

# Cardiac arrest in cath Lab

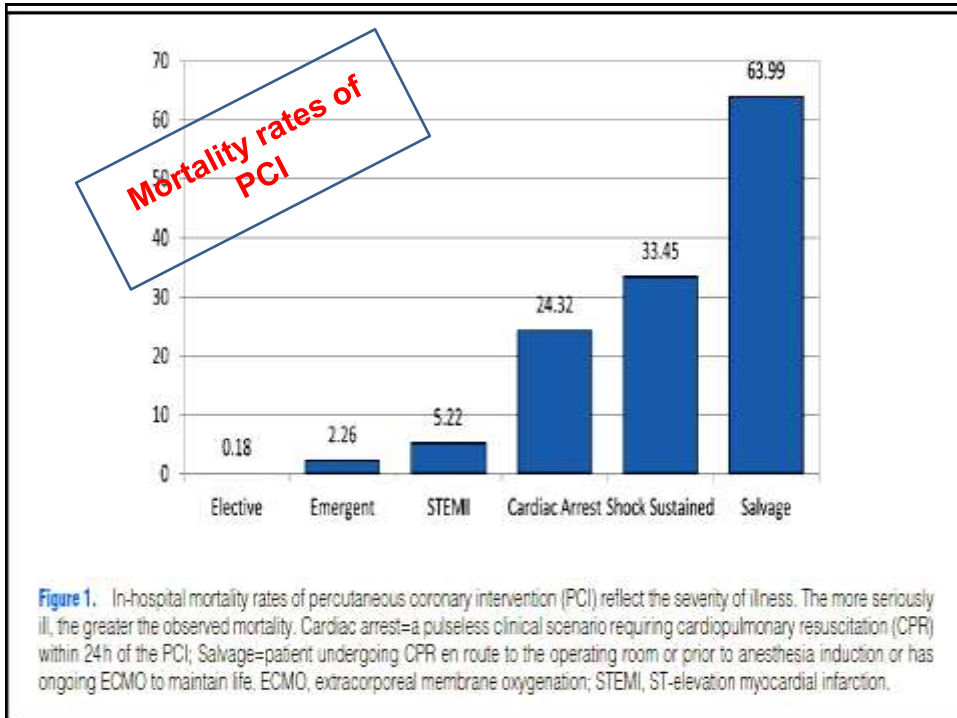
By  
**Osama Louis, MD**  
National Heart Institute

## PCI in the real world

Although approximately **2,000,000** patients undergo PCI yearly worldwide, only a very small minority will suffer a protracted cardiac arrest episode during the procedure that results in death.

Cardiac arrest itself in the **cath lab** is not an uncommon event, but is usually rapidly resolved with proper management.





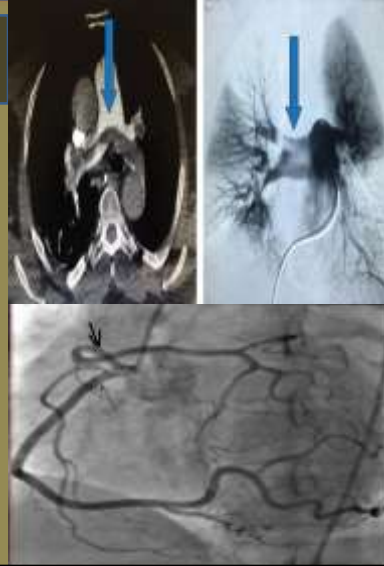
**MISSION:  
LIFELINE**

YOU CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN  
AN EVENT THAT KILLS AND ONE THAT DOESN'T.  
**STEMI AND CARDIAC RESUSCITATION  
SYSTEMS OF CARE.**

## Causes of Cath lab Catastrophes

### Non-Coronary Arrest in the Cath Lab

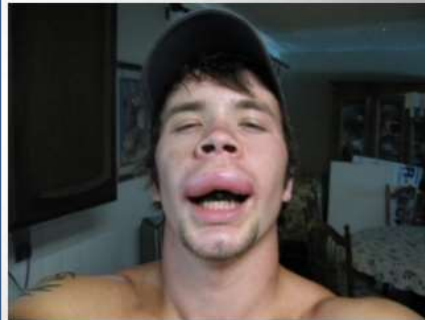
- Massive and submassive PE
- HOCM
- Pneumothorax.
- Electrolyte disturbances
- Anaphylaxis
- Major Bleeding



