

	COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY	Document #	9014.25
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	Pediatric	Last Approved Date:	12/11/25
	Cardiac Dysrhythmias	Effective Date:	05/01/26
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Signature on File

EMS Medical Director

Signature on File

EMS Administrator

Purpose:

- A. To establish the treatment standard in treating pediatric patients with symptomatic bradycardias.
- B. To serve as the treatment standard for treating pediatric patients with tachyarrhythmia's with pulses.

Authority:

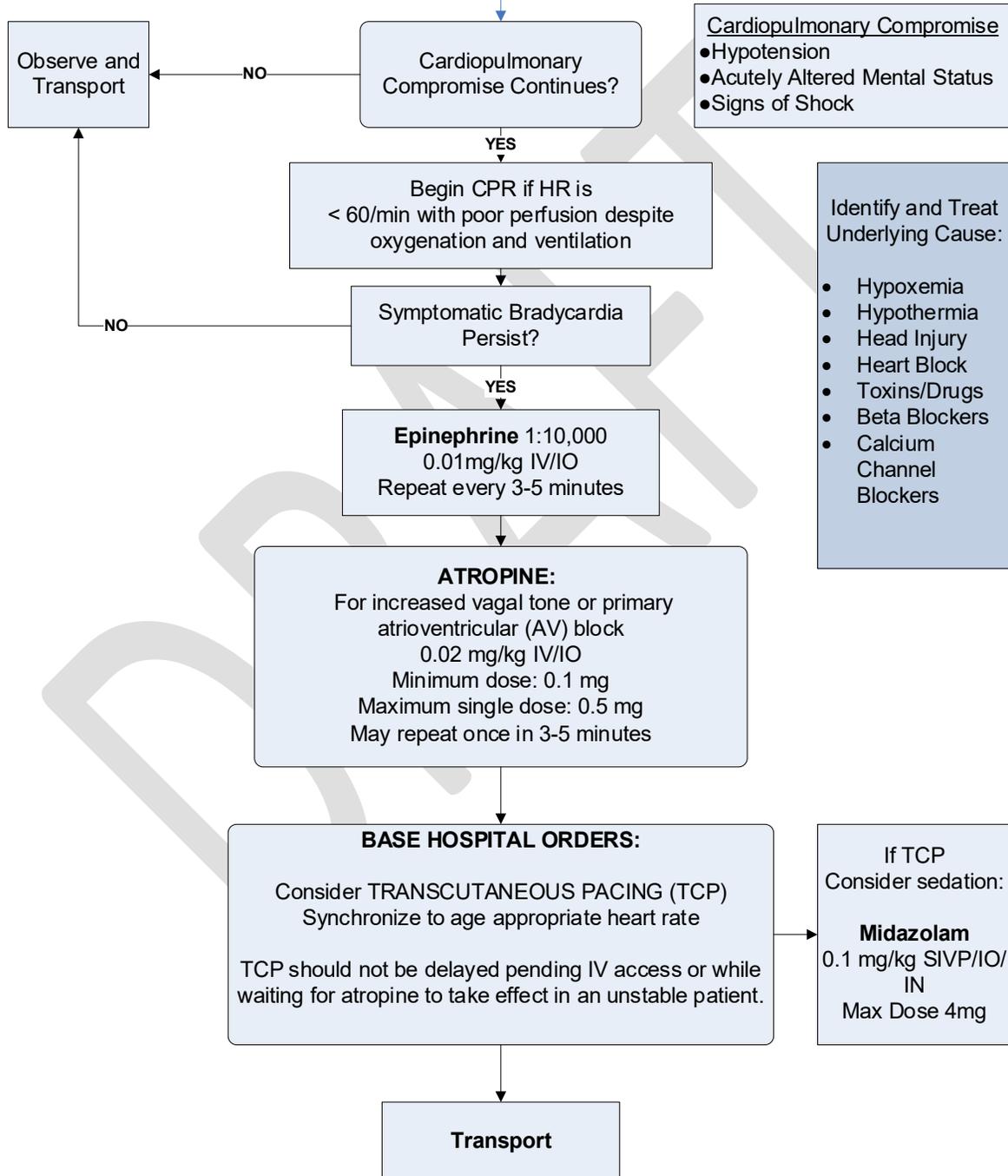
- A. California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5
- B. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9

Protocol:

- A. Most pediatric bradycardias can be corrected by hyperventilation with 100% oxygen.
- B. When Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) is indicated, high quality CPR improves survival: "Push hard, push fast", minimize interruptions; allow full chest recoil, and don't hyperventilate".
- C. In the prehospital setting with short transport times, Bag Valve Mask (BVM) ventilation is the method of choice for children who required ventilatory support.
- D. Symptomatic Brady and Tachy-Dysrhythmias frequently have an underlying cause which should be recognized and treated in addition to any treatment directed at the dysrhythmia itself. It is critically important to determine the cause of the patient's instability in order to properly direct treatment. Search for and treat possible contributing factors (i.e. Hypothermia, Hyperkalemia, Hypovolemia, Hypoxia, Hypoglycemia, Tamponade, Thrombosis, Tension Pneumothorax, Toxins, Trauma, etc.).
- E. Avoiding hypothermia is imperative to the management of the critical pediatric patient. Passive warming measures including warm ambient/environmental temperature, use of blanket, covering head may be used to maintain normal body temperature >37°C or 98.6°F.

