV access
- Fluid bolus
- Reassess

# Decompensated Circulatory Failure

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- **Airway control**
- **100% O<sub>2</sub>**
- **Support ventilation if required**
- **Urgent IV/IO access, fluid bolus**
- **Reassess and repeat as required**
- **Consider inotropes**

# Cardiorespiratory Failure

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- **Airway control**
- **100% O<sub>2</sub>**
- **Support ventilation, initially with bag/mask system**
- **Reassess (monitoring)**
- **Urgent IV/IO access; fluid boluses if required**
- **Reassess**
- **Consider inotropes**



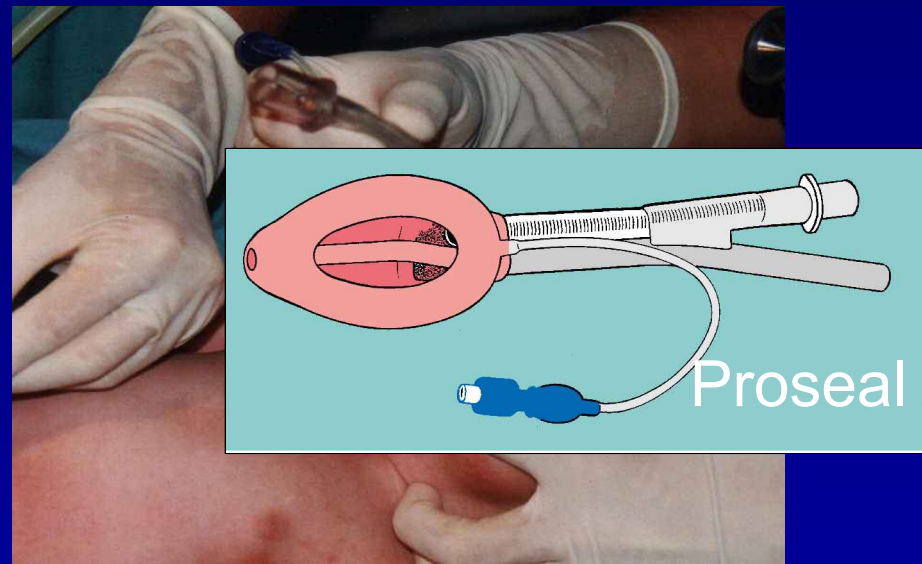
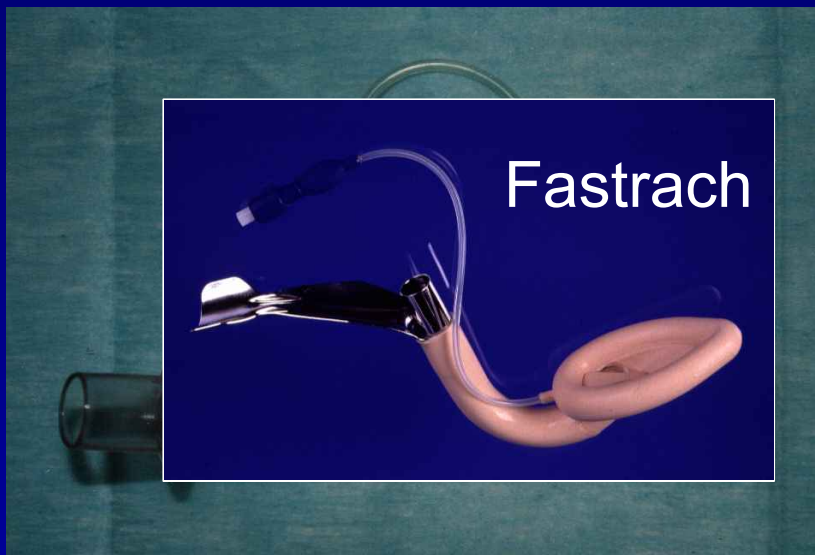
# PALS procedures: what is new in 2005 Guidelines

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- **Airway**  
LMA, cuffed tube
- **Breathing**  
Hyperventilation, ET CO<sub>2</sub>
- **Circulation**  
Tracheal access  
Adrenaline, glucose, lidocaine, vasopressin
- **Defibrillation**  
Doses, biphasic, algorithm

