

# Hutt Anaesthetic Crisis Handbook

Treating known

## EMERGENCIES

### For every crisis:

- **Verbalise** the problem. Say out loud....  
‘This is a **CRISIS**’
- Call for **HELP** early
- **Set oxygen to 100%** (except where stated otherwise)
- Identify a ‘hands off’ **Team Coordinator**
- **Delegate duties** to **specific** team members
- Use **closed loop**, quiet & efficient **communication**
- Use the **indexed pages & coloured boxes** in this manual to **assist you**

[www.AnaestheticCrisisHandbook.com](http://www.AnaestheticCrisisHandbook.com)

(Created by Adam Hollingworth with help from many people along the way)

Adapted from various sources including:

- Guidelines: ANZAAG, AAGBI, NZRC, Starship Protocols
- vortexapproach.org. Dr Chrimes & Dr Fritz
- Hutt Valley & CCDHB: Clinical protocols
- ESA Emergency Quick Reference Guide
- CCDHB Crisis Checklists. Dr A McKenzie
- Emergencies in Anaesthesia. Oxford Handbook
- Wellington ICU Drug Manual. Dr A Psirides & Dr P Young
- Various published peer reviewed papers

Flip end over end for

**DIAGNOSING**  
Problems

Including:  
Adult & Paediatric  
Drug Formulary

# Instructions for Use

- Use the **index** and **coloured tabs** to find quick reference pages to assist in a crisis.
- The **handbook is in 2 parts**:
  - The front book: How to treat known **Emergencies**
  - The back book: How to **Diagnose** Problems
- **Routine/obvious tasks** (eg call for help, turn oxygen to 100%) are assumed & thus **not** repeated on every sheet for clarity
- For simplicity & to avoid calculation errors in an emergency, **drug doses** are given for a **70 kg adult**. Paeds doses are clearly marked with 🧒 (where appropriate).
- There is an adult & paediatric drug formulary at the back
- Cards are arranged into coloured boxes:
  - Emergency/Doing tasks
  - Thinking tasks, diagnostic or further information
  - Doses, equipment or calculation information
- Work through emergency/doing boxes in a linear fashion. Decision making steps are **highlighted** for clarity.

Using an aid such as this efficiently, in a crisis, is a **learned** skill. You must take time to become **familiar** with this manual and **practise** using it.

It is recommended that a '**reader**', with no other tasks, **read these cards out loud** to the team leader during the crisis.

# A

Airway

# B

Breathing

1e. AIRWAY MANAGEMENT - Vortex

2e. CICO RESCUE

3e. LARYNGOSPASM

4e. BRONCHOSPASM

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6e. ADULT CARDIAC ARREST - VF or VT

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10e. ANAPHYLAXIS

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14e. HAEMOLYTIC TRANSFUSION REACTION

# C

Circulation

15e. LOCAL ANAESTHETIC TOXICITY

16e. MALIGNANT HYPERTHERMIA

17e. HYPERKALAEMIA

18e. FIRE - Airway or Patient

# E

Everything  
else

19e. MATERNAL COLLAPSE

20e. NEONATAL LIFE SUPPORT

21e. TOTAL/HIGH SPINAL

22e. POST PARTUM HAEMORRHAGE

23e. PERI-PARTUM SEIZURE

24e. AMNIOTIC FLUID EMBOLISM

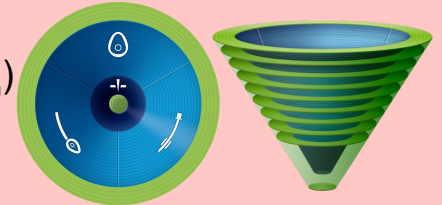
# O

Obstetrics

# 1e. AIRWAY MANAGEMENT - Vortex

Main priority = **Oxygenation in the green zone**

- ☐ Always prepare a **safe airway strategy** - e.g. AFOI, call ENT surgeon etc.
- ☐ **Pre-oxygenate** all patients
- ☐ Consider **passive apnoeic oxygenation** with nasal cannula during RSI
- ☐ Remove cricoid early
- ☐ Address all airways with the **Vortex Approach** (See Dr Chrimes vortexapproach.org)



## If failure of first airway plan:

- ☐ Get difficult intubation trolley and extra help
- ☐ The goal is to **restore oxygenation** & reach the **green zone** (= EtCO<sub>2</sub> & safe SpO<sub>2</sub>)  
(safe SpO<sub>2</sub> = SpO<sub>2</sub> where no harm will occur if that level persists for 15mins)
- ☐ Try the **lifelines** (BMV, SGA, ETT) in any order
- ☐ For each lifeline perform at least **1 attempt**, but **not more than 3**  
(You may have a 4th attempt if a **game changer** becomes available e.g. new equipment, expert help etc.)
- ☐ Suggested optimisations include:

	Bag/Mask	SGA	ETT
	Dentures in	Pull tongue forward	Dentures out
	2 hands Vice grip	Twist to insert	Laryngeal manipulation Remove cricoid
	Cuff inflation/deflation	Cuff inflation/deflation	Lift epiglottis
	OPA NPA	Insert with laryngoscope/bougie	Bougie/Stylet
	Change size	Change size	Change ETT size
		Change type	Change blade Use video scope
	Suction foreign material		
	Muscle paralysis		

(A **best effort** at any lifeline must include full **muscle paralysis**)

- ☐ If in the **Green Zone**: Develop a **strategy** for ongoing **safety** (some examples):
  - **Maintain** = Consider **waking patient**: **sugammadex 1.2g**, **naloxone 400mcg**
  - **Convert** = Place ETT using **fiberoptic scope** through SGA **or surgical** airway
  - **Replace** = Leave green zone and **re-enter vortex**
- ☐ With an **unsuccessful best effort** at any **lifeline**: Escalate the **CICO status**:
  - **Ready** = Get CICO kit, designate proceduralist
  - **Set** = Ready equipment & palpate landmarks
  - **Go** = If not in the Green Zone after 3 lifeline best efforts:  
Optimise patient position & start **CICO Rescue** tab 2e

- **sugammadex** = immediately post roc/vec = 1.2g or 6 x 200mg vials (🧑 16mg/kg)
- **naloxone** = 400mcg bolus (🧑 10mcg/kg)



## 2e. CICO Rescue

1e

2e

Main priority = **Oxygenation with stable SpO<sub>2</sub> >90%**

- ☐ **Dedicated team** continuing to attempt **oxygenation supraglottically**
- ☐ Pull patient up bed so head extends over pillow
- ☐ 3 options for **CICO Rescue** (decide & **share** with team **early** your intended **technique**):

### 1. Cannula Cricothyroidotomy -|- (palpable neck anatomy):

- ☐ **CICO Pack**: 14G cannula, 5ml syringe (with 2ml NSL), Rapid O<sub>2</sub> (insufflation device)
- ☐ Secure cricoid cartilage & **aspirate** as you **advance** the saline filled cannula
- ☐ Success = **free aspiration of air** - never let go of cannula
- ☐ Connect **Rapid O<sub>2</sub> device** to cannula & machine aux O<sub>2</sub> port (10L/min @ flowmeter):
  - **1st breath**: 6 secs (1000mls) - look for chest **rise & fall**
  - **Wait** 20 secs for **SpO<sub>2</sub> rise** or when SpO<sub>2</sub> starts to **drop** by 5% from **peak**
  - **2nd breath**: 3 secs (500mls) & **repeat only** after waiting as previous step
  - If **no ↑ SpO<sub>2</sub>** after **2nd breath** or **any doubt** then **abandon** technique
- ☐ Convert to Melker size 5 airway using Seldinger technique

### 2. Scalpel Bougie -|- (palpable neck anatomy):

- ☐ Prepare gauze/**swabs** & **suction** for blood
- ☐ Method (with 10 blade scalpel):
  - **Horizontal** stab incision through cricothyroid membrane
  - **Rotate scalpel** to vertical (blade caudad) and pass **bougie** alongside blade
  - Remove scalpel, railroad **size 6** ETT over bougie

### 3. Scalpel, Finger, Cannula/Scalpel -|- (non-palpable anatomy):

- ☐ Prepare gauze/**swabs** & **suction** - there may be a lot of blood
- ☐ Method:
  - Vertical **midline 8-10cm** incision through skin & subcutaneous tissue
  - Use both hands to **blunt dissect** down to airway & **secure** cartilage
  - Insert cannula or scalpel through cricothyroid **membrane** or **trachea**
  - Follow step 1 or 2 as above to oxygenate patient

- Choice of 1st method is operator's personal preference. Decide on your preferred method & practise it - mentally or in a simulation
- If 1st method is unsuccessful move to alternative method immediately
- If no palpable anatomy: scalpel finger method is recommended

