

Today's Great Debate:
Should you Chest Compress Me
of Keep it Hands Free?

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What does the Literature Say?

“Revisiting Traumatic Cardiac Arrest: Should CPR be Initiated?”

Conclusions:

- Survival after CPR among trauma patients continues to have dismal outcomes.
- ACLS advanced cardiac life support should be initiated regardless of the initial EKG rhythm.
- **Rapid response time and transport to the ED are of the utmost importance to survival.**

What does the Literature Say?

“Traumatic Arrest: The Unresolved Role of CPR”

Conclusions:

- Traumatic arrest rarely results in survival.
- **Rapidly reversible causes rather than CPR can result in successful ROSC.**
- ROSC may be achieved in trauma arrest beyond **20 minutes** of resuscitation.
- 24-hr survivorship beyond age 69 and survival to discharge beyond age 60 was not observed, suggesting resuscitation from TCA in ages > 60 is futile.

What does the Literature Say?

“An Evidence-Based Review of Prehospital Traumatic Cardiac Arrest”

Conclusions:

- Traumatic arrests involve **hemorrhagic shock**
- **Emphasis should be placed on procedural interventions and resuscitation VS. external cardiac compressions.**
- Additionally, external cardiac compressions on a patient with cardiac tamponade **may worsen** the cardiac output by increasing the intrapericardial pressure.

What does the Literature Say?

“Closed Chest Compressions Reduce Survival in an Animal Model of Hemorrhage-induced Traumatic Cardiac Arrest”

Conclusions:

- CCC were associated with **increased mortality and compromised hemodynamics** compared to intravenous fluid resuscitation.
- **Whole blood resuscitation was better than saline.**

If Any Signs Of Life, Initiate
Rapid Transport



Obvious Death?



**THE
BIG GREEN
AREA**

Trauma Arrest =

No pulse + Not Breathing



- No Obvious Signs of Death
- PEA = some cardiac activity on monitor

So What
Do We Do?

just 3
things!

1. Open Airway/Adjuncts/BVM
2. Bilateral Chest Decompression
3. Reassess for pulse
 - Blunt trauma = stop
 - Penetrating trauma + PEA >40 + w/in 10 min of UNM = Transport

What If They Lose Pulses En Route?

- Massive Hemorrhage
 - Stop the bleeding/tourniquet/pelvic binder
- Hypoxia
 - Open the Airway, give O2
- Tension Pneumothorax
 - Decompress the chest
- Permissive Hypotension
 - Give IV fluids??
- Hypothermia
 - Get them warm



Trauma Arrest is a LEAKY PIPE problem,
not a pump problem





- Basically unsurvivable at this point
 - Attempted to reverse everything we can
- Crew safety
 - Code 3 return poses danger to crew/community
- Trauma and hospital resources

