
THE REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY PROTOCOLS

Ventricular Tachycardia with a Pulse / Wide Complex Tachycardia of Uncertain Type (Adult)

Paramedic

1. For patients with Unstable Ventricular Tachycardia with a pulse:
 - a. Perform synchronized cardioversion using 100 joules.
 - b. Repeat synchronized cardioversion as necessary using 200, 300, 360 joules.
2. Administer Amiodarone 150 mg, diluted in 100 ml D₅W over 10 minutes IV infusion.

● **Paramedic STOP**

Medical Control Options

If Amiodarone fails to convert the dysrhythmia:

1. Perform synchronized cardioversion using 100 joules.
2. Synchronized cardioversion may be repeated as necessary using 200, 300, 360 joules.
3. Administer Magnesium Sulfate 2 gm, IV bolus, diluted in 10 ml of Normal Saline (0.9% NS), over 2 minutes.
4. In cases of suspected hyperkalemia or Calcium Channel Blocker overdose, administer Calcium Chloride (CaCl₂) 1 gm, **slowly**, IV bolus. Follow with a crystalloid fluid flush.
5. For pre-existing acidosis, administer Sodium Bicarbonate 44-88 mEq IV bolus.
 - a. Repeat Sodium Bicarbonate 44 mEq, IV, every 10 minutes.

Key Points / Considerations

1. **Refer to considerations above in the Dysrhythmia (Adult) protocol.**
2. Calcium Chloride and Sodium Bicarbonate should be given in separate IV lines or separated by a flush of at least 20 ml of crystalloid fluid.