## Anaphylaxis Cardiac Arrest

**Five therapeutic agents are used for the treatment of anaphylactoid reactions:**

- Epinephrine
- steroids,
- H1 blockers
- H2 blockers
- volume administration



## Pericardiocentesis for Cardiac Tamponade



## Tension pneumothorax

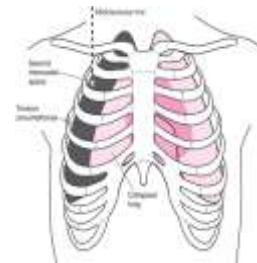
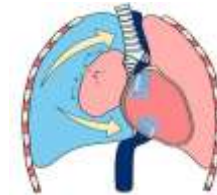
During permanent  
pacemaker implantation

### initial treatment?

1-needle decompression.

In 2nd intercostal space – mid  
clavicular line

2-thoracostomy (if ventilated or  
expertise available)



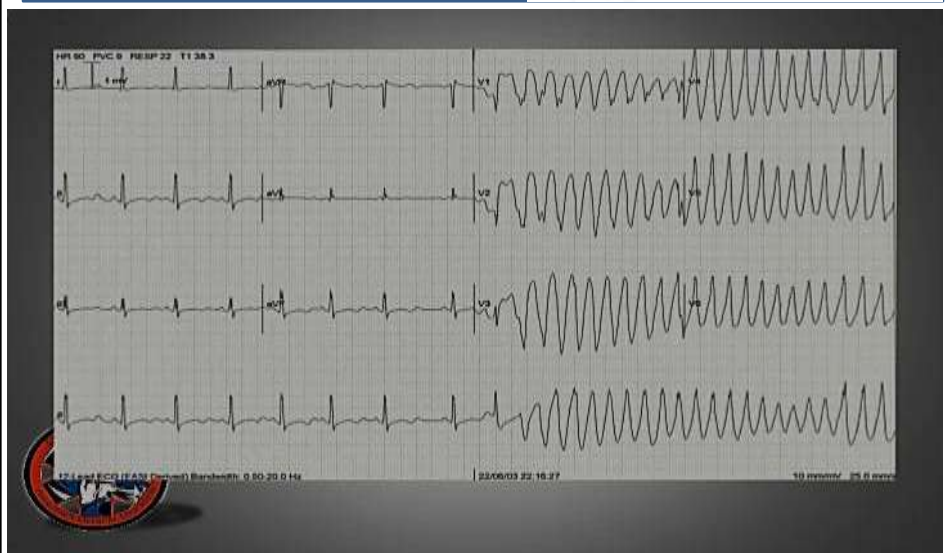
