#### **Scenario Location: Out-of-Hospital** Megacode 1 - Unstable Bradycardia

### (Unstable Bradycardia → pVT → PEA → PCAC)

**Lead-in:** You are a paramedic treating a 62-year-old man who had a syncopal episode.

#### Case Development

Initial Assessment	The patient is conscious and alert. What are your initial actions?
	His skin is pale and he is diaphoretic. The patient is not following commands. There is no radial pulse but the carotid pulse is weak and slow. The blood pressure is 78/42 mm Hg.
Bradycardia Algorithm	The ECG monitor shows a <b>sinus bradycardia</b> with occasional PVC. The student should follow the Bradycardia Algorithm and be prepared to administer a single dose of atropine while preparing for transcutaneous pacing.
Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (Pulseless VT)	With the introduction of the pacing impulse, the ECG monitor displays VI. There is no pulse. The student should immediately discontinue pacing and defibrillate the patient. The student will follow the VF/pVT pathway of the Cardiac Arrest Algorithm. The student should assign team functions and monitor for high-quality CPR. The case should continue through safe defibrillation and administration of epinephrine and amiodarone.
Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (PEA)	After the third shock, the patient develops an <b>organized rhythm that is slow.</b> There is no pulse. The patient is now in PEA. The student continues to monitor high-quality CPR and follows the PEA pathway of the Cardiac Arrest Algorithm. The student should consider reversible causes.
Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Algorithm	After ensuring effective ventilation, the student can now detect a carotid pulse. The patient has ROSC. The student should initiate the Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Care Algorithm.

## Megacode Testing Checklist: Scenarios 1/3/8 Bradycardia → Pulseless VT → PEA → PCAC

Date of Test

Student Name

Critical Performance Steps	✓ if done correctly
Team Leader	
Ensures high-quality CPR at all times	
Assigns team member roles	
Ensures that team members perform well	
Bradycardia Management	
Starts oxygen if needed, places monitor, starts IV	
Places monitor leads in proper position	
Recognizes symptomatic bradycardia	
Administers correct dose of atropine	
Prepares for second-line treatment	
Pulseless VT Management	
Recognizes pVT	
Clears before analyze and shock	
Immediately resumes CPR after shocks	
Appropriate airway management	
Appropriate cycles of drug-rhythm check/shock-CPR	
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
PEA Management	j
Recognizes PEA	
Verbalizes potential reversible causes of PEA (H's and T's)	
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
Immediately resumes CPR after rhythm and pulse checks	
Post-Cardiac Arrest Care	
Identifies ROSC	
Ensures BP and 12-lead ECG are performed, O <sub>2</sub> saturation is monitored, verbalizes need for endotracheal intubation and waveform capnography, and orders laboratory tests	
Considers targeted temperature management	
STOP TEST	
Instructor Notes  ■ Place a ✓ in the box next to each step the student completes successfully.	
<ul> <li>If the student does not complete all steps successfully (as indicated by at least 1 blank check box), the student must receive remediation. Make a note here of which skills require remediation (refer to Instructor Manual for</li> </ul>	student ual for
information about remediation).	
Test Results Circle PASS or NR to indicate pass or needs remediation: PASS	NR R

Test Results Circle PASS or NR to indicate pass or needs remediation:	PASS	NR
Instructor Initials		
Instructor Number Date		

### Megacode 2—Unstable Bradycardia Scenario Location: Out-of-Hospital

## (Unstable Bradycardia → VF → Asystole → PCAC)

Lead-in: You are called to a restaurant for a man who was waiting to be seated for dinner with a group. According to witnesses, he suddenly became unresponsive, vomited, and then stopped breathing. You have a 4-minute response to the scene in your ALS ambulance.

#### Case Development

Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Algorithm	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (Asystole)	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (VF)	Bradycardia Algorithm	Initial Assessment
Blood pressure is 180/108 mm Hg. The patient is still apneic with a capnography reading of 50 mm Hg. A finger-stick glucose reading (if asked for by Team Leader) is 187 mg/dL (10.4 mmol/L), and he remains unresponsive. The nearest emergency department is 4 minutes from the scene, a comprehensive stroke center is 12 minutes from the scene, and a cardiac arrest receiving center is 16 minutes from the scene for transport considerations.	CPR is initiated, and treatable causes are considered. After 2 cycles of CPR, the monitor shows a borderline wide-complex organized rhythm with a rate of 56/min, and there are pulses present.	Defibrillation is carried out and then CPR for 2 minutes. During this time, his wife says that he is healthy normally, and taking only vitamin supplements, but that he's been under extreme stress at work lately. After the first 2 minutes of CPR, the rhythm is still VF. Defibrillation with more CPR is given. Epinephrine is given, and an advanced airway is placed with an ETCO <sub>2</sub> reading of 22 mm Hg noted. Two minutes later, the rhythm is asystole, confirmed in 2 leads.	The patient is in <b>sinus bradycardia</b> when the limb leads are applied, and the 12-lead ECG is not suspicious for injury or ischemia. An IV is being initiated when the patient has a 5-second episode of grand mal seizures and then remains unresponsive. Bag-mask ventilations are initiated with oxygen. Shortly after that, the patient has no respirations and no pulse. The monitor shows <b>VF</b> .	You arrive at the scene to find 3 firefighters assisting the patient. One is maintaining an open airway while another is suctioning the patient. The third is getting vital signs and reports that his pulse is 44/min and very strong, respirations are 3/min, and blood pressure is 200/120 mm Hg. Bystanders state that the patient had a normal day but seemed irritated by the wait for a table.

