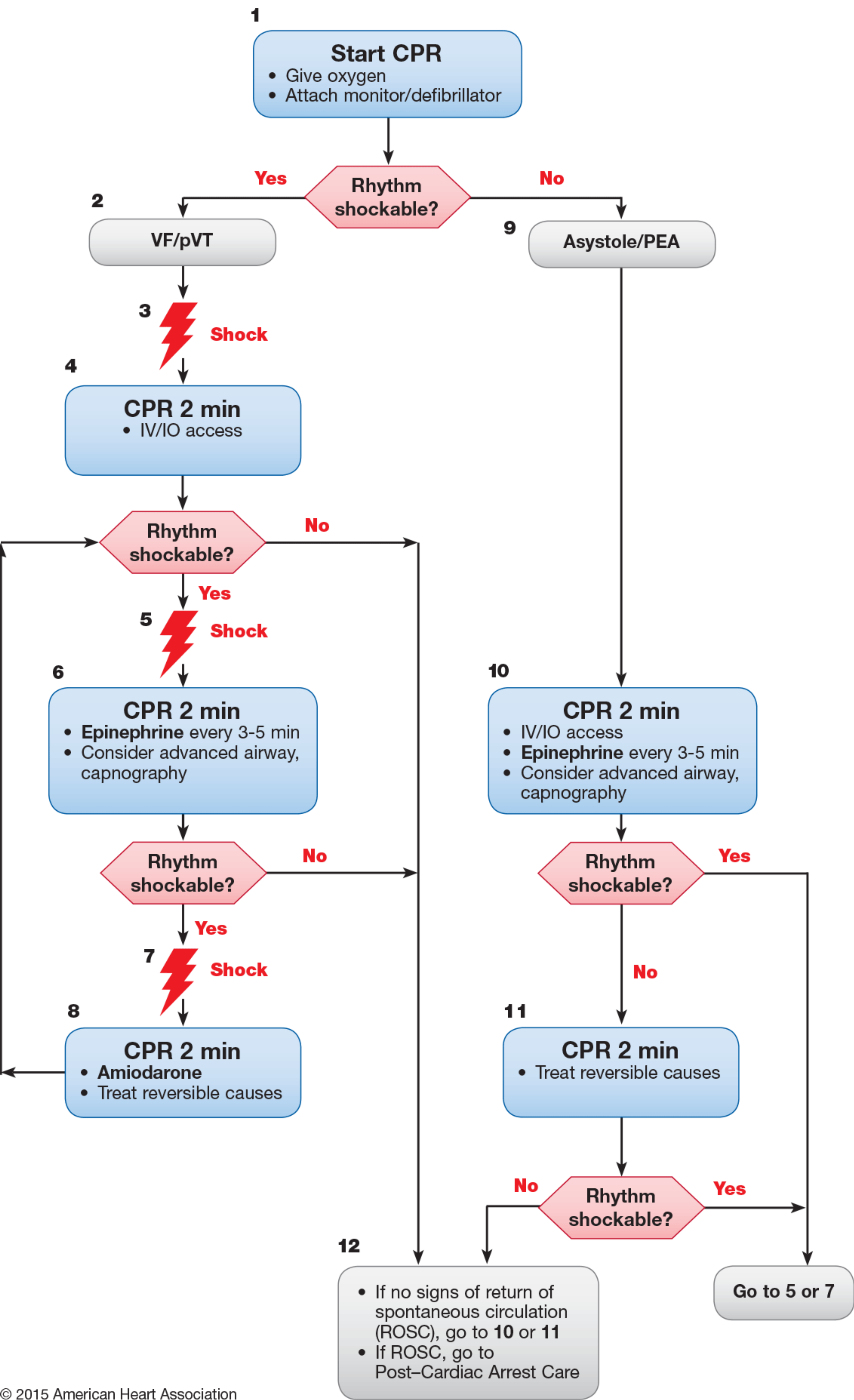


Adult Cardiac Arrest Algorithm—2015 Update



CPR Quality
• Push hard (at least 2 inches [5 cm]) and fast (100-120/min) and allow complete chest recoil. • Minimize interruptions in compressions. • Avoid excessive ventilation. • Rotate compressor every 2 minutes, or sooner if fatigued. • If no advanced airway, 30:2 compression-ventilation ratio. • Quantitative waveform capnography – If PETCO₂ <10 mm Hg, attempt to improve CPR quality. • Intra-arterial pressure – If relaxation phase (diastolic) pressure <20 mm Hg, attempt to improve CPR quality.
Shock Energy for Defibrillation
• Biphasic: Manufacturer recommendation (eg, initial dose of 120-200 J); if unknown, use maximum available. Second and subsequent doses should be equivalent, and higher doses may be considered. • Monophasic: 360 J
Drug Therapy
• Epinephrine IV/IO dose: 1 mg every 3-5 minutes • Amiodarone IV/IO dose: First dose: 300 mg bolus. Second dose: 150 mg.
Advanced Airway
• Endotracheal intubation or supraglottic advanced airway • Waveform capnography or capnometry to confirm and monitor ET tube placement • Once advanced airway in place, give 1 breath every 6 seconds (10 breaths/min) with continuous chest compressions
Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC)
• Pulse and blood pressure • Abrupt sustained increase in PETCO₂ (typically ≥40 mm Hg) • Spontaneous arterial pressure waves with intra-arterial monitoring
Reversible Causes
• Hypovolemia • Hypoxia • Hydrogen ion (acidosis) • Hypo-/hyperkalemia • Hypothermia • Tension pneumothorax • Tamponade, cardiac • Toxins • Thrombosis, pulmonary • Thrombosis, coronary