# Airway: LMA

- Not a first choice in resuscitation
- Acceptable for experienced providers in children



# Airway: tracheal tube

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- Tape measurement is more accurate than formulae

$$\text{diameter ETT} = \frac{\text{age (yr)}}{4} + 4$$

$$\text{Depth (cm)} = \text{diameter ETT (mm)} \times 3$$

- Prehospital uncuffed TT (up to 5.5)
- In- hospital: cuffed TT acceptable  
Leak, ARDS, non-compliant lungs
- Monitoring of cuff pressure (20 cm H<sub>2</sub>O)

# Breathing: ventilation during and after CPR

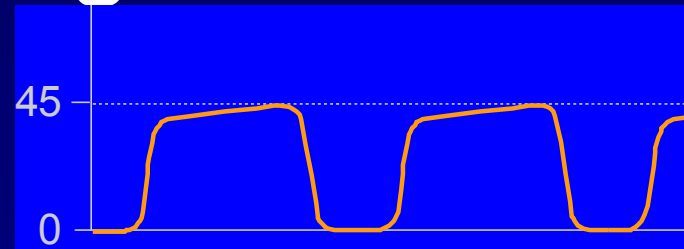
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- Hyperventilation :
  - ↗ intrathoracic pressure
  - ↘ cerebral & coronary perfusion
- **Ideal tidal volume = modest chest wall rise**

Avoid hyperventilation  
Maintain normal PaCO<sub>2</sub> : 35-45 mm Hg

# Breathing : monitoring of EtCO<sub>2</sub>

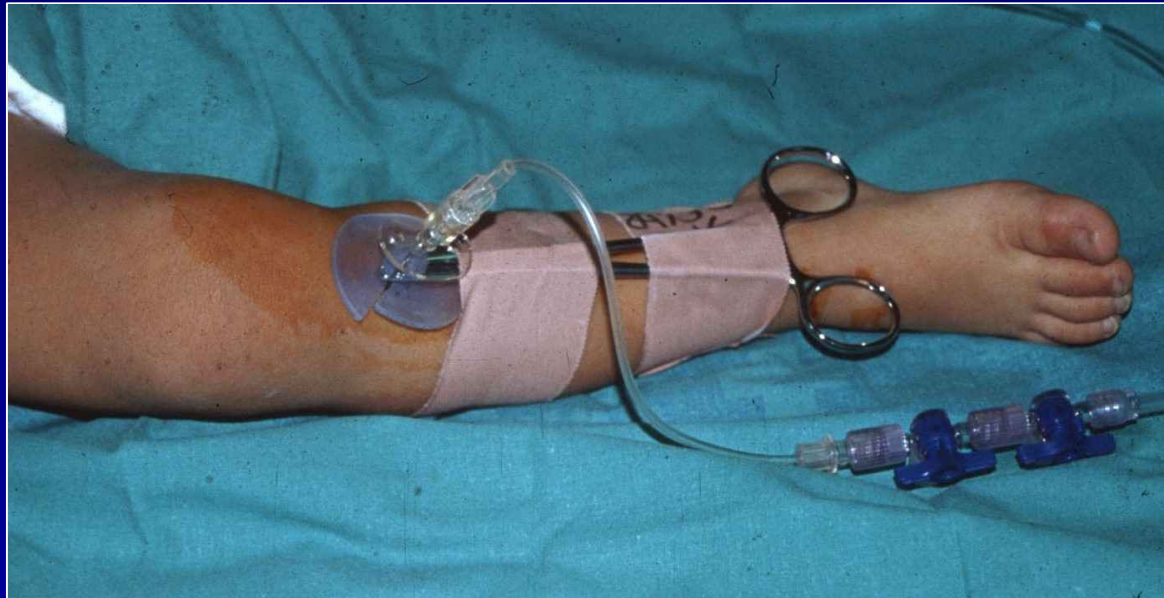
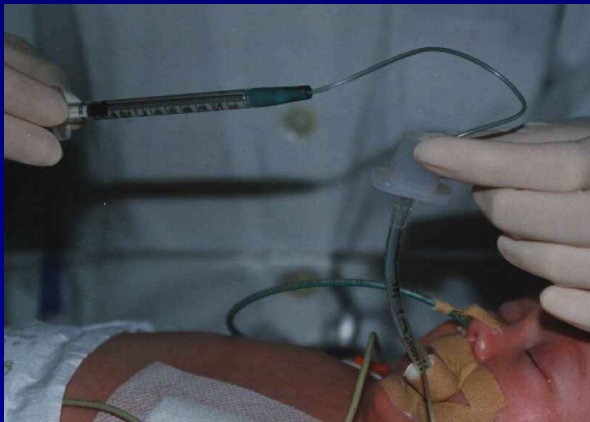
- ✓ In pre- & in-hospital setting
- ✓ In any intubated child  $> 2$  kg
- ✓ In any transportation
- ✓ Low or absent EtCO<sub>2</sub>
  - Oesophageal intubation
  - Absence or low pulmonary BF (shock states or CA)



