

NRP/PALS Update: Saving Tiny Lives in 2017

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The Beauty of NRP & PALS

- A well-run code is a work of art.
- Simple interventions save lives. Kids respond gratifyingly fast to the right interventions (e.g. effective PPV in NRP).
- And yet... skills decay fast and time is of the essence: many tasks, all at once...
 - Systematic Approach helps
 - Team Dynamics/Human Factors/CRM help

Objectives:

1. Refresh & rehearse steps to take when resuscitating critically ill newborns (NRP) and children (PALS)
2. Describe the main changes to NRP and PALS guidelines in 2015 updates and more recent findings
3. Strengthen good practices in team dynamics & “crew resource management” to optimize outcomes
4. Review frequent errors NRPers and PALSies make

Does NOT replace an official course; opinions my own; evidence mostly low-quality, but will be mentioned

Method: Resuscitation Game

- We're going to play a **game**.
- Step-by-step "**walkthrough**",
imaginary 'codes': 1 NRP, 1 PALS
- At each step : "One Cue → **X** Responses"
 - **Give your best guess**, short answer (a few words)
 - **ONE answer** per person. Allowed to "pass"
 - Quick answers please! **Keep It Moving!**
Mistakes are expected – & part of the fun.

Introductions

- CCFP (McGill), FP-Anesthesia (U. of T.)
- PALS Instructor (HSFC)
- NRP Instructor (CPS)
- **Professional Interests:** family medicine; medical education; anesthesia; simulation; crisis resource mgmt
- **Conflicts of Interest:** none

Warm-up Round:

"A Code Blue/Pink/Trauma/Outdoor Emergency is unfolding. What are your **basic steps to prepare?**" (3 key responses)

1. **Scene Safety:** Fire/wire/gas/glass/guns/thugs/drugs
2. **Team Briefing: Take Lead! Assign Roles! Get Help!**
"I'll take the Lead role.
"Jeff-can you be the Airway person, start checking pulse&breathing;
"Sandra-can you put on the Monitors now;"
"Laura-please start an IV and get Meds ready..."
3. **Assign Equipment Check:** e.g. STATICS-MIMM

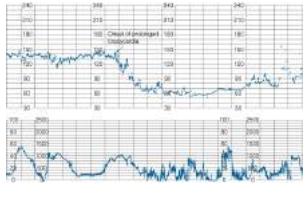
SCENARIO 1: NRP

Cue 1: You Arrive @ Delivery. "Baby Coming Soon, You Ready?" (4 key responses)

1. (Scene Safety)

2. Team Briefing:

- Take Lead Role! Assign Team Roles!



3. Equipment Check:

"STATICS-MIMM +4"

4. Ask FOUR pre-birth questions:

- Multi-baby?
- Gestational Age?
- Risk Factors?
- Meconium?

Cue 2: Birth (!) (3 key responses)

• Ask 3 post-birth questions:

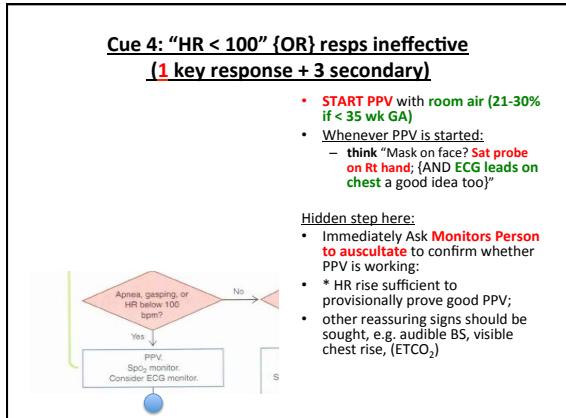
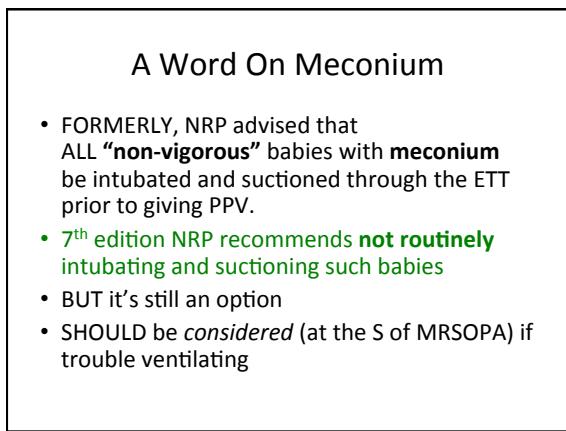
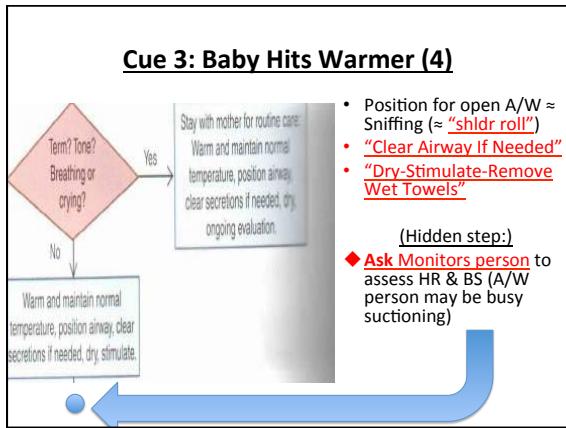
- "Term?" (i.e. "is GA approx. correct?")
- "Tone?"
- "Breathing or Crying?"

