



**REGION 11
CHICAGO EMS SYSTEM
PROCEDURE**

Title: Transcutaneous Pacing
Section: Cardiac Management
Approved: EMS Medical Directors Consortium
EMS Level: ALS

TRANSCUTANEOUS PACING

INDICATIONS

Transcutaneous pacing should be considered in symptomatic patients with:

- Bradycardia,
- 2nd degree AV block
- 3rd degree AV block

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Asymptomatic bradycardia

EQUIPMENT

- Defibrillation pads
- Cardiac monitor

PROCEDURE

1. RMC
2. Assess for potential causes
3. Assemble equipment
4. Have resuscitation capabilities ready
5. Explain the procedure to the patient and/or family
6. Consider analgesia:

Morphine Sulfate 0.1 mg/kg IV
≤ 65 years of age – max dose 10 mg
> 65 years of age – max dose 5 mg

OR

Fentanyl 1 mcg/kg IV
≤ 65 years of age – max dose 100 mcg
> 65 years of age – max dose 50 mcg

7. Apply defibrillation pads to clean dry skin (clip excessive chest hair)
8. Connect pacing cable to device
9. Select current, starting at 70 mA (Range 50-100 mA)
10. Select pacing rate, starting at 80 bpm
11. Activate pacer; adjust current until electrical capture (waveform is seen) and mechanical capture (palpable femoral pulse)
12. Adjust rate to maintain perfusion
13. Adjust slowly in conscious patient, more quickly in unconscious patient. If cardiac arrest occurs, discontinue



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pacing and begin ICCA.

14. Continually reassess