# Cath lab Catastrophes

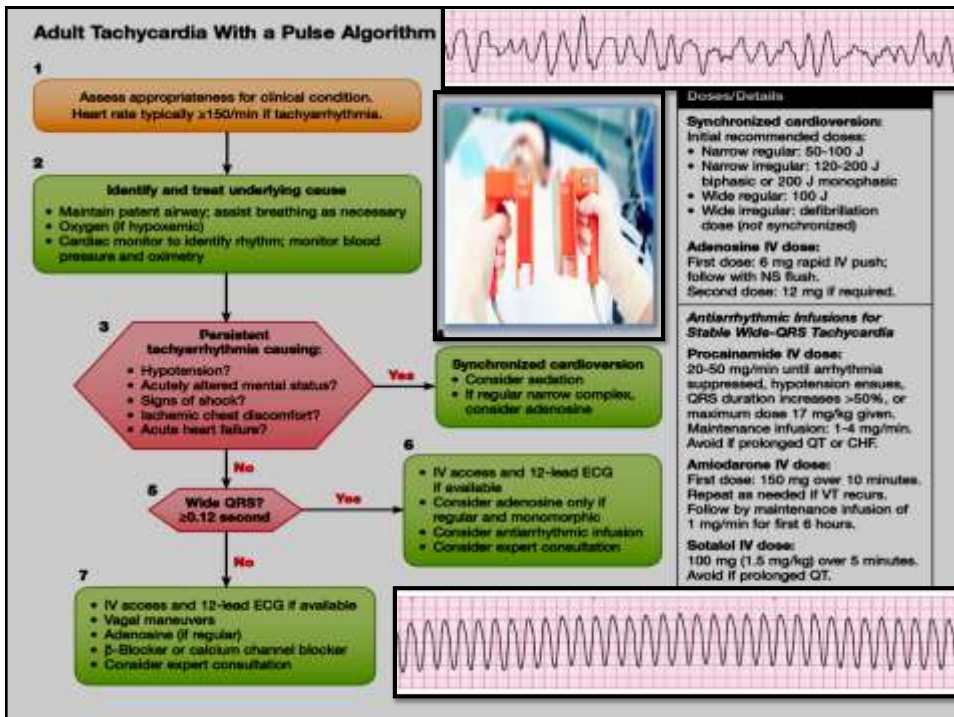
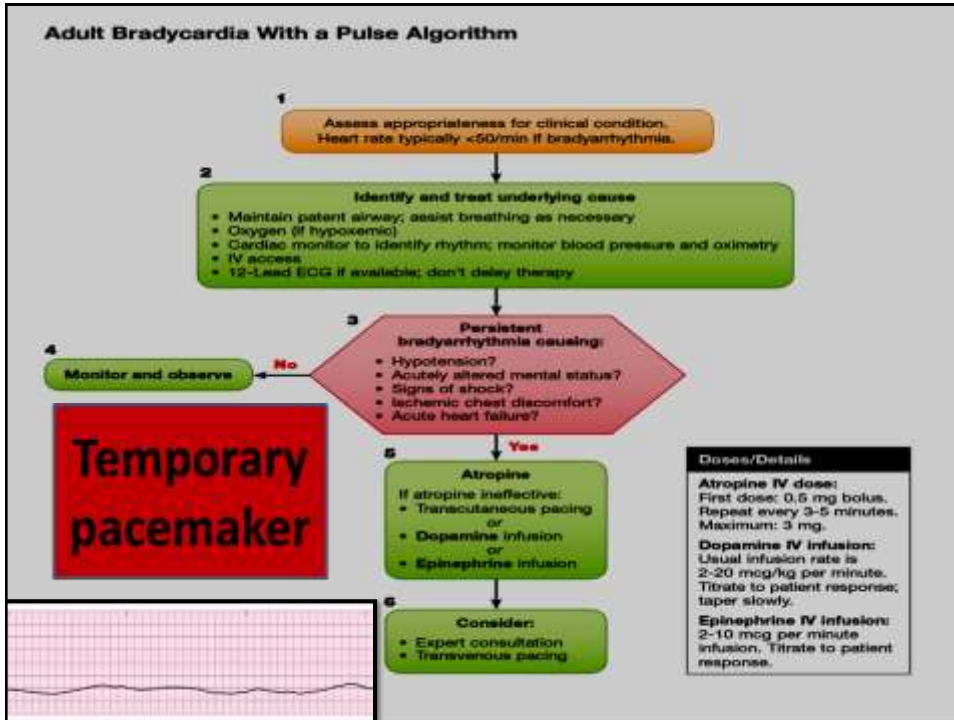
## Coronary procedure related arrest

- Anomalous coronary arteries
- Anomalous LM arising from Right cusp
- Vessel closure:
  - Dissection
  - Thrombus formation
  - Spasm
  - No-reflow in a major vessel
- Introduction of Air or thrombus
- Perforations
- Electrical complications



## Electrical instability





# Air Embolism

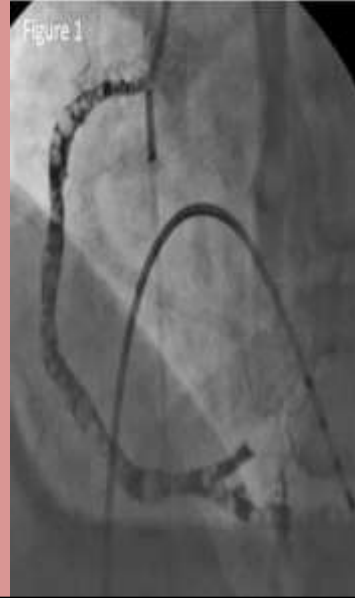
**Often from manifold injections (contrast or flush) and/or during introduction of devices.**