• IF all "YES"es:

- ... relax ... routine care

• IF any "NO"s:

- **BRING TO WARMER and...**



Cue 5: PPV started, but HR not rising <15 sec.**What to do? (1)**

- The problem is *always** lack of ventilation.



* Exceptions SO rare that you DO NOT worry about them for the first 15 seconds of PPV. Do MR SOPA!

Computer Help Desk Technicians**PEBKAC****List “MR SOPA” steps. (6)**

- Mask Seal**
- Reposition** (...the airway ...≈ shoulder roll)
- Suction**
- Open the Mouth**
- Pressure increase** (to 30 cmH₂O, cautiously to ≤ 40)
- Alternate airway** (ETT recommended, or LMA)

MRSOPA: “Alternative Airway”

... @ “A” of MRSOPA,
you decide to intubate...



**Cue 5B: “MR SOPA” complete,
but no HR rise <15 sec. What to do?**



**Cue 5B: “MR SOPA” complete,
but no HR rise <15 sec. What to do?**

- R/O **esophageal** intubation (sustained +ETCO₂ best r/o; also chest rise, br sns, mist)
- R/O **endobronchial** intubation (tube slipped in too far?) – check ETT depth
- Consider LMA
- As always: first & only & constantly-to-be-repeated question is are you **SURE** you’re **ventilating** the lungs: ETCO₂? Chest rise? Breath sounds?



Glottic impersonation
Kovacs et al., Can J Anesth (2017) 64:320

Cue 6: definitely-good PPV x 30 s, but HR stays <60
(1 response, +5 linked actions)

- **START Chest Compressn's**
 - Whenever CC's started:
"Thumbs on the chest =>
 - 1. (TUBE in the TRACHEA,)
2. 100% O₂ on BLENDER,
3. ECG leads on CHEST...
And probably a good time to
 - 4. Get 'M/M' starting a UVC
5. Call for MORE HELP/
NEONATOLOGY

Cue 7: Definitely good PPV & CCs.

When to recheck HR? Still <60... what to do? (3)

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graph TD
    A[Intubate if not already done.  
Chest compressions.  
Coordinate with PPV.  
100% O2.  
ECG monitor.] --> B{HR below 60 bpm?}
    B -- Yes --> C[IV epinephrine.  
  