## Megacode Testing Checklist: Scenarios 2/5 Bradycardia → VF → Asystole → PCAC

Student Name

Critical Performance Steps		✓ if done correctly
Team Leader		
Ensures high-quality CPR at all times		
Assigns team member roles		
Ensures that team members perform well		
Bradycardia Management		
Starts oxygen if needed, places monitor, starts IV		
Places monitor leads in proper position		
Recognizes symptomatic bradycardia		
Administers correct dose of atropine		
Prepares for second-line treatment		
VF Management		
Recognizes VF		
Clears before analyze and shock		
Immediately resumes CPR after shocks		
Appropriate airway management		
Appropriate cycles of drug-rhythm check/shock-CPR		
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses		
Asystole Management		ıl.
Recognizes asystole		
Verbalizes potential reversible causes of asystole (H's and T's)		
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses		
Immediately resumes CPR after rhythm and pulse checks		
Post-Cardiac Arrest Care		
Identifies ROSC		
Ensures BP and 12-lead ECG are performed, O <sub>2</sub> saturation is monitored, verbalizes need for endotracheal intubation and waveform capnography, and orders laboratory tests	for	
Considers targeted temperature management		
STOP TEST		
Instructor Notes  • Place 3./ in the box next to each stan the student completes successfully		
• If the student does not complete all steps successfully (as indicated by at least 1 blank check box), the student	check box), t	the student
must receive remediation. Make a note here of which skills require remediation (refer to instructor Manual for information about remediation).	) Instructor Ma	anual for
Test Results Circle PASS or NR to indicate pass or needs remediation:	PASS	NR.
Instructor Initials		
Instructor Number Date		

Date

#### Scenario Location: Out-of-Hospital Megacode 3-Unstable Bradycardia

### (Unstable Bradycardia $\rightarrow$ pVT $\rightarrow$ PEA $\rightarrow$ PCAC)

responding. You arrive to find the scene is safe and firefighters are placing a nonrebreathing oxygen mask on the patient. Lead-in: Your ALS ambulance is dispatched to help an elderly mar having chest pain in the lobby of the local bank. A BLS engine is all

#### Case Development

Immediate The patient will bat Post-Cardiac at 8/min. His blood	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (PEA)  CPR, the rhythm is wide, but the rate is pulse can't be felt.	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (Pulseless VT)  CPR, and epinephriperformed without card sary unless the Team rhythm is sinus braupulse is not present.	Bradycardia  If students try to gi Algorithm  denervation. The tr acquires capture, t to VT, and he beco	ssment	Initial The patient is sitting
The patient will bat his eyes to loud voices, and he begins breathing at 8/min. His blood pressure by Doppler is 68/40 mm Hg. The Team Leader should consider dopamine infusion for blood pressure support and/or epinephrine infusion to support perfusion. The closest emeragency department is 3 minutes from the scene and a STEMI receiving	CPR is continued, an advanced airway is now placed, and capnography is connected with a reading of 22 mm Hg. After 2 minutes of CPR, the rhythm is nearly the same, and the QRS complexes aren't as wide, but the rate is the same. A carotid pulse is present, but a radial pulse can't be felt. The ETCO <sub>2</sub> reading is now 48 mm Hg.	Defibrillation occurs, and then high-quality CPR is given for 2 minutes, during which time peripheral IVs are established in each arm. After 2 minutes, the rhythm is still VT. Defibrillation occurs again, with CPR, and epinephrine is administered. A bag-mask device is being performed without difficulty, so an advanced airway isn't necessary unless the learn Leader feels it's indicated. After 2 minutes, the rhythm is <b>sinus bradycardia</b> with marginally wide QRS complexes. A pulse is not present.	If students try to give atropine, it will not have any effect due to heart denervation. The transcutaneous pacemaker is applied, but before it acquires capture, the patient goes unresponsive, the rhythm changes to VT, and he becomes apneic. There is no pulse.	with firefighters. He says his chest feels heavy and he might need to vomit. This started abruptly while waiting in line to see a teller. He has had cardiac problems in the past, and he received a heart transplant 2 years ago. What are your initial actions? His pulse is slow and weak, his respirations are 18/min and nonlabored, and his blood pressure is 86/48 mm Hg by Doppler (due to not being able to hear it with a stethoscope). He is grossly diaphoretic and pale/gray in color. The monitor displays a <b>third-degree-AV block</b> with wider QRS complexes and a rate of 32/min. He takes multiple medications, but they are at his home. He is allergic to sulfa. The 12-lead ECG is suspicious for injury in leads II, III, and AVF, and lead V4R is flat.	The patient is sitting with his back against a wall plott and talking

#### Bradycardia → Pulseless VT → PEA → PCAC Megacode Testing Checklist: Scenarios 1/3/8

Date of Test

Student Name

Critical Performance Steps		√ if done
Team Leader		Serie Cenj
Ensures high-quality CPR at all times		
Assigns team member roles		
Ensures that team members perform well		
Bradycardia Management		
Starts oxygen if needed, places monitor, starts IV		
Places monitor leads in proper position		
Recognizes symptomatic bradycardia		
Administers correct dose of atropine		
Prepares for second-line treatment		
Pulseless VT Management		
Recognizes pVT		
Clears before analyze and shock		
Immediately resumes CPR after shocks		
Appropriate airway management		
Appropriate cycles of drug-rhythm check/shock-CPR		
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses		
PEA Management		
Recognizes PEA		
Verbalizes potential reversible causes of PEA (H's and T's)		
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses		
Immediately resumes CPR after rhythm and pulse checks		
Post-Cardiac Arrest Care		
Identifies ROSC		
Ensures BP and 12-lead ECG are performed, O <sub>2</sub> saturation is monitored, verbalizes need for endotracheal intubation and waveform capnography, and orders laboration, tests		
Considers targeted temperature management		
STOP TEST		
Instructor Notes		
<ul> <li>Place a   in the box next to each step the student completes successfully.</li> <li>If the student does not complete all steps successfully (as indicated by at least 1 blank check box), the student must receive remediation. Make a note here of which skills require remediation (refer to Instructor Manual for</li> </ul>	eck box), th	e student ual for
itialo	7,00	3
Instructor NumberDate		

# Megacode 4—Unstable Ventricular Tachycardia Scenario Location: Out-of-Hospital

### (Unstable Tachycardia → VF → PEA → PCAC)

**Lead-in:** Your ALS ambulance is dispatched to the beltway (the highway around your city) to a car that has pulled to the side of the highway. The caller states that she was driving the patient (a 65-year-old woman) to an appointment, but the patient was getting really sick and didn't think they could make it 15 more miles to the appointment. She is reporting shortness of breath and weakness.