# 3e. LARYNGOSPASM

Main Priority: **Break laryngospasm & maintain SpO<sub>2</sub>**

- ☐ Ask surgeon to stop
- ☐ Get **drugs** & **airway equipment**
- ☐ **Manual procedures:**
  - Remove LMA & clear the airway
  - Consider OP/NP airway
  - **Jaw thrust & CPAP 30cmH<sub>2</sub>O** - **do not** give +ve pressure breath
  - Apply bilateral, painful, inward pressure to **Larson's point** (immediately behind lobule of ear)
  - If 🧐: Consider gentle chest compressions (may be more effective than other manual procedures)
- ☐ If **SpO<sub>2</sub> stable & >92%** try low dose muscle relaxation:
 

(note paed/obese/actively unwell desaturate very quickly - consider going straight to intubation)

  - **Propofol** - 20% of induction dose
  - **Suxamethonium IV 35mg** (🧐 0.5mg/kg)
- ☐ If **SpO<sub>2</sub> dropping or <92%** give full dose muscle relaxation ASAP:
  - Adult: **Suxamethonium 100mg**
  - Paeds: **Suxamethonium IV: 2mg/kg; IM 4mg/kg**
- ☐ Consider **atropine 600mcg** (🧐 20mcg/kg) for bradycardia
- ☐ Consider stomach decompression after event

- Laryngospasm will break with sufficient time & hypoxia but may be preceded by **bradycardia, cardiac arrest, aspiration, pulmonary oedema**
- Hypoxia may occur rapidly in paed, obese +/- actively unwell patients
- **Pre-prepare** IV & IM doses of **suxamethonium** in such cases (🧐 **tab 9e**)

## Drug & Equipment dosing

- Paediatric (uncuffed) ET Tube: preterm = 2.5; <1yr = 3.5 - 4; >1yr = (age/4)+4 **tab 9e**
- **Propofol**: 20% induction dose
- **Suxamethonium**:
  - relaxation = 0.5mg/kg IV
  - intubation:
    - adult: induction dose or 100mg
    - paed: IV 2mg/kg; IM 4mg/kg

# 4e. BRONCHOSPASM

3e

4e

**Main Priority: SpO<sub>2</sub> >95% with Peak Airway Pressures <40cmH<sub>2</sub>O**

- ☐ Inform surgeon. Minimise surgical stimulation
- ☐ **Check:**
  - Airway position
  - EtCO<sub>2</sub> trace (severe bronchospasm can present with low or absent EtCO<sub>2</sub>)
  - Airway pressures
- ☐ **Manually ventilate** - confirm high pressures and ensure adequate tidal volume
- ☐ **Deepen anaesthesia.** If using **desflurane**, switch to alternative
- ☐ **Emergency Drug therapy:**
  - (from pharmacy) Inhaled **salbutamol 12 puffs** via circuit (😬 <6yr = 6puffs; >6yr = 12puffs)
  - (from pharmacy) Inhaled **ipratromium bromide 6 puffs** via circuit (😬 4 puffs)
  - **IV salbutamol - 100-250mcg** slow bolus (😬 below). Can repeat at 10mins
  - **IV adrenaline - 0.1 - 0.5ml of 1:10,000** (😬 0.01-0.05ml/kg 1:10,000)
- ☐ **Optimise ventilator** settings: pressure control mode, long expiratory phase, low respiratory rate, low PEEP, small tidal volumes, intermittent disconnection
- ☐ Other **bolus drug adjuncts:** **magnesium, ketamine, hydrocortisone aminophylline**
- ☐ **If no improvement** use **infusions** of **salbutamol, adrenaline, aminophylline**
- ☐ Place arterial line. Take serial ABG's

- Always **consider other causes** of high airway pressure other than primary bronchospasm **tab 25d**  
Most common include:
  - anaphylaxis
  - tube position
  - pneumothorax
  - laryngospasm (on LMA)
  - chest wall rigidity
  - acute pulmonary oedema
- **Permissive hypercapnia** may be required in order to ↓ airway pressures
- Assess response by ↓ airway pressures, ABG's, and improving EtCO<sub>2</sub> trace

- **Salbutamol IV** slow bolus 😬: 10mcg/kg over 2 min (single dose max 500mcg). Can repeat at 10min
- **Magnesium:** 5ml of 49.3% over 20mins (😬 0.1ml/kg of 49.3% (max 5ml) in 50ml saline over 20mins)
- **Ketamine:** [must be anaesthetised] 35-70mg IV. (😬 0.5-2mg/kg)
- **Hydrocortisone:** 200mg IV (😬 4mg/Kg)
- **Aminophylline:** bolus load: 400mg over 15mins. Infuse: 50mg in 50ml at 35ml/hr. (😬 Load: 10mg/kg (max 500mg) over 1hr diluted to 50ml with saline. Infusion varies by age: **tab 36r**)
- **Salbutamol Infusion:** 5mg in 50ml saline. Infuse 0-10ml/hr. (😬 Infuse 5-10mcg/kg/min for 1 hour, then reduced to 1-2mcg/kg/min. <16kg: 3mg/kg made to 50ml with 5%dex. Then 1ml/hr = 1mcg/kg/min; >16kg: Use 20ml of 1mg/ml solution. Then ml/hr = 0.06 x kg x dose (mcg/kg/min).  
See [Starship clinical guidelines for infusion chart](#))
- **Adrenaline infusion:** 5mg in 50ml saline. Infuse 0-20ml/hr. (😬 not recommended)

# 5e. ASPIRATION

**Main Priority: Minimise aspiration while maintaining SpO<sub>2</sub>**

- ☐ Call for help from surgical team members immediately
- ☐ If practical, **move patient** to head down, **left lateral** position **asap**
- ☐ Remove LMA/OP airway & suction pharynx
- ☐ **If time & SpO<sub>2</sub> stable >97%:**
  - Cricoid pressure (if not actively vomiting)
  - **Suxamethonium IV 100mg** 😊 IV 2mg/kg; IM 4mg/kg
  - **Intubate**
  - **Suction** through ETT with largest possible suction catheter
  - **Only** then, ventilate with 100% O<sub>2</sub>
- ☐ **If SpO<sub>2</sub> dropping or <90%:**
  - **Do not delay oxygenation** regardless of particulates in pharynx/bronchial tree:
    - **Bag mask ventilation** with 100% O<sub>2</sub> **or**
    - Manual **breaths via ETT** with 100% O<sub>2</sub>
- ☐ Consider bronchoscopy
- ☐ Consider abandoning surgery
- ☐ Pass NG tube at earliest convenience

- Monitor patient for 2 hours post event in PACU: If they are asymptomatic, have normal vital signs and a normal CXR, then they are unlikely to require ICU
- **Steroids & antibiotics** are **not** routinely used medications in aspiration

- **Suxamethonium:** 😊: IV 2mg/kg; IM 4mg/kg

# 6e. ADULT CARDIAC ARREST - VF/VT

Main priority = **early defibrillation**

- ☐ Ask surgeons to stop (if appropriate)
- ☐ Start chest compressions at **100/min** and monitor EtCO<sub>2</sub> (ensure full chest recoil)
- ☐ Attach defibrillator. **Shock immediately** at 200J (or max setting)
- ☐ **100% O<sub>2</sub>, stop anaesthetic agents**
- ☐ **If holding a mask/LMA:** use ratio of **30** compressions : **2** breaths
- ☐ **If ETT patent & secure:** ventilate at **10 breaths/min** & do **not** pause CPR
- ☐ Follow 2 min cycles:
  - Charge defib > Rhythm check > **shock** > restart compressions
  - **Adrenaline 1mg** (10ml of 1:10,000) immediately after 2nd shock, then every 4mins
  - **Amiodarone 300mg** immediately after 3rd shock
  - If ECG shows a QRS complex goto **tab 7e**
- ☐ **Read out & consider reversible causes** (see below)
- ☐ Fetch ultrasound to help r/o causes (if skilled)
- ☐ **If ROSC** consider post resuscitation care:
  - Abandon surgery, urgent cardiology referral (?for PCI)
  - ABCDE's, ABG's, 12 lead ECG
  - Avoid: SpO<sub>2</sub> >99%, hyperglycaemia (>10mmol/l), hypercarbia, >37.5° for 72hrs

## Reversible Causes:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| • <b>Hypoxia</b>  | • <b>Tamponade</b> - cardiac  |
| • <b>Hypovolaemia or Haemorrhage</b>                                      | • <b>Anaphylaxis &amp; Toxins</b> - opioids, local anaesthetics, Ca channel or $\beta$ blocker, other drug errors |
| • <b>Hypo/hyper-thermia</b>   | • <b>Thrombosis</b> - cardiac or pulmonary  |
| • <b>Electrolyte/Metabolic Disturbance:</b><br>↑↓K, ↑↓Mg, ↓BSL, ↓pH, ↓↑Ca | • <b>Pregnant</b> - manual uterine displacement & start preparations for delivering baby by 5mins <b>tab 19e</b>  |
| • <b>Tension Pneumothorax</b>   |   |

(Follow all drugs with 20ml flush)