**Usually Small amount are tolerated**

**Chest pain  
Bradycardia  
Hypotension  
MI  
Death**

## Prevention

- Back bleed before injection
- Avoid pressurized flush



**Case:1**

Case: 2

**Catastrophes  
in cath lab**

**Case: 3**



# Catastrophes in cath lab

## Case: 4

### Coronary Perforation

- Occurs in between **0.1% - 0.7%**
- More with oversized stents
- Hydrophilic guide wire
- Cardiac tamponade and hemodynamic collapse can occur in seconds.
- Highest mortality among all PCI complications



## Coronary Perforation

- Early recognition is the key to a successful outcome
- Reversal of anticoagulation
- Prolonged inflation (up to 10 min) of an oversized balloon at low pressure.
- Pericardiocentesis
- Covered stents (require post-dilation, high pressure)
- Urgent surgical revascularization.

*Javaid et al Am J Cardiol 2006; 98: 911-4*

## Rules of engagement for Code Blue



- **The cardiac catheterization lab** is a self-sufficient critical care area and is considered one of the best places to save cardiac arrest patients.
- All equipment and drugs are available for complete cardiovascular support and in some labs, even open heart surgery can be performed.
- Most cath lab nurses are highly skilled at both routine cath patient care as well as critical care patient and all the staff must have Advanced life support certification.

## How is CPR done in the cath lab?

manual chest compression in the cath lab is usually difficult and carry high risk to the medical team from exposure to radiation.

**Not too fast;  
Not too hard**




### Disadvantages of Manual Chest Compressions in the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory

- Difficult to perform:**
  - Limited space around the cath table
  - Overreaching or stretching of rescuer performing compressions
  - Table itself less stable in the “working” position
  - May require lengthy periods of compressions
- Extensive radiation exposure to the rescuer**
  - Hands in the beam
  - Head next to the radiation beam and intensifier

**Not too fast;  
Not too hard**




 Circulation Journal  
Official Journal of the Japanese Circulation Society  
<http://www.j-circ.or.jp>


REVIEW

## Mechanical Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation In and On the Way to the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory

Preethi William, MD; Prashant Rao, MD; Uday B. Kanakadandi, MD;  
Alejandro Asencio, MD; Karl B. Kern, MD


Cardiac arrest, though not common during coronary angiography, is increasingly occurring in the catheterization laboratory because of the expanding complexity of percutaneous interventions (PCI) and the patient population being treated. Manual chest compression in the cath lab is not easily performed, often interrupted, and can result in the provider experiencing excessive radiation exposure. Mechanical cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) provides unique advantages over manual performance of chest compression for treating cardiac arrest in the cardiac cath lab. Such advantages include the potential for uninterrupted chest compressions, less radiation exposure, better quality chest compressions, and less crowded conditions around the catheterization table, allowing more attention to ongoing PCI efforts during CPR. Out-of-hospital cardiac arrest patients not responding to standard ACLS therapy






- Gas-driven sternal compression device with suction cup (LUCAS)
- PCI feasible in 13 pts with arrest or severe hypotension / bradycardia; mean BP 81/34 mmHg

*Larsen et al, Resuscitation 2007*

 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER



### Advantages of Mechanical Chest Compressions in the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory

- Uninterrupted chest compressions
  - No fatigue or changing rescuers
- No hands in the X-ray beam or head near the image intensifier
  - Less radiation exposure
- Less crowded around the cath table
  - Allows more attention to ongoing percutaneous coronary intervention efforts
- Better quality chest compressions
  - Consistent rate, depth and release

## Take Home Massage

- ✓ Lengthy resuscitations in the cath lab carry extremely high rates of mortality because it is essentially impossible to perform effective chest compressions during PCI.
- ✓ Use of a mechanical chest compression device, **LUCAS™**, in the cath lab in patients who suffered circulatory arrest requiring prolonged resuscitation



## A Fundamental Philosophy

You must understand local circumstances in order to achieve success.











Every Second Counts.  
Every Action Matters.



A Community Response Planning Guide  
for Sudden Cardiac Arrest



HeartRescue Partners







VITAL INFORMATION FOR THE EMS COMMUNITY



**The System Behind the Save**

Why the HeartRescue Project will make a believer out of you p. 30

VISIT US ONLINE AT [EMSWORLD.COM](http://EMSWORLD.COM) AND ON THE IPAD





