Pediatric Basic Life Support Algorithm for Healthcare Provider—Single Rescuer for Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19

Verify scene safety.

- Check for responsiveness.
- Shout for nearby help.
- Activate the emergency response system via mobile device (if appropriate).

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

- Normal breathing, pulse felt
  - Monitor until emergency responders arrive.

- No breathing, pulse felt
  - Provide rescue breathing,* 1 breath every 2-3 seconds, or about 20-30 breaths/min using HEPA filter with bag-mask ventilation.
  - Assess pulse rate for no more than 10 seconds.

Witnessed sudden collapse?

- Yes
  - Activate emergency response system (if not already done), and retrieve AED/defibrillator.
- No
  - Start CPR
    - 1 rescuer: Perform cycles of 30 compressions and 2 breaths.*
    - When second rescuer arrives, perform cycles of 15 compressions and 2 breaths.
    - 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).

Check rhythm. Shockable rhythm?

- Yes, shockable
  - Give 1 shock.* Resume CPR immediately for 2 minutes (until prompted by AED to allow rhythm check).
  - Continue until ALS providers take over or the child starts to move.

- No, nonshockable
  - Resume CPR immediately for 2 minutes (until prompted by AED to allow rhythm check).
  - Continue until ALS providers take over or the child starts to move.

Abbreviations: AED, automated external defibrillator; ALS, advanced life support; CPR, cardiopulmonary resuscitation; HEPA, high-efficiency particulate air; HR, heart rate; PPE, personal protective equipment.

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