# Circulation : vascular access

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- ✓ IV & IO always better than ET
- ✓ Give adrenaline only once by ET access



# Circulation : adrenaline

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## ✓ Infant and child

- IV-IO : 0.01 mg/kg for every dose
- ET : 0.1 mg/kg

## ✓ Newborn

- IV-IO : 0.01-0.03 mg/kg
- ET : try to avoid – if required 0.1 mg/kg

# Circulation : medications

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- ✓ **No glucose containing solutions during CPR**
- ✓ **Avoid hyper-, hypoglycaemia after ROSC**
- ✓ **Lidocaine not first line treatment for VF/pulseless VT**
- ✓ **Vasopressin : insufficient data**
  - **Rescue therapy ? International protocol?**



# Circulation: defibrillation

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- ✓ **Optimal paddle force**
  - 3 kg for child  $< 10$  kg
  - 5 kg for child  $> 10$  kg
- ✓ **Biphasic waves (versus monophasic)**
  - As effective
  - Less myocardial dysfunction



# Circulation: defibrillation doses

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- ✓ **No stacked doses**
- ✓ **Dose : 4 J/kg for every single shock**
  - Monophasic or biphasic
- ✓ **No escalation**
- ✓ **Animal model**
  - better results with 3-4 J/kg than with lower or adult doses
  - No myocardial damage with dose  $\geq 9$  J/kg

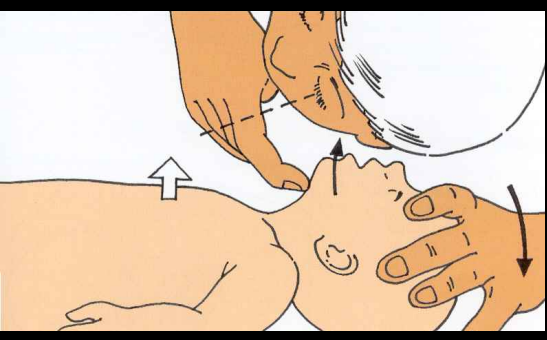
# Circulation: defibrillation

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- Place gel/ pads on chest
- Select energy : 4 J/kg
- Stop chest compressions and remove high flow oxygen
- Charge the defibrillator with paddles on chest
- “STAND CLEAR”
- Check that nobody is in contact with the patient / bed
- Check monitor for VF/VT and deliver shock
- Replace paddles on the defibrillator
- Return to CPR immediately

# PALS algorithm

Unresponsive ?