#### Case Development

Initial Assessment

Your unit arrives to the scene to find the police controlling traffic (the scene is safe). The patient is sitting in the passenger seat of an SUV, awake and

to offset hyperkalemia. After this, at the next rhythm check, the monitor shows a marginally wide-complex rhythm, with severely peaked waves, and a rate of 100/min. The patient now has a pulse at the care	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (PEA)  CPR is continued, and capnography readings continue to hover betw 22 mm Hg and 27 mm Hg during CPR. Treatable causes are consider and the person driving the vehicle states, "I was taking her to dialysis because she missed her appointment 2 days ago." Calcium chloride i	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm Arrest Algorithm Arrest Algorithm  (VF)  The patient is rapidly removed from the car to the stretcher. CPR is initity atted, the defibrillation is quickly delivered, and CPR is continued. The stretcher (with CPR in progress) is moved to the back of the ambulance for better access to equipment. During this cycle of CPR, an IO access is achieved, and bag-mask ventilations are performed with mild difficult After 2 minutes, the rhythm is still VF, defibrillation is performed, and CI is continued. Epinephrine is given, and an advanced airway is placed with a capnography reading of 25 mm Hg. After 2 minutes, the rhythm an organized wide-complex rhythm at a rate of 70/min, but no pulses are present.	Tachycardia  Your partner attaches the cardiac monitor and the initial rhythm is mon morphic wide-complex tachycardia. Due to the overall patient condition, the Team Leader should consider cardioversion. A peripheral IV is attempted without success. Cardioversion is performed without a chan in condition. While you are preparing to increase the energy to cardiove again, the patient's head slumps, and she stops breathing. The monitor now shows VF.	talking in 2- to 3-word sentences. What are your initial actions?  Her vital signs include a respiratory rate of 20/min with mildly labored breathing; her lungs have fine crackles in both bases. Her SpO <sub>2</sub> is 94' 15 L/min of oxygen provided by firefighters. There are palpable carott radial pulses with a rate of 150/min. Her blood pressure is 84/54 mm
for better access to equipment. During this cycle of CPR, an IV access is achieved, and bag-mask ventilations are performed with mild difficulty. After 2 minutes, the rhythm is still VF, defibrillation is performed, and CPR is continued. Epinephrine is given, and an advanced airway is placed with a capnography reading of 25 mm Hg. After 2 minutes, the rhythm is an <b>organized wide-complex rhythm</b> at a rate of 70/min, but no pulses are present.  CPR is continued, and capnography readings continue to hover between 22 mm Hg and 27 mm Hg during CPR. Treatable causes are considered, and the person driving the vehicle states, "I was taking her to dialysis because she missed her appointment 2 days ago." Calcium chloride or gluconate and sodium bicarbonate should be considered for this patient to offset hyperkalemia. After this, at the next rhythm check, the monitor shows a <b>marginally wide-complex rhythm</b> , with severely peaked T waves, and a rate of 100/min. The patient now has a pulse at the carotid.	nt. During this cycle of CPH, an IO access notilations are performed with mild difficulty still VF, defibrillation is performed, and CPI jiven, and an advanced airway is placed of 25 mm Hg. After 2 minutes, the rhythm is chythm at a rate of 70/min, but no pulses.	The patient is rapidly removed from the car to the stretcher. CPR is initiated, the defibrillation is quickly delivered, and CPR is continued. The stretcher (with CPR in progress) is moved to the back of the ambulance for the content to content to the content t	Your partner attaches the cardiac monitor and the initial rhythm is <b>monomorphic wide-complex tachycardia</b> . Due to the overall patient condition, the Team Leader should consider cardioversion. A peripheral IV is attempted without success. Cardioversion is performed without a change in condition. While you are preparing to increase the energy to cardiovert again, the patient's head slumps, and she stops breathing. The monitor now shows <b>VF</b> .	talking in 2- to 3-word sentences. What are your initial actions? Her vital signs include a respiratory rate of 20/min with mildly labored breathing; her lungs have fine crackles in both bases. Her SpO <sub>2</sub> is 94% on 15 L/min of oxygen provided by firefighters. There are palpable carotid and radial pulses with a rate of 150/min. Her blood pressure is 84/54 mm Hg.

Instructor Number

Date

## Megacode Testing Checklist: Scenarios 4/7/10 Tachycardia → VF → PEA → PCAC

Student Name Date of Test	
Critical Performance Steps	✓ if done correctly
Team Leader	
Ensures high-quality CPR at all times	
Assigns team member roles	
Ensures that team members perform well	
Tachycardia Management	
Starts oxygen if needed, places monitor, starts IV	
Places monitor leads in proper position	
Recognizes unstable tachycardia	
Recognizes symptoms due to tachycardia	
Performs immediate synchronized cardioversion	
VF Management	
Recognizes VF	
Clears before analyze and shock	
Immediately resumes CPR after shocks	
Appropriate airway management	
Appropriate cycles of drug-rhythm check/shock-CPR	
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
PEA Management	
Recognizes PEA	
Verbalizes potential reversible causes of PEA (H's and T's)	
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
Immediately resumes CPR after rhythm and pulse checks	
Post-Cardiac Arrest Care	
Identifies ROSC	
Ensures BP and 12-lead ECG are performed, O <sub>2</sub> saturation is monitored, verbalizes need for endotracheal intubation and waveform capnography, and orders laboratory tests	
Considers targeted temperature management	
STOP TEST	
Instructor Notes  • Place a ✓ in the box next to each step the student completes successfully.  • If the student does not complete all steps successfully (as indicated by at least 1 blank check box),	, the student
must receive remediation. Make a note here of which skills require remediation (refer to Instructor Manual for information about remediation).	Nanual for
Test Results Circle PASS or NR to indicate pass or needs remediation: PASS	NR
Instructor Initials	

## Megacode 5—Unstable Bradycardia Scenario Location: Emergency Department

## (Unstable Bradycardia → VF → Asystole → PCAC)

Student Name

Date of Test

**Lead-in:** You are working in the emergency department when a drowsy 28-year-old man is brought in by paramedics, who are concerned about a drug overdose.