- **Adrenaline** IV: 1mg (10ml of 1:10,000)
- **Amiodarone** IV: 300mg
- **Magnesium** IV: [Torsades]: 10mmol (5ml of 49.3%) over 2mins
- **Calcium Chloride** IV: [↑K or CCB overdose] 10ml of 10%
- **Sodium bicarbonate** 8.4% IV: [↑K or TCA OD or ↓pH] 50ml slow push. Can repeat every 2mins until pH 7.45-7.55
- **1% lignocaine** IV: [if **amiodarone** not available] 7ml bolus (0.1ml/kg). Can rpt every 10mins (max 0.3ml/kg)
- **Intralipid** 20% IV: [LA toxicity] Bolus: 100ml (1.5ml/kg); Infusion 1000ml/hr (15ml/kg/hr) **tab 15e**
- **Atleplase**: 50mg slow push. Can repeat at 15min (be prepared for prolonged CPR - upto 60 min)

5e

6e

# 7e. ADULT CARDIAC ARREST - Asystole/PEA

Main priority = good quality CPR

- ☐ Ask surgeons to stop all vagal stimuli
- ☐ Start chest compressions at **100/min** and monitor EtCO<sub>2</sub> (ensure full chest recoil)
- ☐ **Attach defibrillator**
- ☐ **100% O<sub>2</sub>, stop anaesthetic agents**
- ☐ **If holding a mask/LMA:** use ratio of **30** compressions : **2** breaths
- ☐ **If ETT patent & secure:** ventilate at **10 breaths/min** & do **not** pause CPR
- ☐ Follow 2 min cycles:
  - Charge defib > **rhythm & pulse check** > restart compressions
  - **Give adrenaline 1mg** (10ml of 1:10,000) **immediately**, then every 4min
  - If ECG shows VF/VT goto **tab 6e**
- ☐ In asystole: if **p waves** present consider **pacing** **tab 30d**
- ☐ **Read out & consider reversible causes** (see below)
- ☐ Fetch ultrasound to help r/o causes (if skilled)
- ☐ **If ROSC** consider post resuscitation care:
  - abandon surgery, urgent cardiology referral
  - ABCDE's, ABG's, 12 lead ECG
  - Avoid: SpO<sub>2</sub> >99%, hyperglycaemia (>10mmol/l), hypercarbia, >37.5° for 72hrs

## Reversible Causes:

- **Hypoxia**
- **Hypovolaemia/Haemorrhage**
- **Hypo/hyper-thermia**
- **Electrolyte/Metabolic Disturbance:** ↑↓K, ↑↓Mg, ↓BSL, ↓pH, ↓↑Ca
- **Tension Pneumothorax**
- **Tamponade - cardiac**
- **Anaphylaxis & Toxins** - opioids, local anaesthetics, Ca channel or β blocker, other drug errors
- **Thrombosis** - cardiac or pulmonary
- **Pregnant** - manual uterine displacement & start preparations for delivering baby by 5mins **tab 19e**

(Follow all drugs with 20ml flush)

- [↑K Rx:]
  - 10ml **10% Ca chloride** slow push
  - **salbutamol**: 12puffs into circuit or 250mcg IV bolus
  - 10u **actrapid** in 250ml 10% dextrose @500ml/hr
- [Opiate toxicity] **Naloxone** = 400mcg
- [LA Toxicity]: **Intralipid** 20%: Bolus: 100ml (1.5ml/kg); Infusion 1000ml/hr (15ml/kg/hr) **tab 15e**
- [β blocker OD]: - **adrenaline infusion**: 5mg in 50mls saline. Infuse via CVL 0-20ml/hr
  - **isoprenaline**: Bolus = 200mcg amp into 20ml with saline & give 1ml boluses titrated. for infusion: **tab 35r**
  - **high dose insulin**: Bolus= 50ml of 50% **dextrose** & 70u **actrapid**. Infusion= 100u **actrapid** in 50ml saline, run at 35ml/hr & **10% dex** run at 250ml/hr (monitor BSL & K every 15-30min)
- [Thrombosis] **Alteplase**: 50mg slow push. Can repeat at 15min (be prepared for prolonged CPR - upto 60mins)



# 8e. PAEDIATRIC CARDIAC ARREST

Main priority = **Ensure adequate oxygenation & good CPR**

- ☐ Ask surgeons to **stop all vagal stimuli**
- ☐ **100% O<sub>2</sub>**, **stop anaesthetic** agents, give **2 breaths**
- ☐ Start chest compressions at **120/min** and monitor EtCO<sub>2</sub> (ensure full chest recoil)
- ☐ **If holding a mask/LMA:** use ratio of **15 compressions : 2 breaths**
- ☐ **If ETT patent & secure:** ventilate at **15 breath/min** & do **not** pause CPR
- ☐ Attach defibrillator
- ☐ Ensure IV access. If none establish **intraosseous access** (do not delay)
- ☐ Follow **2 min cycles:**
  - Charge defib 4J/kg > rhythm check +/- shock > restart compressions:
    - **If VF/VT** = **shock immediately** then every cycle.
      - Give **10mcg/kg adrenaline** straight after 2nd shock, then every 4 mins
      - Give **5mg/kg amiodarone** straight after 3rd shock
    - **If asystole/PEA** = give **adrenaline ASAP** then every 4mins
- ☐ **Atropine 20mcg/kg** is only used in vagal associated bradycardia
- ☐ **Read out & consider reversible causes** (see below)
- ☐ Fetch ultrasound to help rule out causes (if skilled)
- ☐ **If ROSC** consider post resuscitation care as **tab 7e**

**Reversible Causes:** (most common in bold)

- **Hypoxia & Vagal Tone**
- **Hypovolaemia/Haemorrhage/Anaphylaxis**
- **Hypo/hyper-thermia**
- **Electrolyte/Metabolic Disturbance:** ↑↓K, ↑↓Mg, ↓BSL, ↓pH, ↑↓Ca
- **Tension Pneumothorax**
- **Tamponade** - cardiac
- **Anaphylaxis & Toxins** - opioids, local anaesthetics, Ca channel or β blocker, other drug errors
- **Thrombosis** - cardiac or pulmonary

**Paeds Calculations** (Follow all drugs with 20ml flush)

- **Weight:** age <1yr = (months/2)+4; age 1-5 = (yrs x2)+8; age 6-12 = (yrs x3)+7
- **Energy (J):** 4\*Kg; if using AED - use attenuated paed pads for <8yrs old (if available)
- **Tube** (uncuffed): preterm (<1.5kg) = 2.5; preterm (1.5-3kg) = 3; <1yr = 3.5 - 4; >1yr = (age/4) + 4
- **Fluid:** 20ml/kg bolus
- **Adrenaline:** IV = 10mcg/kg (0.1ml/kg of 1:10,000); ETT = 100mcg/kg (0.1ml/kg of 1:1,000)
- **Amiodarone:** 5mg/kg
- **Atropine:** 20mcg/kg IV or IM
- **Glucose:** 2ml/kg of 10% dextrose
- **Sux:** IV: 2mg/kg; IM: 4mg/kg
- **Calcium chloride** 10%: 0.1-0.2ml/kg
- **Naloxone:** 10mcg/kg

# 9e. PAEDIATRIC EMERGENCY CALCULATIONS

- Follow all drugs with an appropriate large flush
- ETT sizes are uncuffed tubes. Consider dropping 0.5-1mm in size for cuffed tubes
- Calculations have been rounded where relevant & insignificant

2 months or 5 kg		6 months or 7 kg		1yr or 10 kg	
Normal HR	100-160	Normal HR	100-160	Normal HR	90-140
Energy (J)	20	Energy (J)	28	Energy (J)	40
ETT Size (mm)	3.5	ETT Size (mm)	3.5-4	ETT Size (mm)	4
ETT (oral) Length (cm)	10	ETT (oral) Length (cm)	10.5	ETT (oral) Length (cm)	11
ETT (nasal) Length (cm)	12	ETT (nasal) Length (cm)	12	ETT (nasal) Length (cm)	14
LMA Size	1.5	LMA Size	1.5	LMA Size	2
Fluid bolus (ml)	100	Fluid bolus (ml)	140	Fluid bolus (ml)	200
Adrenaline (1:10,000)	0.5ml	Adrenaline (1:10,000)	0.7ml	Adrenaline (1:10,000)	1ml
Amiodarone (mg)	25	Amiodarone (mg)	35	Amiodarone (mg)	50
10% Glucose (ml)	10	10% Glucose (ml)	14	10% Glucose (ml)	20
Sux - IV (mg)	10	Sux - IV (mg)	14	Sux - IV (mg)	20
Sux - IM (mg)	20	Sux - IM (mg)	28	Sux - IM (mg)	40
Atropine (mcg)	100	Atropine (mcg)	140	Atropine (mcg)	200