If HR persistently below 60 bpm:  
consider hypovolemia,  
consider pneumothorax.]
    C --> D[Epinephrine; recall this is only indicated  
if HR remains after:  
• At least 30 sec EFFECTIVE PPV  
(w/chest mtv, ± ETCO2)  
• FOLLOWED BY  
addnl 60 sec of CC's w/100% O2]
  
```

Epinephrine; recall this is only indicated if HR remains after:

- At least 30 sec **EFFECTIVE PPV** (w/chest mtv, ± ETCO₂)
- FOLLOWED BY addnl 60 sec of CC's w/100% O₂

Dose: 0.1 ml/kg of 0.1 mg/ml epinephrine (≈ usual dose is ≈ 0.3 ml), via UVC/IV/OI

In these situations,

- **Consider hypovolemia**
- **Consider PTX**
- **Re-eval whether ETT really well-placed/ETCO₂...**

**Cue 8: Baby's HR improves, they start to cry.
You saved them, congrats... any final actions? (2)**

NRP: Summary / 7th ed Δs

- **Scene Safety**
- Take Lead Role! Assign Team Roles! (=Team Briefing)
- **Equipment Check** (I suggest "STATICS-MIMM +4")
- 4 pre-birth Q's
- 3 post-birth Q's
- Initial Steps (position, clear airway PRN, dry, stimulate); assess HR/BS; meconium suction not routine, but OK PRN. If HR<100 or apnea/gasping:
- **PPV: 21% O₂, ~30% for <35wGA**
Mask on face ➔ sat probe hand & ECG. Immed. ChestRise/HR/BS check.
- **MR SOPA** immediately (<15 sec) if PPV ineffective
- Chest Compressions (if 30 sec effective PPV & still <60): thumbs on chest ➔ O₂ to 100% - Tube in trachea - **ECG on chest** - Get a UVC rolling (**IO if unable**) - Call for more/neonatology help
- Epinephrine; crystalloid, blood; **explicitly consider PTX/hypovol.**

Barriers & Solutions

- **Barriers:** Cost (ECG monitors, O₂ blenders), Challenging Skills, Infrequent Exposure
- **Solutions:** Budget, regular simulation (esp. UVC, ETT/LMA); support for recurrent training; collegial neighbourhood anesthetists interprofessional/regional/prov/nat support

MOVING ON FROM BABIES TO KIDS...

Image credit: <https://www.highlights.com/parents/articles/helping-babies-deal-transitions>

A Lovely Stroll Through the Mall

(Interrupted by a commotion)

- A small crowd milling around...

Cue 1: Commotion, ? Unconscious Child (3 Responses)

- **Scene Safety!**
- **Team Briefing:** Take Charge! Assign Team Roles! (?Parents?)
- **(Equipment Check!)**
= get the equipment moving toward you
- **Check for Responsiveness**
- **Simultaneous Pulse&Breathing Check**

Cue 2A: Unresponsive, NO Brthg, NO Pulse (2)

- Call 9-1-1, Send for AED
- Start CPR as C-A-B : Compressions, then Ventilations; "I remember BLS!"
- Ratio: **30:2** for everyone, except...
 - two-rescuer child&infant, in wh. case **15:2**
- LEAVE to Phone first? or CPR-2-mins-Then-Leave-and-Phone?
 - **"LEAVE to find phone first for everyone, except..."**
- **One-Rescuer, Child&Infant, Unwitnessed**: DO 2 cycles' CPR before leaving to phone. Kids burn O2 fast; UNWITNESSED implies possible prolonged hypoxia.
- Depth: 1/3 chest wall diameter ("4 cm infants, 5 cm child, 5-6 cm adults" seems silly to me)
- Rate: 100 **~ 120**/min
- Other: Minimize Interruptions; Full Chest Recoil
 - New in 2016: "consider a feedback device"

**Cue 2B: Unresponsive, breathing NO, pulse YES
(a freebie)**

- **Rescue Breathing**
 - (1 breath q 3~5 sec) = 12~20/min

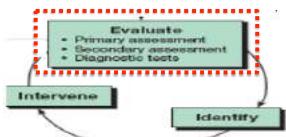
**Cue 2C: Responsive, but poorly so,
and obviously he's breathing and has a pulse given that any responsiveness would be
impossible without these (1 response)**

- **PALS Primary (1°) Survey**
 - A
 - B
 - C
 - D
 - E

How To: Evaluate-Identify-Intervene

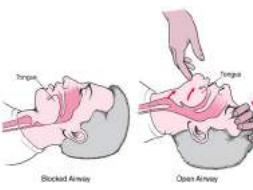
- Continuous cycle
- Doing

Primary Survey
+/- Secondary Surv.
+/- Dx tests =
“Evaluate”



PALS 1° Survey “A” (4 responses)