#### Case Development

	1			
Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Algorithm	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (Asystole)	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (VF)	Bradycardia Algorithm	Initial Assessment
After several rounds of CPR and ACLS, the patient has ROSC. The rhythm on the monitor is a ventricular escape bradycardia with hypotension. Consider the toxicological aspects of the case as well as the differential diagnosis. A discussion around the treatment of Ca2+ channel blocker overdose and available treatment options may be included for advanced learners.	After the second shock, the patient's rhythm changes to asystole. The student should follow the asystole pathway of the Cardiac Arrest Algorithm with special attention given to high-quality CPR and good team communication.	Students should follow the VF pathway of the Cardiac Arrest Algorithm.  Advanced students may consider discussing intravenous lipid emulsion therapy and extracorporeal CPR.	His vital signs include heart rate 30/min, respiratory rate 16/min, blood pressure 100/55 mm Hg, Spo <sub>2</sub> 98% on 3 L by nasal prongs, temperature 36.5°C, and blood glucose 195 mg/dL (10.8 mmol/L). A rhythm strip shows wide QRS ventricular escape rhythm at 30, with a long QT.  His heart rate continues to drop, and then the patient suddenly becomes unresponsive and loses his pulse. The monitor shows VF.	They tell you that the patient has a history of depression and also takes dilitazem for an unknown reason. A family member on scene told paramedics that the patient has had a very low mood lately and threated suicide earlier in the day. An empty bottle of dilitazem was found beside the patient when the paramedics arrived. What are your initial actions?  Assessing the patient on the paramedic stretcher, you find that the patient is very drowsy and slurring his words. You are unable to get any useful information on his history from the patient.

## Megacode Testing Checklist: Scenarios 2/5 Bradycardia → VF → Asystole → PCAC

Critical Performance Steps	✓ if done correctly
Team Leader	
Ensures high-quality CPR at all times	
Assigns team member roles	
Ensures that team members perform well	
Bradycardia Management	
Starts oxygen if needed, places monitor, starts IV	
Places monitor leads in proper position	
Recognizes symptomatic bradycardia	
Administers correct dose of atropine	
Prepares for second-line treatment	
VF Management	
Recognizes VF	
Clears before analyze and shock	
Immediately resumes CPR after shocks	
Appropriate airway management	
Appropriate cycles of drug-rhythm check/shock-CPR	
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
Asystole Management	
Recognizes asystole	
Verbalizes potential reversible causes of asystole (H's and T's)	
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
Immediately resumes CPR after rhythm and pulse checks	
Post-Cardiac Arrest Care	
Identifies ROSC	
Ensures BP and 12-lead ECG are performed, O <sub>2</sub> saturation is monitored, verbalizes need for endotracheal intubation and waveform capnography, and orders laboratory tests	
Considers targeted temperature management	
STOP TEST	
<ul> <li>Place a ✓ in the box next to each step the student completes successfully.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>If the student does not complete all steps successfully (as indicated by at least 1 blank check box), the student must receive remediation. Make a note here of which skills require remediation (refer to Instructor Manual for information).</li> </ul>	the student lanual for
Test Results Circle PASS or NR to indicate pass or needs remediation: PASS	R
Instructor Initials	
Instructor Number	

#### Scenario Location: In-Hospital Megacode 6-Unstable Bradycardia

### (Unstable Bradycardia → VF → PEA → PCAC)

**Lead-in:** A 58-year-old man was admitted to the hospital with pneumonia. On the second day of his hospital course, he says he has chest pain, and you are called to evaluate him.

#### Case Development

Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Algorithm	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (PEA)	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (VF)	Bradycardia Algorithm	Initial Assessment
After the student recognizes ROSC (ETCO <sub>2</sub> rises to 40 mm Hg) and checks a pulse, the patient will be found to be hemodynamically unstable with heart rate 110/min and blood pressure of 70/30 mm Hg. The student should ask for the vital signs as opposed to just stating them. The patient should be given a fluid bolus, and a vasopressor infusion should be initiated as blood pressure will not improve with fluids alone. The patient will not be following commands and would be a candidate for targeted temperature management.	The patient is now in PEA. The student continues to monitor high-quality CPR, and epinephrine should be provided. Shortly after a dose of epinephrine, the student will notice that the continuous ETCO <sub>2</sub> rises to 40 mm Hg. The student should recognize that ROSC is likely present and stop CPR, even if the full 2 minutes is not performed, because the ETCO <sub>2</sub> is identifying ROSC (a good opportunity for this teaching point). Underlying causes during this event that could be considered include cardiac tamponade, and, if an ultrasound is performed, there would be no fluid present.	Just after completion of cardiac catheterization (with findings of 100% right coronary artery occlusion), the patient will develop VF. The patient will be refractory to at least 3 shocks, thus allowing the student to progress through the algorithm. Chest compressions should be initiated with high-quality CPR and the airway managed initially with bag-mask ventilation and, ultimately, probably intubation and epinephrine/amiodarone. Errors would be to provide epinephrine before at least 2 shocks. After the third shock, the patient will go into a sinus tachycardia with no pulse (PEA), Of note, if the student chose to relook at the coronary arteries, this would be an appropriate step and would be patent (ie, the underlying cause could be arterial reocclusion, but this advanced reasoning is beyond the expectations of the scenario).	The patient's vital signs are heart rate 35/min, respiratory rate 18/min, and blood pressure 88/49 mm Hg.  The monitor shows a <b>third-degree heart block</b> . The initial dose of atropine will not have much effect, and pacing should be initiated. With pacing, the patient's blood pressure will also improve such that the patient can now go to the cardiac cath lab.	What are your initial actions?

## Megacode Testing Checklist: Scenarios 6/11 Bradycardia → VF → PEA → PCAC

Student Name

✓ if done correctly
<ul> <li>If the student does not complete all steps successfully (as indicated by at least 1 blank check box), the student must receive remediation. Make a note here of which skills require remediation (refer to Instructor Manual for</li> </ul>
3

Test Results Circle PASS or NR to indicate pass or needs remediation:	PASS	NR.
Instructor Initials		
Instructor Number Date		

# Megacode 7 — Unstable Ventricular Tachycardia Scenario Location: In-Hospital

### (Unstable Tachycardia → VF → PEA → PCAC)

**Lead-in:** You are a healthcare provider caring for a patient who was admitted for chest pain, and you rule out myocardial infarction. He was diagnosed with stable angina 10 years ago, but over the past few months, his pain has been increasing in duration and intensity.