3yr or 14kg		5yr or 18kg		10yr or 37kg	
Normal HR	90-140	Normal HR	80-130	Normal HR	80-130
Energy (J)	55	Energy (J)	70	Energy (J)	150
ETT Size (mm)	4.5	ETT Size (mm)	5.5	ETT Size (mm)	6.5
ETT (oral) Length (cm)	13	ETT (oral) Length (cm)	15	ETT (oral) Length (cm)	17
ETT (nasal) Length (cm)	16	ETT (nasal) Length (cm)	19	ETT (nasal) Length (cm)	21
LMA Size	2	LMA Size	2	LMA Size	3
Fluid bolus (ml)	280	Fluid bolus (ml)	360	Fluid bolus (ml)	740
Adrenaline (1:10,000)	1.4ml	Adrenaline (1:10,000)	1.8ml	Adrenaline (1:10,000)	3.7ml
Amiodarone (mg)	70	Amiodarone (mg)	90	Amiodarone (mg)	185
10% Glucose (ml)	30	10% Glucose (ml)	35	10% Glucose (ml)	75
Sux - IV (mg)	30	Sux - IV (mg)	35	Sux - IV (mg)	75
Sux - IM (mg)	55	Sux - IM (mg)	72	Sux - IM (mg)	150
Atropine (mcg)	280	Atropine (mcg)	360	Atropine (mcg)	600



# 10e. ANAPHYLAXIS

Main priority = **Cease triggers, give adrenaline & IV fluid**

- ☐ Get **anaphylaxis box** from theatre pharmacy (if you prefer: follow ANZAAG task cards)
- ☐ **Stop** or remove **causative agents** (eg drugs, blood products, latex products, chlorhexidine etc)
- ☐ Consider early intubation (risk of airway oedema)
- ☐ Ensure large bore IV access. If none, consider intraosseous access
- ☐ **Treat based on grade of anaphylaxis** (see yellow box)

▶ Give **IV adrenaline & fluids asap**

(If no IV: Give **IM adrenaline 0.5ml 1:1,000** (👤 1:1,000 <sup><6yrs = 0.15ml</sup> <sub>6-12yrs = 0.3ml</sub>) . Repeat every 5mins)

▶ Repeat **adrenaline** & fluid boluses every 1-2 minutes as required:

	Grade 1 (Mild)	Grade 2 (Mod/severe)	Grade 3 (Life threatening)	Grade 4 = CPR (PEA Cardiac arrest or adult SBP <50mmHg)
<b>IV Adrenaline</b>	N/A	<b>10-20mcg</b> (0.1-0.2ml 1:10,000) [👤 Dilute 1mg in 50ml =20mcg/ml Give 0.1ml/kg =2mcg/kg]	<b>50-100mcg</b> (0.5-1ml 1:10,000) [👤 Dilute 1mg in 50ml =20mcg/ml Give 0.2-0.5ml/kg =4-10mcg/kg]	<b>1mg</b> (10ml 1:10,000) [👤 0.1ml/kg 1:10,000]
<b>Fluid Bolus</b>	N/A	Rapid 1 litre [👤 20ml/kg]	Rapid 1-2 litres [👤 20ml/kg]	Rapid 2-3 litres [👤 20ml/kg]
<b>Legs</b>	N/A	Elevate	Elevate	Elevate

▶ If >3 **adrenaline** boluses start **adrenaline infusion**

☐ **Refractory management:**

▶ **bronchospasm** ( **tab 4** for other drug options)

- **Salbutamol**: 12 puffs (👤 = <sup><6yrs = 6 puffs</sup> <sub>>6yrs = 12 puffs</sub>) ⇒ IV bolus (see below) ⇒ infusion (see below)

▶ **hypotension:**

- **adrenaline infusion** ⇒ **repeat fluid bolus** ⇒ **noradrenaline +/- vasopressin infusion**

- ☐ Monitor treatment success: MAP, SpO<sub>2</sub>, airway pressures, EtCO<sub>2</sub> waveform, ECHO
- ☐ Place arterial line
- ☐ Consider abandoning surgery
- ☐ **Once stabilised: dexamethasone 12mg** (👤 = 0.6mg/kg)

• **Grades of anaphylaxis:**

Grade 1 = Mild	Grade 2 = Mod/severe	Grade 3 = Life threatening	Grade 4 = Cardiac arrest
Mucocutaneous signs	Mucocutaneous signs	+/- Mucocutaneous signs	PEA cardiac arrest
+/- Angiooedema	↓ MAP, ↑ HR	Arrhythmias & CVS collapse	Adult SBP <50mmHg
	Bronchospasm	Severe bronchospasm	Absent EtCO <sub>2</sub>

- **Consider differential** eg tension pneumothorax **tab 32d**, auto-PEEP **tab 25d**
- Collect **tryptase** (yellow tube) levels at time 1, 4, 24hrs

- **Adrenaline** or **Noradrenaline** infusion (do **not** need CVL to start) : 3mg in 50ml saline. Infuse 3-40ml/hr  
(👤 0.15mg/kg made to 50ml with saline. Infuse 1-40ml/hr)
- **Salbutamol** IV bolus: 100- 250mcg (👤 <2yrs = 5mcg/kg; 2-18yrs = 15mcg/kg (max 250mcg)  
infusion: 5mg in 50ml saline. Infuse 1-10ml/hr (👤 5mcg/kg/min for 1hr then 1-2mcg/kg/min)
- **Vasopressin** (do **not** need CVL to start) : 20units in 20ml saline. Bolus 1ml. Infuse 1-4ml/hr  
(👤 1unit/kg made to 50ml with saline. Bolus 2 ml. Infuse 1-3ml/hr)

# 11e. MYOCARDIAL ISCHAEMIA - Intraoperative

Main priority = ↓ Myocardial O<sub>2</sub> consumption & ↑ myocardial O<sub>2</sub> supply

- ☐ Titrate inspired O<sub>2</sub> to **normal** SpO<sub>2</sub> 97-99% (PaO<sub>2</sub> 80-100mmHg)
- ☐ Check **depth** of anaesthesia, ensure adequate **analgesia**
- ☐ **Control heart rate** (target 60-80bpm):
  - Minimise surgical stimulation (where appropriate)
  - Drug strategies:
    - **Esmolol 20mg** boluses titrated to effect
    - **Metoprolol 2.5mg** boluses titrated to effect (max 15mg)
- ☐ **Target MAP of 65-75mmHg:**
  - If MAP <65mmHg:
    - Use **vasopressors or ephedrine** cautiously
    - If refractory ↓MAP consider:
      - Drugs: inotrope (eg **dobutamine**) or inodilators (eg **milrinone**)
      - Cardiothoracic referral for placement of Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump
  - If MAP >75mmHg: use **GTN infusion**
- ☐ **Avoid hypovolaemia** - replace surgical losses & **transfuse** to Hb 80-90
- ☐ If **ongoing** signs of **ischaemia** commence **GTN infusion** regardless of MAP & support MAP with drugs/Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump as required
- ☐ Expedite end of surgery

## Other Intra-Op Tasks to consider:

- Discuss anticoagulation with surgeon: heparin +/- aspirin, clopidogrel, enoxaparin
- ECHO to assess myocardial performance/volume status
- Further haemodynamic monitoring eg Cardiac Index Monitoring
- Take baseline Troponin, then at 3hrs or 6 hrs

## Post Op Tasks to consider:

- 12 lead ECG and ongoing post-op telemetry
- Immediate cardiology referral - ?suitability for PCI

- Vasopressors - **Phenylephrine**: 50mcg bolus, **Metaraminol**: 0.5mg bolus
- **Ephedrine**: 6mg bolus. Titrate
- **Noradrenaline**: 5mg in 50ml saline. Infuse 0-20ml/hr preferably via CVL
- **Adrenaline**: 5mg in 50ml saline. Infuse 0-20ml/hr preferably via CVL
- **Dobutamine**: 250mg in 50ml saline. Infuse 0-10ml/hr (can infuse peripherally)
- **Milrinone**: 10mg in 50ml saline. Infuse at 5ml/hr or 10ml/hr only
- **GTN**: 50mg in 50ml saline. Infuse at 1-12ml/hr titrated to MAP & ECG changes

# 12e. MASSIVE HAEMORRHAGE

Main priority = Volume replacement & good teamwork

- ☐ **IV access:** x2 16G cannula +/- Rapid Infusion Catheter (RIC) (👉 largest IV & remove extension)
- ☐ Talk to surgeon: All efforts to get **surgical control of bleeding?**  
(compression, packing, direct pressure, arterial/aortic clamping)
- ☐ Give **tranexamic Acid: 1g** (standard & obstetric) **OR 2g** (trauma)
- ☐ **Call blood bank** (ext 9632): "I am requesting (Crimson, Standard or Obstetric) **Stat Pack**"
- ☐ **If ongoing massive bleeding + shock:**
  - Call blood bank (ext 9632) "I am **activating** (Crimson, Standard or Obstetric) **MHP**"  
(👉 follow [Starship paediatric MHP protocol](#))
  - **Assemble a team with clear roles** (transfusion coordinator, MHP runner, blood checkers, people to hang blood etc..)
  - With all MHP packs, give **IV calcium chloride 10ml** via fast & different IV
- ☐ Set up rapid infusion device
- ☐ Insert arterial line
- ☐ Use **permissive hypotension:** MAP 55-65mmHg until haemostasis established  
(except head injuries where MAP target = 80-90mmHg)
- ☐ Aggressively keep **warm** (>36°C): Warm fluids, warm theatre, forced air warmer
- ☐ **Check bloods** every **30mins:** Coags, FBC, ABG, iCa<sup>2+</sup>
- ☐ **Stand down MHP** once clinically stable. Change to targeted transfusion (see green box)