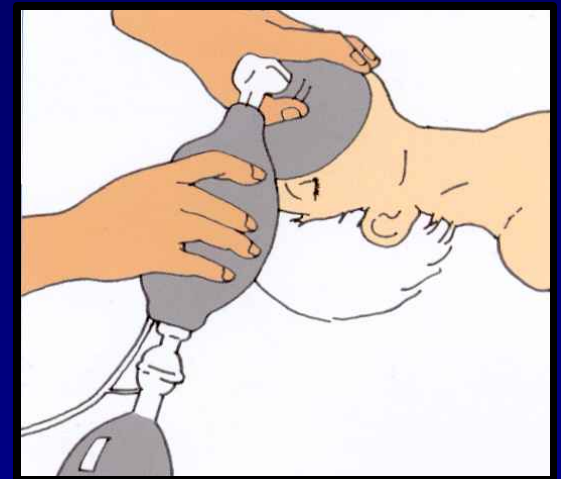


**Open Airway**  
Look, Listen, Feel for  
breathing

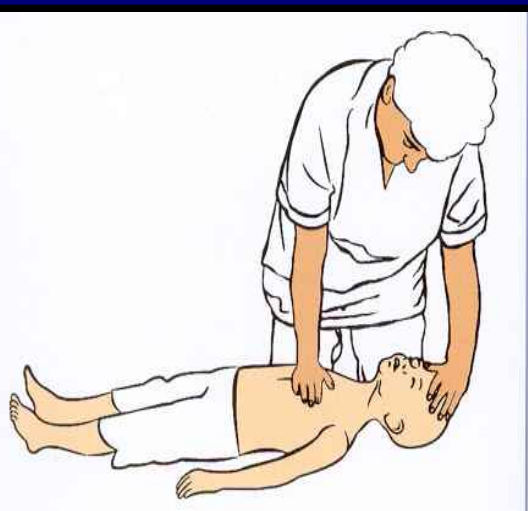
**Call  
Resuscitation  
team**

**Give 5 rescue  
breaths**

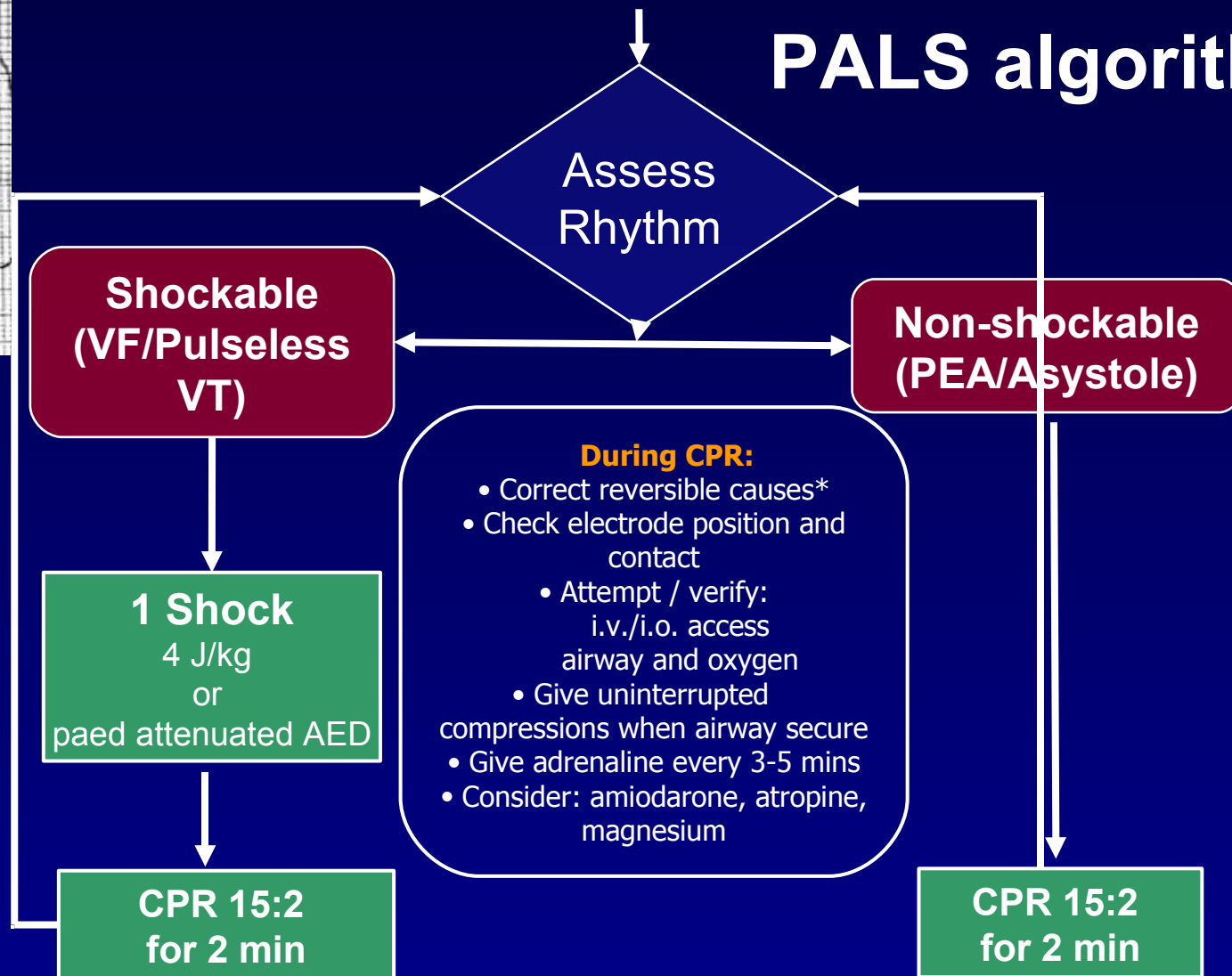
**Look for signs  
of life**



**CPR 15:2  
until defibrillator/monitor  
attached**



# PALS algorithm



## \* Reversible Causes

Hypoxia  
Hypovolaemia  
Hypo/hyperkalaemia/Metabolic  
Hypothermia

Tension Pneumothorax  
Tamponade, cardiac  
Toxins  
Thrombosis (coronary or pulmonary)

# Circulation: minimise CPR interruption

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**Palpate briefly a pulse **only** if :**

- **modification of the arrest rhythm**
- **non-shockable / organised rhythm**
- **In VF/VT only after 2 min CPR (except if signs of life)**
- **In doubt resume CPR**

# Temperature management

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## For child comatose after ROSC :

- ✓ Aggressively control hyperthermia
- ✓ Do not rewarm if hypothermic (if  $>32^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- ✓ Cooling down to  $32\text{-}34^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 12-24 hours
- ✓ Avoid shivering (analgesia, NM blockade)
- ✓ After 12-24 hours, rewarm by  $0.25\text{-}0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  per hour
- ✓ Check for infection, CV instability, coagulopathy, hyperglycaemia, electrolytes abnormalities