#### Case Development

Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Algorithm	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (PEA)	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (VF)	Tachycardia Algorithm		Initial Assessment
Your team continues high-quality chest compressions, and your patient has ROSC. At this point, you should initiate the Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Care Algorithm.	Despite your actions, your patient is now showing second-degree AV block on the monitor with no pulse (PEA). As Team Leader, you continue to monitor high-quality CPR and follow the PEA pathway of the Cardiac Arrest Algorithm. Your patient may be in cardiogenic shock, so you must be able to differentiate and discuss potential causes of PEA.	Upon delivery of the cardioversion shock, your patient develops a different rhythm, which you identify as VF. Now, you will follow the VF/pVT pathway of the Cardiac Arrest Algorithm. As Team Leader, you will assign team functions and monitor for high-quality CPR. The case should continue through safe defibrillation, administration of a vasopressor, and consideration of an anti-arrhythmic drug.	The symptoms of your patient's tachycardia require management and treatment. You are able to differentiate that not only is your patient in VT, he is also symptomatic. The treatment for this is immediate cardioversion, noting that drug therapy should not delay the cardioversion.	At the change of shift, the patient's vital signs were heart rate 82/min, respiratory rate 16/min, blood pressure 124/74 mm Hg, and Spo <sub>2</sub> of 98%. He denied chest pain on assessment.  You leave the room and are shortly summoned to return by your patient's son. As you enter the room, you assess that your patient is clutching his chest, stating he has chest pain, and displaying diaphoresis. His vital signs are heart rate 160/min, respiratory rate 22/min, blood pressure 156/92 mm Hg, and Spo <sub>2</sub> of 93%.  His bedside monitor shows a monomorphic, wide, and rapid thythm, which is different from previously recorded rhythms.  Your patient may have an acute coronary syndrome. Due to his history, you will initially focus on the tachycardia rhythm. You will question your patient on his current symptoms and ensure IV line patiency and cardiac monitoring. Nitroglycerin may be initiated as long as the blood pressure is greater than 90 mm Hg systolic and the patient continues to have chest pain. Administration of aspirin is appropriate as long as the patient is responsive.	The patient has a supportive family and wife who remain at his bed- side consistently. What are your initial actions?

## Megacode Testing Checklist: Scenarios 4/7/10 Tachycardia → VF → PEA → PCAC

t and a second	
Critical Performance Steps	✓ if done correctly
Team Leader	
Ensures high-quality CPR at all times	
Assigns team member roles	
Ensures that team members perform well	
Tachycardia Management	
Starts oxygen if needed, places monitor, starts IV	
Places monitor leads in proper position	
Recognizes unstable tachycardia	
Recognizes symptoms due to tachycardia	
Performs immediate synchronized cardioversion	
VF Management	
Recognizes VF	
Clears before analyze and shock	
Immediately resumes CPR after shocks	
Appropriate airway management	
Appropriate cycles of drug-rhythm check/shock-CPR	
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
PEA Management	
Recognizes PEA	
Verbalizes potential reversible causes of PEA (H's and T's)	
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
Immediately resumes CPR after rhythm and pulse checks	
Post-Cardiac Arrest Care	
Identifies ROSC	
Ensures BP and 12-lead ECG are performed, O <sub>2</sub> saturation is monitored, verbalizes need for endotracheal intubation and waveform capnography, and orders laboratory tests	
Considers targeted temperature management	
STOP TEST	
Instructor Notes	
<ul> <li>Place a   ✓ in the box next to each step the student completes successfully.</li> <li>If the student does not complete all steps successfully (as indicated by at least 1 blank check box), the student must receive remediation. Make a note here of which skills require remediation (refer to Instructor Manual for information about remediation).</li> </ul>	k box), the stu uctor Manual f
Test Results Circle PASS or NR to indicate pass or needs remediation: P/	PASS NR
Instructor Initials	
Instructor Number Date	

### Megacode 8—Unstable Bradycardia Scenario Location: In-Hospital

## (Unstable Bradycardia → pVT → PEA → PCAC)

Student Name

**Lead-in:** A 72-year-old man was admitted to the hospital with palpitations. He is now reporting chest discomfort, and you are called to evaluate him.

#### Case Development

Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Algorithm	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (PEA)	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (Pulseless VT)	Bradycardia Algorithm	Initial Assessment
After ROSC, the patient should have his vital signs checked (heart rate 108/min, blood pressure 80/60 mm Hg, $SpO_2$ of 95%). He should be given a fluid bolus for hypotension and rapidly transported to the cath lab for revascularization. He is unresponsive, so plans can be made to initiate targeted temperature management, ideally simultaneously with revascularization in the cath lab.	After epinephrine is given for PEA, the rhythm will go <b>back to VF</b> . After another defibrillation, the ETCO <sub>2</sub> will rise to 40 mm Hg after about 1 minute of CPR. The student should recognize that ROSC is obtained, and CPR should be stopped rather than continue for an additional minute.	While waiting to go to the cath lab, the patient becomes unresponsive, is pulseless, and has <b>VT</b> on the monitor. One correct action would be immediate defibrillation (one could also have done precordial thump as a witnessed event) simultaneously with good CPR. VT will persist despite defibrillation, and the patient will need high-quality CPR, bag-mask ventilation with or without intubation, and reevaluation of the rhythm after 2 minutes of CPR. After a second defibrillation, the patient's rhythm will change to PEA.	The patient has a STEMI, bradycardia, and hypoxia. The patient should be placed on supplementary oxygen because of the hypoxia, the cath lab should be activated, and aspirin should be given. The patient's heart rate is 50/min and the monitor shows sinus bradycardia. Because the blood pressure is stable, no intervention is necessary. If the student chooses to give atropine, the side effects of this drug in acute myocardial infarction (when not clinically indicated) can be discussed. Other interventions such as anticoagulation could be considered while preparing for cath lab, though nitroglycerin should be avoided because of the inferior myocardial infarction.	What are your initial actions? The patient's vital signs are heart rate of 50/min, respirations of 24/min, blood pressure of 150/70 mm Hg, and SpO <sub>2</sub> of 90% on room air. A 12-lead ECG reveals an acute inferior STEMI.