- For code Crimson (trauma) use ABC score  $\geq 2$  as threshold for calling for stat pack:
  - 1 point for any of: - Penetrating mechanism; - SBP  $\leq 90$ mmHg; - Positive eFAST; - HR  $\geq 120$ bpm
- Only give platelets if FBC = platelets  $< 75 \times 10^9/L$ . Liaise with blood bank (ext 9632)
- Platelets: new infusion set preferred, but not essential
- Calcium chloride: Do not administer in same giving set as blood products  
Ensure peripheral IV patent working and crystalloid running quickly

## • Targeted Transfusion Thresholds & Doses:

- **INR**  $> 1.5$  or **APTT**  $> 40$  = 4U **FFP** (👉 20ml/kg)
- **Fibrinogen**  $< 2G/L$  = 3U **cryoprecipitate** (👉 5ml/kg)
- **Platelets**  $< 75$  = 1 adult pack of platelets (👉 10ml/kg)
- **iCa**  $< 1.1$ mmol/l = 10ml calcium chloride (👉 0.1ml/kg)
- **Factor VIIa** in consultation with haematologist - 6mg (90mcg/kg)

## • Blood product compatibility:

### ▸ Rbc's:

(in a crisis, Rh is not impt - see blood bank)

Patient (Recipient)	Compatible (Donor)
A	A, O
B	B, O
AB	A, B, AB, O
O	O

### ▸ FFP:

(at any time, Rh is not relevant)

Patient (Recipient)	Compatible (Donor)
A	A, AB
B	B, AB
AB	AB
O	O, A, B, AB

### ▸ Platelets/Cryo:

- in a crisis, ABO & Rh are not impt (see blood bank)

11e

12e

# 13e. AIR/GAS EMBOLISM

Main priority = **Restore cardio-respiratory stability**

- ☐ 100% oxygen
- ☐ **Stop nitrous oxide**
- ☐ **Stop source** of air/gas entry:
  - Surgical site - lower to below level of heart & flood with irrigation fluid
  - Entry point - search for e.g. open venous line
  - Neurosurgery case - consider intermittent jugular venous compression
- ☐ Place **patient in head down, left tilt** position
- ☐ **Remove pneumoperitoneum** (if in use)
- ☐ If CVL in place - aspirate line
- ☐ Consider **chest compressions** 100/min (even if not in arrest - known to break up volumes of air)
- ☐ **Aim MAP >65mmHg :**
  - Assess fluid responsiveness - 500ml bolus crystalloid (👉 = 20ml/kg)
  - Vasoactive medications eg **noradrenaline, adrenaline, dobutamine**
- ☐ Consider early TOE - (useful to r/o other causes of pulmonary embolism)
- ☐ Consider referral for hyperbaric oxygen therapy (Christchurch unit)

- **Signs of air/gas embolism:**
  - **Respiratory:** ↓EtCO<sub>2</sub> (most sensitive), ↓SpO<sub>2</sub>, pulmonary oedema, bronchospasm
  - **CVS:** shock, tachycardia, ↑PA pressures, cardiovascular collapse
- Use of **PEEP** is controversial. May ↑risk of paradoxical air embolism through PFO (note PFO is present in 10-30% of population)
- **Hyperbaric O<sub>2</sub>** - treatment up to 6hrs post event may improve outcome in paradoxical air embolism

- **Adrenaline:**
  - bolus = 10-100mcg (0.1-1ml of 1:10,000) - (👉 0.01-0.05ml/kg of 1:10,000)
  - Infusion = 5mg in 50ml saline. Infuse 0-20ml/hr (👉 **tab 36r**)
- **Noradrenaline infusion:** 5mg in 50ml saline. Infuse 0-20ml/hr
- **Dobutamine infusion:** 250mg in 50ml saline. Infuse 0-10ml/hr (can infuse peripherally)

# 14e. HAEMOLYTIC TRANSFUSION REACTION

Main priority = **Early recognition & full resuscitation of ABC's**

- ☐ **Stop transfusion** & flush line
- ☐ Recheck blood against patient
- ☐ Minimise volatile but maintain anaesthesia
- ☐ **Resuscitate based on ABC's:**
  - Consider early intubation
  - Treat bronchospasm if present **tab 4e**
  - Address cardiovascular instability - aim MAP >65mmHg:
    - Assess fluid responsiveness: Leg elevation +/- 500ml fluid bolus (👤 20ml/kg)
    - Start **adrenaline infusion** (recommended 1st line due to diagnostic similarity with anaphylaxis)
    - Maintain urine output (aim 1ml/kg/hr) - **IV furosemide 35mg**
- ☐ Place arterial line, CVL & urinary catheter (collect urine for analysis)
- ☐ Take bloods: U&E, FBC, Coags & sample for re-X match
- ☐ Watch for **coagulopathy** & consult haematologist - Treat early **tab 12e**
- ☐ Consider **IV methylprednisolone 250mg** slow injection
- ☐ **Collate all blood products** & return to lab
- ☐ Contact ICU

- **Signs of haemolytic transfusion reaction** (very similar to anaphylaxis):
  - **CVS:** shock, tachycardia/arrhythmias, cardiac arrest
  - **Respiratory:** Bronchospasm, wheezing, Cough/Stridor, Hypoxia, ↑ airway pressure
  - **Misc:** urticaria, oedema, bleeding from wound sites/membranes, dark coloured urine
- **Consider differential** eg anaphylaxis **tab 10e** , cardiogenic shock **tab 11e** , etc..
- If relevant consult protocols for
  - Anaphylaxis - **tab 10e**
  - Bronchospasm - **tab 4e**
  - Severe Intraoperative haemorrhage - **tab 12e**

- **Adrenaline** or **Noradrenaline** infusion: 5mg in 50ml saline. Infuse 0-20ml/hr
- **Salbutamol:**
  - bolus = 250mcg slow push (👤 <2yrs = 5mcg/kg; <18yrs 15mcg/kg (max 250mcg)
  - infusion = 5mg in 50ml saline. Infuse 0-10ml/hr (👤 50ml of neat salbutamol. Infuse 5-10mcg/kg/min for 1 hour, then reduced to 1-2mcg/kg/min)

13e

14e

# 15e. LOCAL ANAESTHETIC TOXICITY

Main Priority: **Good Quality CPR & early Intralipid**

☐ **Stop** administration of **LA** and get **LA Toxicity Box** (found in PACU: if you prefer follow AAGBI task cards)

☐ **If signs of cardiac output:**

- Consider need for **intubation**
- **Ventilate** if required - aim for EtCO<sub>2</sub> 30mmHg
- Confirm IV access
- Consider giving **IV 20% intralipid** early: bolus then infusion (see dosing below)
- If **arrhythmia** use standard protocols **tab 29d**  
(Consider **amiodarone 300mg** slow IV push. Avoid **lignocaine**, caution with **Bblockers**)
- Support **MAP** with fluids & **vasopressors**
- Treat **seizures**:
  - **midazolam IV 2mg** bolus. Repeat every min (max 10mg) (👉 see green box)
  - If **refractory**: perform **RSI**

☐ **If cardiac arrest:**

- Start **CPR** (**tab 6e** or **tab 7e**). Be prepared to continue for 60 min
- Give **20% IV intralipid** (👉 see green box):
  - **Bolus**: 100ml. Can repeat every 5 mins, maximum twice (if required)
  - **Infusion**: 1000ml/hr neat intralipid. Double rate @ 5 min if no improvement
  - Do not exceed max dose of 840ml
- Mobilise cardiopulmonary bypass/ECMO team (if available)
- Send **ABG** - keep pH >7.25: Give **sodium bicarbonate 8.4% 50ml** (👉 1ml/kg)  
(Can repeat every 2 min - must ensure adequate ventilation)

- **Signs** of LA toxicity:
  - **CNS**: Numb tongue, tinnitus, metallic taste, slurred speech, seizures, unconscious
  - **CVS**: ↓MAP, broad QRS, bradycardia deteriorating into PEA & asystole
- Temporary pacing may be required for symptomatic bradycardias **tab 30d**

