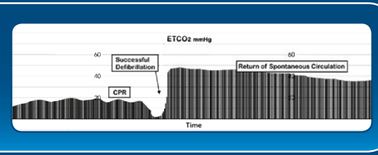
What Can $EtCO_2$ Do For You?

It's as easy as **PQRST** – remember this waveform to help you use $EtCO_2$ effectively

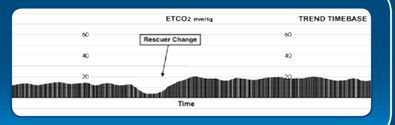
ROSC

Return of spontaneous circulation is readily evident following a successful defibrillation shock; $EtCO_2$ rises rapidly to over 40 mmHg.



QUALITY

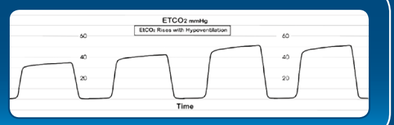
CPR quality is reflected in the $EtCO_2$ waveform. If it falls off, time to switch rescuers! $EtCO_2$ will also alert you to hyperventilation.



R

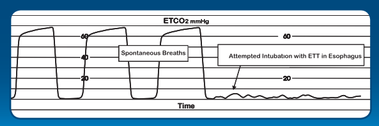
STRATEGY

$EtCO_2$ may indicate some Hs and Ts. For example, when hypoventilation occurs, a gradual increase in $EtCO_2$ is displayed on the capnogram.



PLACEMENT

Be sure the endotracheal tube is in the right place and doesn't get dislodged.



P

Q

S

T

TERMINATION

- An end-tidal carbon dioxide level of 10 mmHg or less, measured 20 minutes after the initiation of advanced cardiac life support, accurately predicts death in patients with cardiac arrest associated with electrical activity but no pulse.
- Arrest survivors' $EtCO_2$ averaged 32.8 ±7.4 mmHg 20 minutes into the arrest.
- Non-survivors' $EtCO_2$ averaged 4.4 ±2.9 mmHg at 20 minutes.

Source: Levine, et. al. *New Engl J Med*, 337:301-6, 1997

The X Series® monitor/defibrillator with $EtCO_2$ monitoring provides valuable clinical information at a glance.

REVERSIBLE CAUSES OF CARDIAC ARREST

- Hypovolemia
- Hypoxia
- Hydrogen ion (acidosis)
- Hyperkalemia
- Hypokalemia
- Hypothermia
- Hypoglycemia
- Hyperglycemia
- Tablets or Toxins
- Tamponade, cardiac
- Tension pneumothorax
- Thromboembolism
- Thrombosis

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