



External Cardiac Pacing

CLINICAL INDICATIONS:

Monitored heart rate less than 60 per minute with signs and symptoms of inadequate cerebral or cardiac perfusion such as:

- Chest pain
- Hypotension
- Pulmonary edema
- Altered Mental Status, disorientation, confusion, etc.

PROCEDURE:

- Attach standard four-lead monitor
- Apply defibrillation/pacing pads (per manufacturer's recommendation)
- For larger patients (greater than 220lbs) consider anterior-posterior pad placement
- Place device in pacing mode
- Adjust heart rate to 60 BPM for an adult and for a child contact Medical Control
- Note pacer spikes on 12-Lead ECG screen
- Slowly increase output from 0 mA until capture of electrical rhythm on the monitor, then increase the mA by 10%
- If unable to capture while at maximum current output, stop pacing immediately
- If capture observed on monitor, use right arm to check for corresponding pulse and blood pressure
- Consider the use of sedation or analgesia for patient if time and condition permits
- Document the dysrhythmia and the response to external pacing with 12-Lead ECG strips in the PCR