**PAEDS Dosing** (**tab 8e** or **tab 36r** for 👉 resus doses)

- **Midazolam**: IV 0.1mg/kg; IM 0.2mg/kg; buccal 0.5mg/kg. Can repeat at 5min
- **Intralipid** 20%: bolus: 1.5ml/kg. Can rpt every 5mins x2. Infusion: 15ml/kg/hr. At 5min can double rate if no improvement. Max cumulative dose = 12ml/kg

15e

16e



# 16e. MALIGNANT HYPERTHERMIA

Main Priority: **Early Recognition, Removal of Triggers, Dantrolene**

- ☐ **Recognise problem** - if in doubt treat
- ☐ Call for **MH trolley** (found in main theatre corridor: if you prefer distribute & follow MH task cards)
- ☐ Delegate & organise help into teams
- ☐ **Stop volatile** & washout with **100% oxygen at 15 litres**. Switch to **TIVA**
- ☐ Add charcoal filters to circuit. Change soda lime if easy (**Do not** waste time changing machine/circuit)
- ☐ Give **IV dantrolene** (👤 2.5mg/kg) & **get more** from on call pharmacist:
  - 9 vials of 20mg. Reconstitute each vial into 60ml syringe with water
  - Repeat every 10min until control achieved (max total 35vials or 10mg/kg)
- ☐ Increase **monitoring** if not already in place:
  - **Arterial line** +/- CVL. Take serial bloods: ABGs (every 30min), Coags, CK
  - **Urinary catheter**. Aim for urine output >2ml/kg/hr
  - **Core temperature probe** eg rectal or bladder
- ☐ Treat **complications**:
  - **>38.5°C**: refrigerated IV fluids (& intraperitoneal if surgical access), surface ice, cold operating room
  - **pH <7.2**: Ventilate EtCO<sub>2</sub> to 30cmH<sub>2</sub>O (+/- **sodium bicarbonate**)
  - **K<sup>+</sup> >7** or **ECG changes**: Give **IV calcium chloride**, **IV insulin-dextrose infusion**, **salbutamol puffs**
  - **Arrhythmias**: Defibrillate. Consider **IV amiodarone** +/- **lignocaine** +/- **esmolol**
  - **MAP <65mmHg**: start **noradrenaline** infusion
- ☐ Consider abandoning surgery & ICU referral

• Rapid diagnosis: ABG = mixed respiratory & metabolic acidosis

• **Signs** suggesting possible MH:

Early	Developing	Late
↑ing EtCO <sub>2</sub>	↑ing temp/sweating	Cola coloured urine
Masseter spasm	CVS instability	Coagulopathy, ↑↑CK
↑HR/arrhythmia	↓pH, ↑K	Cardiac arrest

- [**pH<7.2**]: **Sodium bicarbonate** 8.4% 50ml (👤 1ml/kg), repeat every 2mins
- [**K<sup>+</sup> >7**]: **Calcium chloride** 10% 10ml IV (👤 0.2ml/kg); 10units of **actrapid** in 250ml **10% dextrose** over 30mins (👤 0.1u/kg actrapid in 2ml/kg of dextrose over 30mins); 12puffs **salbutamol** into circuit (👤 2-6puffs) repeat every 20mins
- [**arrhythmias**] **Amiodarone** 300mg slow IV push (👤 5mg/kg); 7ml **1% lignocaine** slow IV push (👤 0.1-0.2ml/kg) (Can repeat every 10 mins - max 0.3ml/kg); **Esmolol** 10mg increments
- [**↓MAP**]: **Noradrenaline** infusion: 5mg in 50ml saline. Infuse at 0-20ml/hr

15e

16e

# 17e. HYPERKALAEMIA

## Main Priority: Monitor ECG & Treat

- ☐ Consider haemolysis or faulty sample & need to re-check
- ☐ **Stop** any **source of K<sup>+</sup>** infusion. Re-check recent drug calculations
- ☐ **↑ Minute ventilation.** Aim for EtCO<sub>2</sub> of 30mmHg
- ☐ If **K<sup>+</sup> >6.5mmol/L +/- marked ECG changes** start drug therapy (🧐 see green box):
  - **10% calcium chloride 10ml slow bolus**
  - Infuse quickly: **0.1ml of undiluted actrapid (10 units) in 250ml 10% dextrose**
  - **100-250mcg IV salbutamol.** Repeat every 20mins
- **If refractory high K<sup>+</sup> consider** (🧐 see green box):
  - **50ml 8.4% sodium bicarbonate** (ensure adequate ventilation)
  - **20-40mg IV frusemide**
  - Referral for dialysis
- Correct any reversible precipitating factors

### • ECG signs of hyperkalaemia:

- peaked T waves
- prolonged PR
- wide QRS
- loss of P waves
- ↓ R amplitude
- asystole

### • Precipitating factors to consider:

- trauma
- burns
- suxamethonium use in burns, spinal injury, neurological disease
- MH
- rhabdomyolysis
- acidosis
- acute renal failure
- organ re-perfusion eg following clamp/tourniquet
- haemolysis/massive transfusion
- medications

### • Avoid:

- further doses of suxamethonium
- respiratory acidosis

### 🧐 PAEDS Doses

- **Calcium chloride** 10% 0.2ml/kg slow bolus
- **Insulin/dextrose:**
  - Periph IV: Bolus 0.1u/kg actrapid in 5ml/kg of 10% dextrose
  - Central Line: Bolus 0.1u/kg actrapid in 2ml/kg of 50% dextrose
- **Salbutamol:** <5yrs: 6puffs every 20mins; >5yrs: 6-12puffs every 20mins
- **Sodium bicarbonate** 8.4%: 1ml/kg slow push. Can repeat every 2mins
- **Frusemide:** 1mg/kg IV bolus

17e

18e



# 18e. FIRE - AIRWAY OR PATIENT

## AIRWAY FIRE

**Main priority = Disconnect circuit & flood with saline**

- ☐ **Stop ignition** source - laser or diathermy
- ☐ **Turn off oxygen & disconnect breathing circuit** from airway device
- ☐ **Extinguish fire:**
  - Flood fire with **saline: 50ml** into mouth, **10-20ml** down ETT (😊 1ml/kg max 20ml)
  - **CO<sub>2</sub> extinguisher** (safe to use in airway)
- ☐ **Remove airway device** & keep for inspection  
(only consider leaving ETT in place if difficult intubation & **very** low risk of fire extending into ETT)
- ☐ Remove any **flammable material** in mouth - packs, gauze & sponges
- ☐ **Retrieve debris** with a Yankauer sucker or large bore suction catheter
- ☐ Convert to **TIVA anaesthetic**
- ☐ Restart ventilation only when fire is fully extinguished (wait 1-3min if SpO<sub>2</sub> allows):
  - Use bag mask ventilation initially but prepare for early intubation
  - Use **lowest possible oxygen** to maintain normal SpO<sub>2</sub>
- ☐ **If unable to re-intubate:** perform **infraglottic technique** depending on urgency:
  - emergency: infraglottic technique **tab 2e**
  - urgent: call ENT to perform tracheostomy
- ☐ **Terminate** or **expedite** end of surgery
- ☐ Post crisis care:
  - Perform **bronchoscopic exam** to assess mucosal airway damage
  - Do **not extubate**; refer to ICU

## PATIENT FIRE

**Main priority = Recognise fire and extinguish**

- ☐ **Stop** any flow of **oxygen** or **nitrous** near/into to fire
- ☐ Remove **all drapes** and flammable material from patient
- ☐ Extinguish fire with:
  - **Saline, fire blanket** or **CO<sub>2</sub> extinguisher** (safe in wounds & electrical equipment)
  - **Do not** use alcohol liquids
  - **Do not** use any liquid on/around electrical equipment
- ☐ **If fire persists:** activate fire alarm, turn off gas supply to room, evacuate

- To **decrease risk of airway fire:**
  - Use lowest possible oxygen, avoid nitrous
  - Place saline in ETT & LMA cuffs
  - Pack wet throat pack around ETT's
  - If LASER surgery: use LASER resistant ETT with methylene blue in proximal cuff, saline in distal cuff

- To **decrease risk of patient fire:**
  - Allow time for skin preps to fully dry
  - Use moistened sponges & gauzes near ignition sources

17e

18e

# 19e. MATERNAL COLLAPSE

Main Priority: **Good CPR, Diagnose Cause, Prepare for Delivery**

- ☐ Review all infusions/medications recently administered
- ☐ Consider haemorrhage (?concealed) **tab 12e**. Call blood bank for "Obstetric Stat Pack"
- ☐ **If no cardiac output:**
  - Call 777 & declare '**maternal cardiac arrest**'
  - Start **preparations** to deliver baby **now** (peri-mortem Caesarean or instrumental)
  - Remove all foetal monitoring
  - Start **CPR** > apply **defib** > check **rhythm** > **tab 6e** or **tab 7e**
  - Ensure IV access, if none consider IO access
  - Consider reversible causes & **attempt diagnosis & treat asap** (see yellow box)
- ☐ Note '**maternal**' **specific tasks** during CPR:
  - **Lift uterus skyward & displace** to left
  - **Intubate early** & ventilate with EtCO<sub>2</sub> target of 30mmHg
  - Perform chest **compressions higher** on chest & push **deeper**
  - Patient >24 weeks: If **no rapid ROSC** then start **immediate** preparations to **deliver baby** within 5mins (peri-mortem Caesarean or instrumental)
- ☐ **if Peri or Post Arrest:**
  - Start standard peri-arrest care. Supporting **ABC's as appropriate** (intubate early)
  - Consider reversible causes & **attempt diagnosis & treat asap** (see yellow box)
  - Ensure ongoing **lifting of uterus** skyward & displaced to left (if baby not delivered)

