Adult Basic Life Support Algorithm for Healthcare Providers for Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19

Verify scene safety.

- Check for responsiveness.
- Shout for nearby help.
- Activate emergency response system via mobile device (if appropriate).
- Get AED and emergency equipment (or send someone to do so).

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 or only gasping, pulse not felt
  - No normal breathing, pulse felt
    - Provide rescue breathing.* 1 breath every 6 seconds or 10 breaths/min using HEPA filter with bag-mask ventilation.
    - Check pulse every 2 minutes; if no pulse, start CPR.
    - If possible opioid overdose, administer naloxone if available per protocol.

Start CPR

- Perform cycles of 30 compressions and 2 breaths.*
- Use AED as soon as it is available.

AED arrives.

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 victim 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 victim starts to move.

By this time in all scenarios, emergency response system or backup is activated, and AED and emergency equipment are retrieved or someone is retrieving them.

Icon Legend

- PPE appropriate for AGP: respirator (e.g., N95), along with gown, gloves, and eye protection
- HEPA, high-efficiency particulate air; PPE, personal protective equipment.

Abbreviations: AED, automated external defibrillator; CPR, cardiopulmonary resuscitation; HEPA, high-efficiency particulate air; PPE, personal protective equipment.

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