# P-Trauma Life Support

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- 1) Primary survey and initial CPR  
(A, B, C, D, E)
- 2) Secondary Survey and stabilization
- 3) Pediatric Trauma Index
- 4) Destination and transport
- 5) Definitive Treatment





# Classes

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- **Head Trauma**
- **Chest Trauma**
- **Abdominal Trauma**
- **MusculoSkelatal and Spine Trauma**
- **Burns**
- **Triage and Transport**
- **Analgesia and Sedation**

# Pediatric Trauma Score

+ 2

+ 1

- 1

**Consciousness**

awake

Obtunded

Coma

**Airway**

Normal

maintainable

Un-maintainable

**BP (pulses)**

CP+ / PP+

CP+ / PP-

CP- / PP-

(mmHg-children>8yr)

>90

50–90

< 50

**Open wounds  
penetrating**

No

Minor

Major or

**Fractures**

No

Single and closed

Multiple or open

**Weight (Kg)**

> 20

10 – 20

< 10



# Conclusion

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- **Prevention of cardiac arrest is the best way of reducing mortality and morbidity**
- **ABC**
- **Assess, change, reassess**

# Conclusion

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- ✓ **Avoid hyperventilation during CPR**
- ✓ **Prefer IV/IO to TT access**
- ✓ **New VF/VT algorithms :**
  - **Single shock**
  - **Minimise CPR interruption**
  - **No pulse palpation except if rhythm change**
  - **Adrenaline before 3rd shock, then every two loops**
  - **Amiodarone before 4th shock**