**Wide Complex Tachycardia With A Pulse**

**History:**
- Past medical history / medications, diet, drugs
- Syncope / Near syncope
- Palpitations
- Pacemaker
- Allergies: Lidocaine / Novocaine

**Signs and Symptoms:**
- Ventricular Tachycardia on ECG (Runs or Sustained)
- Conscious, rapid pulse
- Chest Pain, Shortness of Breath
- Dizziness
- Rate usually 150-180 bpm for sustained V-Tach
- QRS > 0.12 sec

**Differential:**
- Artifact / Device Failure
- Cardiac
- Endocrine/Electrolyte
- Drugs/Toxic exposure
- Pulmonary disease

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**Universal Patient Care Protocol**

1. **Appropriate Protocol**

   - **No**
     - Palpable Pulse and QRS >0.12 sec?
     - Stable
     - Unstable/Pre-Arrest

   - **Yes**

2. **12 Lead ECG**

   - **Amiodarone 150mg** IV over 10 minutes.
     - Repeat q10 min
     - (max. dose of 450 mg)

3. If refractory to initial therapy initiate transport and

4. **IS PATIENT STABLE?**

   - **Yes**
     - (If available)
     - **Lidocaine 1mg/kg** IV q 5 min
     - (Max 3 mg/kg)

   - **Consider:**
     - **Magnesium Sulfate 50% 2 grams**
     - Slow IV/IO over 5 min **

   - **Amiodarone 150mg IV over 10 min.**
     - Repeat q10 min
     - (max. dose of 450 mg)

5. **Synchronized Cardioversion**

   - 100J x1 then 360J
   - Repeat PRN

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**Pearls:**
- For witnessed / monitored ventricular tachycardia, try having patient cough
- If Lidocaine converts: Drip: 2-4 mg/min (if available).
- **If Torsades de Pointes present: Magnesium Sulfate 50% 2 grams** slow IV /IO push over 5 minutes.
- Maximum dose of antiarrhythmic should be given before changing antiarrhythmic.
- If hyperkalemia or tricyclic OD consider Sodium Bicarbonate 1 mEq/kg early in intervention. Contact OLMC.
- Monitor for respiratory depression and hypotension associated with Midazolam & Lorazepam. Pulse OX and Capnography with Documentation is Mandatory! Be prepared to assist ventilations especially if Midazolam is used.
- Lorazepam and Midazolam Doses are to be titrated to effect, maintaining SBP >100 mmHg and/or peripheral pulses present.
- Always use smallest dose possible to achieve desired effect.