



**REGION 11
CHICAGO EMS SYSTEM
SKILLS**

Title: Synchronized Cardioversion
 Section: Cardiac Management
 Approved: EMS Medical Directors Consortium
 Skill Level: ALS

Name:	Date:
Resource Hospital:	Training Site:
Evaluator:	Signature:

	Points Possible	Points Awarded
Actual Time Started:		
Selects, checks, and assembles equipment		
Cardiac monitor/defibrillator	1	
Cardiac leads	1	
Therapy electrode pads	1	
Therapy cable	1	
States Indications for Procedure		
Narrow or wide complex tachyarrhythmia (heart rate typically ≥ 150 /min) causing the patient to be unstable with signs of shock including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypotension (SBP < 100 mmHg) • Acutely altered mental status • Ischemic chest discomfort • Respiratory distress (acute heart failure) 	5	
States Contraindications for Procedure		
None	1	
Performs Procedure		
Applies personal protective equipment: gloves	1	
Applies cardiac monitor leads to identify tachyarrhythmia that requires synchronized cardioversion (12 lead if available)	1	
Identifies and treats underlying causes	1	
Assesses adequate oxygenation	1	
Assesses pulse and blood pressure	1	
Establishes IV access	1	
Considers analgesia prior to procedure per Pain Management Protocol	1	
Attaches therapy pads to therapy cable and connects to cardiac monitor/defibrillator	1	
If necessary, clean and dry skin or remove excess chest hair with razor	1	
Applies pads in the anterior-lateral or anterior-posterior placement	1	
Assures safe environment – evaluates the risk of sparks, combustibles, oxygen enriched environment	1	
Activates synchronized mode to “SYNC”	1	
Confirms synchronized marker on QRS complexes	1	
Charges monitor to appropriate energy setting: Adult patients: 100 J, Pediatric patients: 0.5-1 J/kg (See Pediatric Resuscitation Card)	1	
Verbalizes “all clear” and visually ensure that all individuals are clear of the patient, stretcher and any equipment connected to the patient	1	
Presses the shock button to deliver synchronized shock to the patient	1	



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Reassesses rhythm, patient pulse and blood pressure	1	
For persistent tachyarrhythmia with signs of shock, administers a second synchronized shock: Adult patients: 200 J, Pediatric patients: 2 J/kg (See Pediatric Resuscitation Card)	1	

Actual Time Ended: _____

Total / 28

Critical Criteria:

- Failure to take or verbalize personal protective equipment
- Failure to assess the patient's hemodynamic status before and after delivering shock
- Failure to verify rhythm before delivering shock
- Failure to ensure a safe environment before delivering shock
- Inability to deliver synchronized shock (does not use the machine properly)
- Failure to set the appropriate energy level before engaging the synchronized mode of operation
- Failure to demonstrate acceptable shock sequence
- Failure to observe the patient for desired effect and adverse side effects after delivering shock
- Failure to manage the patient as a minimally competent Paramedic
- Exhibits unacceptable affect with patient or other personnel
- Uses or orders a dangerous or inappropriate intervention
- Failure to achieve a score of 21 or greater

Successful **Unsuccessful**