- **Delivery of baby** is performed to **improve maternal prognosis, not babies**
- Consider the reversible causes of collapse in pregnancy (**Ts & Hs**):
 

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▸ <b>Hypoxia:</b> aspiration, high spinal</li> <li>▸ <b>Hypovolaemia/hypotension:</b> bleeding, high spinal</li> <li>▸ <b>Metabolic disorders:</b> AKI from severe pre-eclampsia, ↓BSL</li> <li>▸ <b>Hypertension:</b> intracranial haemorrhage, eclamptic seizure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▸ <b>Toxicity:</b> Anaphylaxis, ↑Mg<sup>2+</sup>, LA toxicity</li> <li>▸ <b>Thromboembolism:</b> VTE/PE, amniotic fluid or air embolism</li> <li>▸ <b>Tamponade:</b> cardiac 2nd to aortic dissection, trauma</li> <li>▸ <b>Tension Pneumothorax:</b> trauma</li> </ul>
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- **Magnesium (49.3%)** [eclampsia]:
  - loading infusion: 8ml in 12ml saline. Infuse at 120ml/hr
  - For maintenance & rescue doses **tab 23e**
- **Calcium chloride 10%** [MgSO<sub>4</sub> toxicity antidote]: 5ml slow push. (can repeat)
- **20% Intralipid** [LA toxicity]: (max total 12ml/kg)
  - bolus: 100ml (1.5ml/kg). Repeat (max twice) every 5 mins, if required
  - maintenance: 1000ml/hr (15ml/kg/hr). Double speed @5mins if no improvement
- **Alteplase** [Thrombosis]: Arrest = 50mg slow push. Can repeat at 15min (continue CPR for upto 60mins)  
 Peri-Arrest = 20mg slow push. Then 80mg in 20ml saline. Infuse at 10ml/hr  
 [To reverse]: Stop infusion. Give **1g tranexamic acid**. Call haematologist (**cryo +/- platelets**)

19e

20e

# 20e. NEONATAL LIFE SUPPORT

**Main Priority: Dry baby, Oxygenate & Reassess every 30secs**

- ☐ Pre-setup **neopuff**: Gas supply @10L, PEEP 5, PIP 30cmH<sub>2</sub>O. Heater & suction
- ☐ In 1st minute: **Vigorously dry** baby & apply warm, dry towels
- ☐ Then work in **30 sec cycles**. Perform intervention then reassess at end of cycle:
  - **Tone** - UL & LL
  - **HR** - use SpO<sub>2</sub> probe or stethoscope (tap beats out +/- count beats for 3secs, then x 20)
  - **RR** - Are they gasping or apnoeic?
- ☐ **If HR >100, good tone, regular RR:** give routine care
- ☐ **If baby well except ↑WOB:** open airway & give 5 cmH<sub>2</sub>O CPAP with room air
- ☐ **If any of HR <100, poor tone, gasping/apnoeic:** start ventilating (with EtCO<sub>2</sub>):
  - Fine tuning of neutral head position with jaw thrust is vital
  - Room air initially. ↑O<sub>2</sub> every 30 secs if no improvement: 40%→60→80→100%
  - Give x5 inflation breaths of 2-3 sec: PIP 30cmH<sub>2</sub>O
  - Once adequate **chest rise**: RR 40-60/min: PIP 15-20cmH<sub>2</sub>O
- ☐ **If HR <60:**
  - 100% O<sub>2</sub>. Consider LMA or intubation (if skilled)
  - Start chest compressions 100/min (2 thumb technique with 2nd person for airway is preferred)
  - Use ratio = **compressions 3 : 1 breath** (half second compression pause to deliver breath)
- ☐ **If Ongoing HR <60:**
  - Give **1:10,000 adrenaline** based on gestation
  - Umbilical **venous catheter** is preferred (1 vein, 2 arteries) 

	23-26 Weeks	27-37 Weeks	38-43 Weeks
<b>Umbilical Adrenaline</b>	0.1 ml	0.25 ml	0.5 ml
<b>ETT Adrenaline</b>	1ml/kg (100mcg/kg)		

  - Consider **umbilical saline bolus** 10ml/kg

- If **preterm** use lower inflation pressures: 28-32wks = 25/5; <28wks = 20/5
- Significant **meconium** delivery: Only suction a flat baby prior to oxygenating
- Place NG to **decompress stomach** if difficulty ventilating
- Assistant can place SpO<sub>2</sub> probe on right arm at any point. **Targets:**
  - 1min = 60-70%    ▸ 3min = 70-90%    ▸ 5min = 80-90%
  - 2min = 65-85%    ▸ 4min = 75-90%    ▸ 10min = 85-90%

## Neonatal Drugs & Equipment tab 9e

- **Naloxone**: Full term = 200mcg IM (otherwise 10mcg/kg IM/IV)
- **ETT**: uncuffed size = [term] 3-3.5mm, [preterm] 2.5mm; length @lips [term] 9cm, [preterm] 7cm

19e

20e

# 21e. TOTAL/HIGH SPINAL

## Main Priority: Rapid management of ABC's

- ☐ If on **delivery suite**: Call **777** & declare “**obstetric & neonatal emergency**”
- ☐ Review all infusions/medications & consider reversible causes (yellow box below)
- ☐ If **no cardiac output**:
  - Start CPR > apply **defib** > check rhythm **tab 6e** or **tab 7e**
  - If obstetrics, follow ‘**maternal**’ **specific tasks**:
    - Lift uterus skyward & displace to left
    - **Intubate early** & ventilate with EtCO<sub>2</sub> target of 30mmHg
    - Perform chest **compressions higher** on chest & **push deeper**
    - Patient >24 weeks: If **no rapid ROSC** then start **immediate** preparations to **deliver baby** within 5mins (peri-mortem Caesarean or instrumental)
  - Note ‘**total spinal**’ **specific tasks**:
    - Give **adrenaline 1mg** (10ml 1:10,000) (👤 10mcg/kg) **asap**
    - Early rapid infusion of 2-3 litres of **fluid** (👤 20ml/kg)
- ☐ If **respiratory arrest** or **distress** or **falling SpO<sub>2</sub>**:
  - Elevate head of bed to 30 degrees
  - Assist ventilation with 100% O<sub>2</sub> via BMV while **preparing to RSI**
  - Consider induction with **midazolam 5-10mg, alfentanil 1mg & sux 100mg**
- ☐ If **cardiovascularly unstable** (↓HR & ↓MAP):
  - **Elevate** legs, rapidly infuse 2-3 litres fluid (👤 20ml/kg)
  - If obstetrics, **lift uterus** skyward & displace to left
  - If **HR <60** then give **600mcg atropine** (👤 20mcg/kg). Repeat if required (max adult 3mg)
  - Give **vasopressor** (see below) depending on **HR**. Repeat as required.
  - Refractory ↓MAP: use **adrenaline boluses +/- infusion**

- Diagnosis is clear if witnessed rapidly ascending block following neuraxial procedure
- If unwitnessed collapse consider **other causes** (if obstetrics **tab 19e**):
  - Vasovagal
  - Haemorrhage (external or concealed) **tab 12e** / **tab 22e**
  - LA Toxicity **tab 15e**
  - Amniotic Fluid Embolism **tab 24e**
  - Mg toxicity
  - IVC compression
  - Massive pulmonary embolus
  - Drug error

- Vasopressor: **phenylephrine** 100mcg (👤 10mcg/kg); **metaraminol** 1mg (👤 10mcg/kg); **ephedrine** 9mg (👤 0.1mg/kg)
- **Adrenaline** - bolus: 0.1-0.5ml 1:10,000 (10-50mcg); infusion: 5mg in 50ml saline. Infuse at 0-20ml/hr (👤 infusion only: 0.15mg/kg (max 5mg) in 50ml saline. Infuse 0.5-10ml/hr)

