

ILLINOIS REGION 3 PROTOCOLS

DEFIBRILLATION (ALS)

- I. Indications:
- A. V-Fib
 - B. V-Tach (pulseless)
- II. Contraindications:
- A. Conscious patients
- III. Precautions:
- A. All rescuers/bystanders must be ordered clear of patient and stretcher prior to delivery of shock
 - B. A conductive medium must be used (gel or pads)
 - C. Monitor/defibrillator must be taken to the patient immediately under the following conditions
 1. unknown problem
 2. man/woman down
 3. chest pain
 4. possible D.O.A.
 - D. Assure no flammable gasses in area
 - E. Assure no bridge of conduction medium
 - F. Assure patient being defibrillated is actually pulseless
- IV. Complications:
- A. Spark jumping to another rescuer causing a minor burn or V-Fib
 - B. Damage to myocardial muscle mass
 - C. Skin bridging causing chest wall arc
 - D. Poor skin contact causing a burn
 - E. Tetanic contraction causing loss of IV or other attached equipment
 - F. Explosion in presence of flammable gas

- V. Procedure (CPR in Progress):
- A. Turn on monitor defibrillator
 - B. Place conductive medium on paddles or utilize electrode pads (Fast Patch, Quick Combo)
 - C. Stop CPR
 - D. Determine rhythm
 - E. Recognize V-Fib or pulseless V-tach
 - F. Charge defibrillator to appropriate joule setting
 - *Biphasic 200 joule*
 - *Monophasic 300 joule*
 - G. Place paddles on chest if not using electrode pads
 - H. Recheck rhythm
 - I. Order "stand clear", check to ensure all clear
 - J. Defibrillate
 - K. Continue CPR for 2 minutes
 - L. Check rhythm
 - M. Check pulse

Blessing Hospital, EMS Medical Director

Passavant Hospital, EMS Medical Director

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