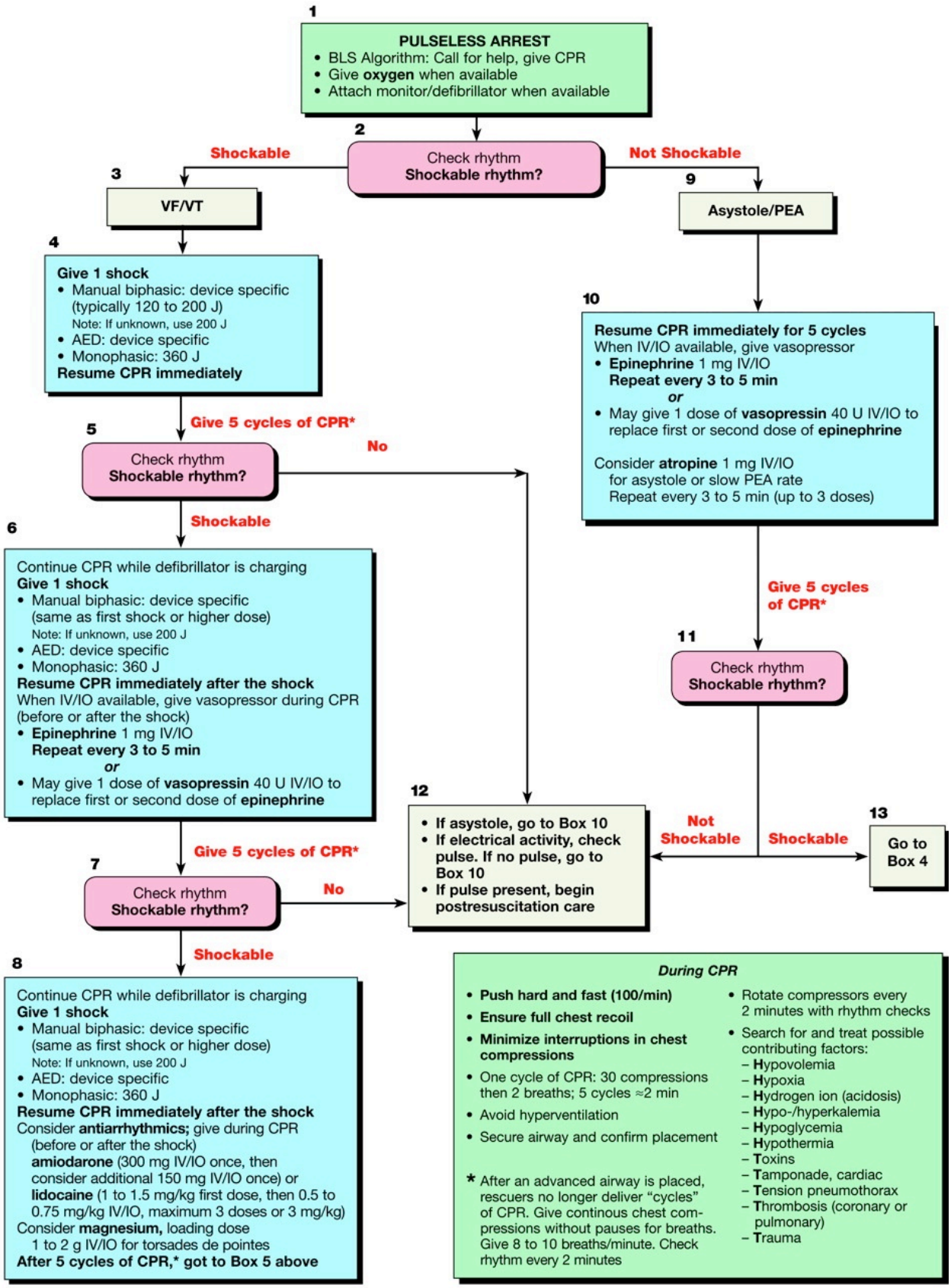
1
PULSELESS ARREST
• BLS Algorithm: Call for help, give CPR
• Give oxygen when available
• Attach monitor/defibrillator when available
2
Check rhythm
Shockable rhythm?
Shockable
Not Shockable
3
VF/VT
9
Asystole/PEA
4
Give 1 shock
• Manual biphasic: device specific (typically 120 to 200 J)
Note: If unknown, use 200 J
• AED: device specific
• Monophasic: 360 J
Resume CPR immediately
10
Resume CPR immediately for 5 cycles
When IV/IO available, give vasopressor
• Epinephrine 1 mg IV/IO
Repeat every 3 to 5 min
or
• May give 1 dose of vasopressin 40 U IV/IO to replace first or second dose of epinephrine
Consider atropine 1 mg IV/IO for asystole or slow PEA rate
Repeat every 3 to 5 min (up to 3 doses)
Give 5 cycles of CPR*
5
Check rhythm
Shockable rhythm?
No
Shockable
6
Continue CPR while defibrillator is charging
Give 1 shock
• Manual biphasic: device specific (same as first shock or higher dose)
Note: If unknown, use 200 J
• AED: device specific
• Monophasic: 360 J
Resume CPR immediately after the shock
When IV/IO available, give vasopressor during CPR (before or after the shock)
• Epinephrine 1 mg IV/IO
Repeat every 3 to 5 min
or
• May give 1 dose of vasopressin 40 U IV/IO to replace first or second dose of epinephrine
Give 5 cycles of CPR*
11
Check rhythm
Shockable rhythm?
12
• If asystole, go to Box 10
• If electrical activity, check pulse. If no pulse, go to Box 10
• If pulse present, begin postresuscitation care
Not Shockable
Shockable
13
Go to Box 4
7
Check rhythm
Shockable rhythm?
No
Shockable
8
Continue CPR while defibrillator is charging
Give 1 shock
• Manual biphasic: device specific (same as first shock or higher dose)
Note: If unknown, use 200 J
• AED: device specific
• Monophasic: 360 J
Resume CPR immediately after the shock
Consider antiarrhythmics; give during CPR (before or after the shock)
amiodarone (300 mg IV/IO once, then consider additional 150 mg IV/IO once) or
lidocaine (1 to 1.5 mg/kg first dose, then 0.5 to 0.75 mg/kg IV/IO, maximum 3 doses or 3 mg/kg)
Consider magnesium, loading dose 1 to 2 g IV/IO for torsades de pointes
After 5 cycles of CPR,* got to Box 5 above
During CPR
• Push hard and fast (100/min)
• Ensure full chest recoil
• Minimize interruptions in chest compressions
• One cycle of CPR: 30 compressions then 2 breaths; 5 cycles ≈2 min
• Avoid hyperventilation
• Secure airway and confirm placement
* After an advanced airway is placed, rescuers no longer deliver "cycles" of CPR. Give continous chest compressions without pauses for breaths. Give 8 to 10 breaths/minute. Check rhythm every 2 minutes
• Rotate compressors every 2 minutes with rhythm checks
• Search for and treat possible contributing factors:
– Hypovolemia
– Hypoxia
– Hydrogen ion (acidosis)
– Hypo-/hyperkalemia
– Hypoglycemia
– Hypothermia
– Toxins
– Tamponade, cardiac
– Tension pneumothorax
– Thrombosis (coronary or pulmonary)
– Trauma