

Clinical Indications:

- Cardiac arrest with ventricular fibrillation or pulseless ventricular tachycardia

Procedure:

1. **Ensure that Chest Compressions are adequate and interrupted only when absolutely necessary.**
2. Clinically confirm the diagnosis of cardiac arrest and identify the need for defibrillation.
3. Apply defibrillation hands free pads (recommended to allow more continuous CPR) in the proper position per manufacturers guidelines
4. Set the appropriate energy level
5. Charge the defibrillator to the selected energy level. Continue chest compressions while the defibrillator is charging.
6. Hold Compressions, assertively state, "CLEAR" and visualize that no one, including yourself, is in contact with the patient.
7. Deliver the countershock by depressing the **shock button** for hands free operation.
8. Immediately resume chest compressions and ventilations for 2 minutes. **DO NOT analyze the rhythm.** After 2 minutes of CPR, analyze rhythm and check for pulse only if appropriate for rhythm.
10. Repeat the procedure every two minutes as indicated by patient response and ECG rhythm.
11. Keep interruption of CPR compressions as brief as possible. Adequate CPR is a key to successful resuscitation.

Certification Requirements:

Maintain knowledge of the indications, contraindications, technique, and possible complications of the procedure. Assessment of this knowledge may be accomplished via quality assurance mechanisms, classroom demonstrations, skills stations, or other mechanisms as deemed appropriate by the Survival Flight Medical Director. Assessment should include direct observation at least once annually.