## Megacode Testing Checklist: Scenarios 1/3/8 Bradycardia → Pulseless VT → PEA → PCAC

Critical Performance Steps	✓ if done correctly
Team Leader	
Ensures high-quality CPR at all times	
Assigns team member roles	
Ensures that team members perform well	
Bradycardia Management	
Starts oxygen if needed, places monitor, starts IV	
Places monitor leads in proper position	
Recognizes symptomatic bradycardia	
Administers correct dose of atropine	
Prepares for second-line treatment	
Pulseless VT Management	
Recognizes pVT	
Clears before analyze and shock	
Immediately resumes CPR after shocks	
Appropriate airway management	
Appropriate cycles of drug-rhythm check/shock-CPR	
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
PEA Management	
Recognizes PEA	
Verbalizes potential reversible causes of PEA (H's and T's)	
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
Immediately resumes CPR after rhythm and pulse checks	
Post-Cardiac Arrest Care	
Identifies ROSC	
Ensures BP and 12-lead ECG are performed, O <sub>2</sub> saturation is monitored, verbalizes need for endotracheal intubation and waveform capnography, and orders laboratory tests	or
Considers targeted temperature management	
STOP TEST	
	hook hov) tho s
<ul> <li>If the student does not complete all steps successfully (as indicated by at least 1 blank check box), the student must receive remediation. Make a note here of which skills require remediation (refer to Instructor Manual for information chart remodiation)</li> </ul>	check box), the s Instructor Manua
Test Results Circle PASS or NR to indicate pass or needs remediation:	PASS
Instructor Initials	
Instructor Number Date	

## Megacode 9—Unstable Tachycardia (SVT) Scenario Location: In-Hospital

### (Unstable Tachycardia $\rightarrow$ PEA $\rightarrow$ VF $\rightarrow$ PCAC)

**Lead-in:** A 42-year-old woman with a history of lupus and asthma was admitted with pneumonia. She is doing well initially but then develops tachycardia while receiving albuterol for ongoing wheezing

#### Case Development

Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Algorithm	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (VF)	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (PEA)		Tachycardia Algorithm	Initial Assessment
After ROSC, the patient will have substantial auto-PEEP, and one immediate strategy will need to be avoidance of excessive ventilations. The blood pressure will be relatively low (89/70 mm Hg) but responsive to fluids, and vasopressors are not necessarily needed although they could be prepared in case of worsening. Because the cause of arrest is pneumonia/asthma, there should not really be consideration for cardiac catheterization (if performed, a 12-lead ECG will show sinus tachycardia at rate of 110/min but otherwise normal). The patient will not be following commands and thus would be a candidate for targeted temperature management. Oxygenation will be marginal, so the principle of avoidance of hypoxia (as opposed to hyperoxia) will be in play.	The patient is in VF and immediate defibrillation is required. After defibrillation, chest compressions can be initiated. After about 1 minute of chest compressions, ETCO <sub>2</sub> will rise from 12 mm Hg to 38 mm Hg. The student should recognize ROSC, discontinue CPR, confirm pulse and blood pressure, and move to the Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Care Algorithm.	The patient is in PEA after intubation with contributions from auto-PEEP given the severe asthma. The ventilation rate should be low, and the student may or should consider disconnecting the bag to allow full exhalation. After the student attends to the ventilation rate and provision of epinephrine, the patient will have rhythm change to <b>VF.</b>	The patient is in profound respiratory distress with wheezing and will be refractory to any attempts at albuterol. The patient will clearly either need immediate intubation or progress to complete respiratory failure requiring bag-mask ventilation. After intubation, the patient will progress to PEA. The student should recognize this by evaluating for pulse/blood pressure after the intubation. Also, the PEA could theoretically be caused or contributed to by excessive ventilations (ie, auto-PEEP) immediately after intubation.	If the student gives adenosine in this scenario, the rhythm will change from SVT to sinus, but the patient will progress to severe respiratory distress with marked wheezing. Adenosine is relatively contraindicated in asthma exacerbation because of the effects on the adenosine receptors, and it will worsen the underlying asthma exacerbation, leading to respiratory distress. If the student recognizes this and chooses an alternative option for SVT, then that should be positively noted, but for the sake of the scenario, the patient will progress to respiratory failure anyway.	What are your initial actions? The patient has a heart rate of 160/min and the monitor shows SVT. The blood pressure is 140/70 mm Hg.

### Megacode Testing Checklist: Scenario 9 Tachycardia → PEA → VF → PCAC

Student Name

	Critical Performance Steps	√ if done correctly
٥	Team Leader	
٠	Ensures high-quality CPR at all times	
	Assigns team member roles	
	Ensures that team members perform well	
	Tachycardia Management	
	Starts oxygen if needed, places monitor, starts IV	
	Places monitor leads in proper position	
	Recognizes unstable tachycardia	
	Recognizes symptoms due to tachycardia	
Ψ .Υ·	Performs immediate synchronized cardioversion	
	PEA Management	
	Recognizes PEA	
	Verbalizes potential reversible causes of PEA (H's and T's)	
۵	Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
9	Immediately resumes CPR after rhythm and pulse checks	
	VF Management	
	Recognizes VF	
<u> </u>	Clears before analyze and shock	
	Immediately resumes CPR after shocks	
ΰ	Appropriate airway management	
	Appropriate cycles of drug-rhythm check/shock-CPR	
	Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
	Post-Cardiac Arrest Care	
	Identifies ROSC	
0	Ensures BP and 12-lead ECG are performed, O <sub>2</sub> saturation is monitored, verbalizes need for endotracheal intubation and waveform capnography, and orders laboratory tests	
_	Considers targeted temperature management	
	STOP TEST	
	Instructor Notes	
0 9	<ul> <li>Place a ✓ in the box next to each step the student completes successfully.</li> <li>If the student does not complete all steps successfully (as indicated by at least 1 blank check box), the student</li> </ul>	e student
. <u>w</u> .	must receive remediation. Make a note here of which skills require remediation (refer to Instructor Manual for information about remediation).	nual for
	Test Results Circle PASS or NR to indicate pass or needs remediation: PASS	NR
	Instructor Initials	
	Instructor Number Date	

#### Scenario Location: In-Hospital Megacode 10-Unstable Ventricular Tachycardia

### (Unstable Tachycardia → VF → PEA → PCAC)

**Lead-in:** You are working in the cardiac care unit of your hospital. A 51-year-old woman who underwent PCI 3 hours ago is reporting heavy central chest pressure and nausea.

