



## a) PURPOSE

Defibrillation delivers non-synchronized direct electric current to the myocardium of a patient exhibiting ventricular fibrillation or ventricular tachycardia without palpable pulses/blood pressure, with the intent to restore a perfusing cardiac rhythm.

## b) INDICATIONS

- (1) Ventricular fibrillation
- (2) Ventricular tachycardia without palpable pulse

## c) DOSAGE

- (1) Adult – 13 years of age and older
    - (a) Initial and subsequent energy: Deliver all shocks at the highest joule setting permitted by the device manufacturer (200 OR 360 J for most devices)
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- (2) Pediatric – less than 13 years of age
  - (a) Initial delivered energy: 2 J/kg
  - (b) Subsequent delivered energy at increasing dosage: 4 J/kg, 6 J/kg, 8 J/kg, to a maximum of 10 J/kg.

## d) CONTRAINDICATIONS

None

## e) POTENTIAL ADVERSE EFFECTS/COMPLICATIONS

- (1) Burns to the skin
- (2) Deactivation of patient's implanted pacemaker

## f) PRECAUTIONS

Ensure that no rescuers are touching the patient while delivering energy