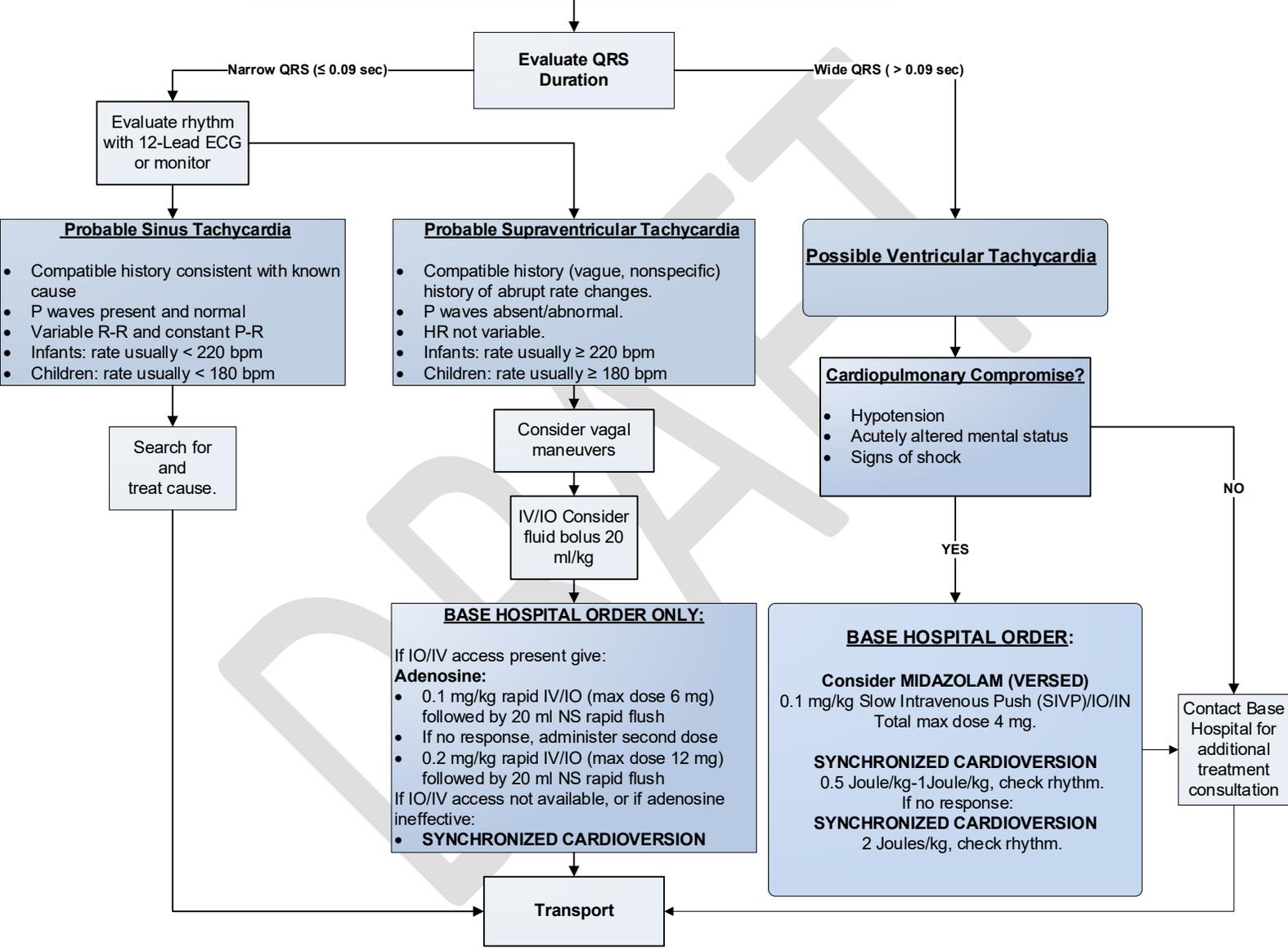
PEDIATRIC BRADYCARDIA

- Maintain patent airway: Assist breathing as necessary.
- Supplemental O₂ as needed to maintain SpO₂ ≥ 94%. Use lowest concentration and flow rate of O₂ as possible.
- Cardiac monitor, monitor B/P and SpO₂ oximetry.
- 12-Lead if available. Do not delay therapy.
- IV/IO access



Pediatric Tachycardia with a Pulse and Poor Perfusion

- Identify and treat underlying causes
- Maintain patent airway: Assist breathing as necessary
- Supplemental O2 as needed to maintain SpO2 ≥ 94%. Use lowest concentration and flow rate of O2 as possible.
- Cardiac monitor to identify rhythm; monitor blood pressure.
- 12-Lead ECG if available; don't delay therapy.
- IV/IO Access.



Cross Reference: PD# 8837 - Pediatric Airway Management