#### Case Development

ASSOSSITE	On initial assessment, the patient reports feeling light-headed and nauseated, with severe central crushing chest pain. She appears drowsy, pale, and diaphoretic. Her vital signs are heart rate 130/min, respiratory rate 20/min, and blood pressure 72/40 mm Hg. The SpO <sub>2</sub> monitor is not showing a waveform and giving no reading, and her temperature is 37°C.
	realt late lownint, respiratory rate commit, and procedure resource resource from Hg. The Spo <sub>2</sub> monitor is not showing a waveform and giving no reading, and her temperature is 37°C.  The rhythm strip shows a <b>regular wide-complex tachycardia</b> at 130/min.
Tachycardia Algorithm	A 12-lead ECG shows VT at 130/min. A previous ECG done before the procedure shows a normal sinus tachycardia with narrow complex.
	The goals of this section will be for the student to recognize unstable VT and follow the algorithm, assess ABCs, provide supplementary O <sub>2</sub> , ensure adequate IV access, discuss the pros and cons of analgesia and sedation, demonstrate safe synchronized cardioversion, and consider treatment for acute ischemia/acute coronary syndromes in this setting.
Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (VF)	After 2 failed synchronized cardioversions, the patient loses pulses and becomes apneic and unresponsive. The monitor shows <b>VF</b> .
	Focus on safe defibrillation, high-quality compressions, and a consideration of differential diagnoses.
Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (PEA)	After the second defibrillation attempt, the patient's rhythm changes to a wide-complex regular rhythm (with P-waves) at 70/min. The patient still has no pulses. The student should follow the PEA pathway of the Cardiac Arrest Algorithm. Students should focus on high-quality chest compressions and may consider advanced airway and underlying causes, including PE and myocardial infarction hemorrhage among other things.
Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Algorithm	The team continues high-quality chest compressions, the patient has ROSC, and the team initiates the Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Care Algorithm. The students may consider myocardial ischemia and involvement of the interventional cardiologist (question acute stent obstruction). If the patient cannot follow commands, targeted temperature management should be started.

#### Megacode Testing Checklist: Scenarios 4/7/10 Tachycardia → VF → PEA → PCAC

Student Name Date of lest	st	
Critical Performance Steps		√ if done correctly
Team Leader		
Ensures high-quality CPR at all times		
Assigns team member roles		
Ensures that team members perform well		
Tachycardia Management		
Starts oxygen if needed, places monitor, starts IV		
Places monitor leads in proper position		
Recognizes unstable tachycardia		
Recognizes symptoms due to tachycardia		
Performs immediate synchronized cardioversion		
VF Management		
Recognizes VF		
Clears before analyze and shock		
Immediately resumes CPR after shocks		
Appropriate airway management		
Appropriate cycles of drug-rhythm check/shock-CPR		
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses		
PEA Management		
Recognizes PEA		
Verbalizes potential reversible causes of PEA (H's and T's)		
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses		
Immediately resumes CPR after rhythm and pulse checks		
Post-Cardiac Arrest Care		
Identifies ROSC		
Ensures BP and 12-lead ECG are performed, O <sub>2</sub> saturation is monitored, verbalizes need for endotracheal intubation and waveform capnography, and orders laboratory tests	l for	
Considers targeted temperature management		
STOP TEST		
Instructor Notes		
<ul> <li>Place a  in the box next to each step the student completes successfully.</li> <li>If the student does not complete all steps successfully (as indicated by at least 1 blank check box), the student must receive remediation. Make a note here of which skills require remediation (refer to Instructor Manual for information about remediation).</li> </ul>	check box), the solution instructor Manua	student al for
Test Results Circle PASS or NR to indicate pass or needs remediation:	PASS	R
Instructor Initials		
Instructor Number Date		

### Megacode 11—Unstable Bradycardia Scenario Location: In-Hospital—Colonoscopy Suite

### (Unstable Bradycardia → VF → PEA → PCAC)

**Lead-in:** A 51-year-old patient is undergoing his initial colon screening. Fifteen minutes into the procedure, under conscious sedation, the patient's respiratory rate drops to 4 and ETCO<sub>2</sub> is 55 mm Hg.

#### Case Development

Initial	What are your initial actions?
Assessment	This healthy 51-year-old man with a family history of colon cancer (maternal grandfather and uncle) is undergoing an initial screening colonoscopy. The patient has no significant past medical history
	except daily alcohol use (3 to 4 drinks per day). The patient had received a combination of fentanyl and midazolam for conscious sedation. It is noted that as the ETCO <sub>2</sub> rises, the patient becomes less arousable and then apneic. The Code Team is activated. What are the next steps?
	IV reversal agents are ordered. Bag-mask ventilations are initiated. His vital signs are heart rate 30/min, respiratory rate 3/min, blood pressure 70/P mm Hg, and SpO <sub>2</sub> 82% on 4 L via nasal cannula. Students should recognize the impending respiratory failure and consider reversal agents. The patient is placed on 100% oxygen, and flumazenil and naloxone are provided with improved O <sub>2</sub> saturations, but there is no change in respiratory rate. A supraglottic airway is placed.
Bradycardia Algorithm	The patient's respiratory status has been stabilized. The student should note the abnormal heart rate and hypotension. The bradycardia is <b>slow and narrow-complex</b> without ST changes. The patient is unstable and given IV atropine (0.5 mg) twice without change in heart rate or blood pressure. While the dopamine infusion is being prepared, the patient becomes unresponsive. What is the next action?
Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (VF)	The monitor demonstrates <b>VF.</b> What is the action? The patient has no pulse, CPR is started. The VF/pVT pathway should be followed. Shocks are delivered. Epinephrine and amiodarone are given. An advanced airway is placed. A rhythm check demonstrates asystole. No pulse or spontaneous respirations are confirmed.
Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (PEA)	CPR is continued. Bag-mask ventilation at 100% is continued. A second dose of epinephrine is given with no change in condition. During the <i>r</i> hythm check, the monitor reveals a <b>narrow-complex tachycardia</b> and no pulse. The PEA pathway of the Cardiac Arrest Algorithm is followed.
Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Algorithm	The team continues high-quality chest compressions, the patient has ROSC, and the team initiates the Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Care Algorithm.