# 22e. POST PARTUM HAEMORRHAGE

Main Priority: Prepare for Massive, Rapid Blood Loss

- ☐ **x2 16G IV** cannula - consider intraosseous access or RIC
- ☐ If **out of theatre**: call **777** declare an “**obstetric emergency**”
- ☐ Encourage **surgical control** of uterine tone & bleeding (see yellow box)
- ☐ Review with surgeon every 10mins: diagnosis & plan (see yellow box)
- ☐ If **massive bleeding + shock**: **tab 12e**
  - Call blood bank (ext 9632): State “I am requesting **Obstetric Stat Pack**”
  - Give **1g tranexamic acid** slow push
- ☐ If **ongoing** massive bleeding + shock:
  - Call blood bank (ext 9632): State “I am **activating Obstetric MHP**”
  - Repeat **1g tranexamic acid** slow push
  - Refer to generic MHP steps in **tab 12e**  
(Teamwork, Regular calcium, Rapid infusion device, A line, Permissive hypotension, Warming, Bloods Q30min)
- ☐ Use **oxytocics** to address uterine atony:
  - **Oxytocin IV 5 units slow push**
  - **Oxytocin infusion 40unit in 500ml saline**. Infuse at 125ml/hr
  - **Ergometrine 500mcg IM** (avoid if ↑MAP)
  - **Carboprost 250mcg IM** (avoid if asthmatic). Can repeat every 15mins (max 8 doses)
  - **Misoprostol 1000mcg PR/vaginal**
- ☐ Perform **RSI** to enable surgical control (**spinal** only if haemodynamically **normal**). Consider:
  - Induction: **Ketamine 100mg** (1-2mg/kg), **suxamethonium 100mg**
  - Maintenance: **TIVA** or **volatile/nitrous**

## • Major causes of PPH:

- |                                  |                             |                                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ▸ Tone (75%)                     | ▸ Trauma/Laceration (5-10%) | ▸ Splenic artery rupture (rare) |
| ▸ Tissue/Retained placenta (15%) | ▸ Thrombosis/Coagulopathy   |                                 |

## • Surgical control of bleeding can include:

- Pre-theatre: Uterine massage, bimanual compression, aortal compression
- Intra-op: BAKRI balloon, B Lynch suture, aortal compression, artery ligation, hysterectomy

- Vasopressors: **Metaraminol** 1mg; **phenylephrine** 100mcg, **Adrenaline**: 10-100mcg & titrate
- **Adrenaline/Noradrenaline** Infusion: 5mg in 50ml saline. Infuse at 10-20ml/hr preferably via CVC

21e

22e



# 23e. PERI-PARTUM SEIZURE

**Main Priority: Oxygenation, Magnesium & Treating Hypertension**

- ☐ Call **777** & state “**obstetric emergency**”
- ☐ Call for **eclampsia box**
- ☐ Give **O<sub>2</sub>** 15L/min via non-rebreathe facemask
- ☐ Apply monitoring: SpO<sub>2</sub>, ECG, NIBP
- ☐ **Start timer**: Measure length of seizure (eclamptic seizures normally self terminate)
- ☐ **Maximise patient safety** while displacing gravid uterus (if antenatal):
  - Pillows & covered bed sides
  - Depending on staff safety: Lift uterus up & to left or place in **full left lateral**
- ☐ Prepare and give **Magnesium (49.3%)** asap:
  - **Loading dose**: 8ml with 12ml saline. Infuse at 120ml/hr  
(If no IV then give 10ml IM into each gluteal region (total 20ml))
  - Then **maintenance** infusion (see green box)
  - If repeat seizure give **rescue dose** (see green box)
- ☐ **If ongoing seizures or seizure lasting >10mins**: then escalate treatment in turn:
  - Give **Midazolam IV 2mg bolus**, repeat every minute (max 10mg)  
(if no IV then use high concentration 5mg/ml **midazolam**: **Nasal**: 2ml via atomiser or **IM**: 2ml into deltoid)
  - Perform **RSI** & refer to ICU
- ☐ **Post seizure**:
  - **Review A, B, C** & check **blood sugar level**
  - Send **blood tests** (FBC, LFTs, U&Es, uric acid, coag screen, Mg, G&H)
  - Consider chance of **aspiration**: SpO<sub>2</sub>, auscultate chest, perform chest XR (if needed)
  - If **bp >160/100mmHg** then consider one or both:
    - **Labetalol IV** (neat=5mg/ml): 4ml over 2mins. Repeat every 10 mins (max 3 doses)
    - **Hydralazine IV**: Dilute to 1mg/ml. Give 5ml slow push. Repeat every 20min
  - **Restrict total fluid** input to 80ml/hr & monitor hourly urine with catheter
- ☐ **If antenatal**: Discuss with obstetric team: Plan for delivery of baby
- ☐ Consider **other causes** of seizure other than eclampsia: discuss with **neurologists**

- Check reflexes, sedation score & vitals: Initially every 30min, then hourly
- Serum magnesium levels are only needed if concurrent renal dysfunction:
  - Therapeutic Mg<sup>2+</sup> level = 2-4mmol/L
  - Send yellow top 1 hour after start of maintenance dose. Repeat levels every 4 hrs if concern
- If concern over magnesium toxicity: Stop infusion & give **calcium chloride 10% 5ml IV** push

- **Magnesium (49.3%)**:
  - Maintenance: add 16ml to 100ml saline. Infuse at 14.5ml/hr
  - Rescue (i.e. another seizure): 4ml with 6ml saline. Give via slow IV push over 5mins
- **Labetalol** infusion: Add 100mg to saline to make 100ml. Infuse at 20ml/hr. Double rate every 30mins (max 160ml/hr)
- **Hydralazine** infusion: Dilute to 1mg/ml. Start infusion at 5ml/hr. Change rate by 1ml/hr every 20mins (max 20ml/hr)

# 24e. AMNIOTIC FLUID EMBOLISM

## Main Priority: Recognition & Aggressive Resuscitation

- ☐ Get senior help or call 777 & declare an “**obstetric +/- neonatal emergency**”
- ☐ **For all:** Start treatment for **haemorrhage & coagulopathy** tab 12e :
  - Call blood bank (ext 9632). State:
    - “I am requesting **Obstetric Stat Pack**” and “I am activating **Obstetric MHP**”
  - Give **IV tranexamic acid 1g slow push**, repeat 30min later
  - Send urgent blood tests including FBC, coagulation studies
- ☐ **If no cardiac output:** Start CPR & consider reversible causes tab 6e / tab 7e
  - If **antenatal** perform maternal specific CPR tasks:
    - Removal all foetal monitoring
    - **Lift uterus** skyward & displace to left
    - **Intubate early** & ventilate with EtCO<sub>2</sub> target of <30mmHg
    - Perform chest **compressions higher** on chest & **push deeper**
    - If **no rapid ROSC** then start **immediate** preparations to **deliver baby** within 5mins
- ☐ **If signs of cardiac output:** Start resuscitation:
  - Ensure patent airway. Consider **early intubation**
  - Address **oxygenation**: High flow oxygen, BiPAP, CPAP or high PEEP
  - Give **blood & products** as MHP. Use **vasopressors** or **inotropes** as required
  - Perform early **ECHO** (TTE or TOE: Any signs of right heart dysfunction or pulmonary hypertension?)
- ☐ Discuss with **obstetricians**:
  - If antenatal: urgent delivery of baby
  - Rule out sources of haemorrhage (eg placenta, uterine rupture or tone, trauma)
  - Possibility of hysterectomy if uncontrollable bleeding
- ☐ Refer to ICU early (is ECMO a consideration? Does pulmonary hypertension need treatment?)

- Amniotic fluid embolism is rare, but life threatening. Always consider it in your differential
- **The following** features are suggestive of AFE:
  - sudden agitation e.g. non compliance, pulling out drips etc.
  - symptoms with no clear other explanation
  - peri-partum onset: during labour, delivery or within 30mins of baby delivery

System & Signs		Lab/Investigation Findings
<b>General =</b>	Restless, anxious, chest pain, vomiting	Pulmonary hypertension
<b>Respiratory =</b>	Hypoxia, bronchospasm, pulmonary oedema, ARDS	Right heart strain
<b>Cardiovascular =</b>	Hypotension, chest pain, cardiac arrest	Coagulopathy
<b>Neurological =</b>	Headaches, seizure, loss of consciousness	DIC
<b>Fetus =</b>	Acute bradycardia	

- [Bolus]: **metaraminol** 1mg; **phenylephrine** 100mcg, **ephedrine** 9mg, **adrenaline** 10-50mcg
- [Infusions]: **noradrenaline/adrenaline** infusion: 5mg in 50ml. infuse 0-20ml/hr

Close book & flip end over end for



## DIAGNOSING

Problems

Including:

Adult & Paediatric  
Drug Formulary

# Hutt Anaesthetic Crisis Handbook

[www.AnaestheticCrisisHandbook.com](http://www.AnaestheticCrisisHandbook.com)

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Treating known

## EMERGENCIES

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Disclaimer: Every effort has been taken to prevent errors/omissions/mistakes. However, this cannot be guaranteed. Graded assertiveness to query team leader decisions/management steps which are contrary to this manual are encouraged. However, clinical experience & acumen are vital in complex situations such as crises and may be more appropriate than this handbook in certain situations.