#	PR-25
Page_	1 of 1
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## **DEFIBRILLATION**

## **INDICATIONS:**

- · Ventricular fibrillation.
- Pulseless ventricular tachycardia.

## PROCEDURE:

- Apply defibrillation pads to chest in appropriate position.
  - o Upper right side of sternum and left lower chest, mid-axillary line.
    - Allow a minimum of 1 inch between pads.
  - > Pediatric patients: Follow pad manufacturer's directions for age and weight restrictions. If none listed:
    - Use infant-sized pads for patients younger than 1 year or less than 10 Kg.
    - Use adult-sized pads for patients over 1 year or more than 10 Kg.
      - The anterior-posterior placement should be used if the child's chest is too small to safely accommodate pads.
- Select energy level. Use maximum energy or as per manufacturer's recommendations.
  - Default energy settings if none listed:

Adult: 150 – 200 J
Pediatric: 2 J/Kg, 4 J/Kg.

- Press the charge button to energize the paddles.
- Clear all personnel from patient contact. Call out, "All Clear" and confirm that no one is in contact with the patient.
- Depress the 'shock' button to deliver the charge.
- Resume CPR. Reassess patient for any change in rhythm.
- · Document the Joules administered.

## NOTES:

- If patient refibrillates, use the energy level previously successful in converting the rhythm.
- If defibrillating using paddles:
  - > Apply conductive medium or gel to paddles, distributing evenly.
  - ➤ Place paddles on chest in appropriate position, exerting firm pressure.
  - Discharge both buttons on the paddles.

Bully no