## Megacode Testing Checklist: Scenarios 6/11 Bradycardia → VF → PEA → PCAC

Student Name Date of Test		
Critical Performance Steps	<u>.</u>	√ if done correctly
Team Leader	-	
Ensures high-quality CPR at all times		
Assigns team member roles		
Ensures that team members perform well		
Starts oxygen if needed inlaces monitor starts IV		
Places monitor leads in proper position		
Recognizes symptomatic bradycardia		
Administers correct dose of atropine		
Prepares for second-line treatment		
VF Management		
Recognizes VF		
Clears before analyze and shock		
Immediately resumes CPR after shocks		
Appropriate airway management		
Appropriate cycles of drug-rhythm check/shock-CPR		
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses		
PEA Management		
Recognizes PEA		
Verbalizes potential reversible causes of PEA (H's and T's)		
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses		
Immediately resumes CPR after rhythm and pulse checks		
Post-Cardiac Arrest Care		
Identifies ROSC		
Ensures BP and 12-lead ECG are performed, $O_2$ saturation is monitored, verbalizes need for endotracheal intubation and waveform capnography, and orders laboratory tests		
Considers targeted temperature management		
STOP TEST		
Instructor Notes  Place a ✓ in the box next to each step the student completes successfully.  If the student does not complete all steps successfully (as indicated by at least 1 blank check box), the student must receive remediation. Make a note here of which skills require remediation (refer to Instructor Manual for	eck box), th	e student
Test Results Circle PASS or NR to indicate pass or needs remediation:	PASS	NR I
Instructor Initials		
Instructor Number Date		

## Megacode 12—Unstable Bradycardia Scenario Location: In-Hospital—Surgical Waiting Room

# (Unstable Bradycardia → VF → Asystole/PEA → PCAC)

**Lead-in:** A 67-year-old woman is sitting in the surgical waiting room awaiting news about her husband's surgery. While on her way to the bathroom, she becomes light-headed and dizzy and nearly passes out.

#### Case Development

Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Algorithm	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (Asystole and PEA)	Cardiac Arrest Algorithm (VF)	Bradycardia Algorithm	Initial Assessment
The team continues high-quality chest compressions, the patient has ROSC, and the team initiates the Immediate Post-Cardiac Arrest Care Algorithm.	CPR is continued. Bag-mask ventilation with 100% $O_2$ is continued. Epinephrine is given (third dose). There is no change in her condition. During the rhythm check, the monitor reveals a <b>narrow-complex tachycardia</b> with no pulse. The PEA pathway of the Cardiac Arrest Algorithm is followed.	The monitor demonstrates <b>VF.</b> What is the action? The patient has no pulse. CPR is started. The VF/pVT pathway should be followed. Shocks are delivered twice, and epinephrine and amiodarone are given. An advanced airway is placed. A monitor check demonstrates asystole. No pulse or spontaneous respirations are confirmed.	The student should note the abnormal heart rate and hypotension. The bradycardia is narrow-complex without ST changes. The patient is unstable and given IV atropine (0.5 mg) twice without a change in heart rate or blood pressure. What is the next action? The patient is wheeled emergently to the hospital emergency department.	The patient has a past medical history of breast cancer (in remission) and diabetes. She was waiting for her husband in the surgical waiting room and became light-headed while walking to bathroom. She is lying on the floor. You respond as a member of the medical emergency team that was activated. What are your initial steps?  She admits that she forgot to eat breakfast today. The rest of the team arrives. Her vital signs are heart rate 28/min, respiratory rate 18/min, blood pressure 68/P mm Hg, 96% Spo <sub>2</sub> on room air, and blood sugar 90 mg/dL (5 mmol/L). The patient is moved to a stretcher.

## Megacode Testing Checklist: Scenario 12 Bradycardia → VF → Asystole/PEA → PCAC

Student Name

Critical Performance Steps	√ if done correctly
Team Leader	
Ensures high-quality CPR at all times	
Assigns team member roles	
Ensures that team members perform well	
Bradycardia Management	
Starts oxygen if needed, places monitor, starts IV	
Places monitor leads in proper position	
Recognizes symptomatic bradycardia	
Administers correct dose of atropine	
Prepares for second-line treatment	
VF Management	
Recognizes VF	
Clears before analyze and shock	
Immediately resumes CPR after shocks	
Appropriate airway management	
Appropriate cycles of drug-rhythm check/shock-CPR	
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
Asystole and PEA Management	
Recognizes asystole and PEA	
Verbalizes potential reversible causes of asystole and PEA (H's and T's)	
Administers appropriate drug(s) and doses	
Immediately resumes CPR after rhythm and pulse checks	
Post-Cardiac Arrest Care	
Identifies ROSC	
Ensures BP and 12-lead ECG are performed, O <sub>2</sub> saturation is monitored, verbalizes need for endotracheal intubation and waveform capnography, and orders laboratory tests	
Considers targeted temperature management	
STOP TEST	
<ul> <li>Instructor Notes</li> <li>Place a ✓ in the box next to each step the student completes successfully.</li> <li>If the student does not complete all steps successfully (as indicated by at least 1 blank check box), the student must receive remediation. Make a note here of which skills require remediation (refer to Instructor Manual for information about remediation).</li> </ul>	student ual for
Test Results Circle PASS or NR to indicate pass or needs remediation: PASS	NR R
Instructor Initials	
Instructor Number Date	