VENTRICULAR ASSIST DEVICE (VAD) - ALS

RMC

Cardiac monitor
Assess for signs of perfusion

Chief complaint related to VAD or patient with inadequate signs of perfusion?

YES

Consider contacting the patient’s VAD Coordinator
Check on the device pouch for contact numbers

Is the VAD functioning?
* Listen for whirling sound
* Assess for alarms
* Follow the directions of the VAD Coordinator in troubleshooting the VAD

Perform 12 lead ECG

For patients in Cardiac Arrest:
* Follow Cardiac Arrest protocols/ICCA
* May defibrillate, but DO NOT place pads over the device

Bring all VAD equipment to the hospital

Transmit ECG to receiving facility
Contact Medical Control as appropriate and prepare for transport

NO

Follow appropriate protocol

Bring all VAD equipment to the hospital

1 – Patients with a Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) often do not have a peripheral pulse, O2 saturation, or a palpable blood pressure. Use other indicators of adequate perfusion such as mental status, skin color and condition, and respiratory rate and effort.

2 - Unresponsive and apneic with no signs of life

3 – Refer to Transport of Patients with a Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) policy