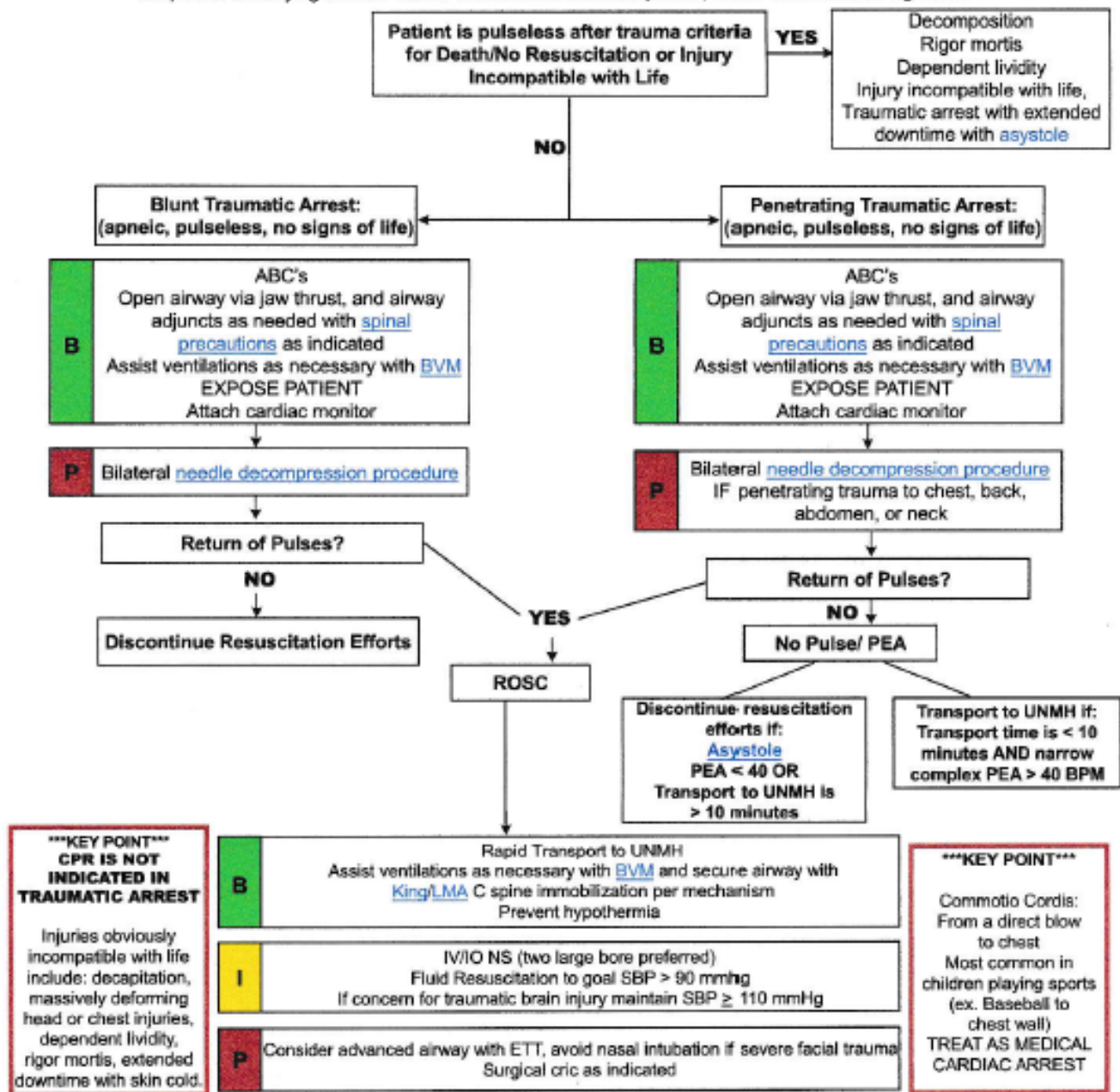
Exceptions

1. Possible Medical Etiology
2. Scene dynamics and bystander concerns



Traumatic Arrest

Designation of Condition: A pulseless and apneic patient following a traumatic event without suspected underlying medical cause. If medical cause is suspected, follow cardiac arrest algorithm.



SHOCK AND AWE



New Orleans 2022 Trauma Blood Data

| ED Dispo/Outcomes (All Administrations) | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------|----|
| | 118 | % of Total | N |
| Survive to Hospital Admission | Expired | 31.4% | 37 |
| | Admit | 28.0% | 33 |
| | TO OR | 36.4% | 43 |
| | Discharge | 3.4% | 4 |
| | Transfer | 0.8% | 1 |
| All PHBA Administrations | | 69.2% | 81 |
| ED Dispo/Outcomes (non-arrest patients) | | | |
| | 82 | % of Total | N |
| Survive to Hospital Admission | Expired | 3.7% | 3 |
| | Admit | 39.0% | 32 |
| | TO OR | 51.2% | 42 |
| | Discharge | 4.9% | 4 |
| | Transfer | 1.2% | 1 |
| Excluding Cardiac Arrests | | 96.3% | 79 |
| ED Dispo/Outcomes (Cardiac Arrest patients) | | | |
| | 36 | % of Total | N |
| Survive to Hospital Admission | Expired | 94.4% | 34 |
| | Admit | 2.8% | 1 |
| | TO OR | 2.8% | 1 |
| | Discharge | 0.0% | 0 |
| | Transfer | 0.0% | 0 |
| for Pre-hospital cardiac arrests | | 5.6% | 2 |
| Hospital Dispo/Outcomes | | | |
| | 77 | % of Total | N |
| Survive to Discharge | Home | 61.0% | 47 |
| | 2nd Inpt Facility | 23.4% | 18 |
| | Expired | 11.7% | 9 |
| | Hospice | 1.3% | 1 |
| | Hospitalized | 1.3% | 1 |
| | AMA | 1.3% | 1 |
| Following admission to hospital | | 88.3% | 68 |