- **Look:** chest/abdomen movement
- **Listen:** Stridor, Gurgling
- **Feel:** if necessary
- **Fix** issues found – a/w patency will be **maintainable** **Spontaneously**
or w/ **Simple** (jaw thrust, suction, Heimlich, OPA/NPA),
or w/ **Advanced** (BMV, CPAP, ETT/LMA/cricothyrotomy)



PALS 1° Survey “B” (5 responses)

- **Rate / Pattern**
- **Volume:** chest expansion
- **Effort** (Work Of Breathing): retractions, etc.
- **Breath Sounds** (by auscultation)
- **O2Sat**

PALS 1° Survey “C” (5 responses)

- Heart Rate & Rhythm
- BP
- Cap Refill
- Skin Temperature
- Periph Pulses

PALS 1° Survey “D” (3 responses)

- AVPU or GCS
- Pupils
- Glucose



PALS 1° Survey “E” (2 responses)

- Expose/Examine/
Extremities:
 - Rash-purpura/Trauma/
Bruising
- Core Temperature

Your findings in this kid:

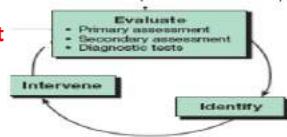
- **PALS 1° Survey, "Evaluate":**
 - **A:** stridor/snoring, AW needing jaw thrust to maintain; ? puffy face
 - **B:** RR 35, shallow Vt, diffuse wheezing, O2sat unk.
 - **C:** sweaty extremities, shock, cap refill 4 sec; PP weak
 - **D:** anxious, responsive to Pain, pupils OK, Gluc.unk
 - **E:** urticarial rash, temp unknown
- What can you “Identify” the problem as?

?

Image available at:
<http://www.bbc.com/news/health-25950422>

Cue 3: 1° Survey Done, Now What?

- Consider Interven-ing
- Or further Evaluat-ion, if still uncertain
- Either way, a **“SUMMARIZING” statement is helpful at this juncture (CRM!)**



Evaluate-Identify-Intervene

- State **Type & Severity**
- **Type :**
 - “Respiratory” / “Circulatory” / “Both”
 - Upper AW
 - Lower AW
 - Lung Tissue
 - Disordered Control
 - Shock: Cardiogen./Hypovol./ Obstructive/Distributive
- **Severity :**
 - Resp. Distress vs. Resp. Failure
 - Shock: Compensated vs. Hypotensive

Effective Team Dynamics / CRM

- Summarizing Statements (SHARE your mental model!)
- Clear Roles & Responsibilities
- Clear Messages
- Closed-Loop Communication
- Mutual Respect
- Constructive Intervention
- Knowing One’s Limitations

<http://www.royalcollege.ca/rcsite/ppi/educational-resources-e>

Cue 3: What's PALS 2° Survey? (2)

- **SAMPLE** History, plus
- **Head-to-toe Exam**

List SAMPLE hx? (6)

- Signs & Symptoms
- Allergies
- Meds
- Past Med History
- Last Meal ("Most recent meal")
- Events

• Then do "Head-to-toe exam" to finish 2° srvy

Intervene:

Epinephrine, 10 mcg/kg, IM

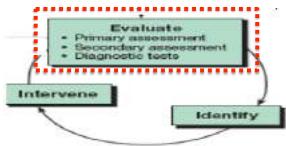


Cue 4: 2° Survey Finished... (1 response)

- Consider Diagnostic Tests

Cue 5: Diagnostic Tests Ordered... (1 response)

- Re-“Evaluate” ABCDE
- Summarize
- Post-Resusc. Care
- Consult colleagues
- Discuss with patient/parents
- Team Debriefing...



The Kid Survives! ... Congrats

PALS: Overall Algorithm

- Initial Impression / **Pulse & Brthg simultaneously**; if +:
 - 1° Survey:
 - A: look/listen/feel/fix
 - B: rate/volume/effort/auscultate/O2sat
 - C: HR/BP/CapRefill/SkinTemp/PeriphPulses
 - D: Pupils, GCS/AVPU, Glucose
 - E: Expose/Examine/Extremities
 - 2° Survey:
 - SAMPLE history
 - Head-to-toe exam
 - Diagnostic Tests

Misc. Changes: 2015 PALS

- **Atropine premedication:** not recommended for emergency intubation (conflicting evid) – still have it ready just in case
- **Fluid resuscitation in septic shock:** DO use initial 20 ml/kg crystalloid for kids with shock, but not for 'severe febrile illness without shock'. Low-resource settings (i.e. non-ICU settings) should probably avoid excessive fluids – based on African study - kids with dengue/malaria
- **Targeted Temperature Management:** peds out-of-hospital cardiac arrest who are unresponsive after ROSC, either 32-34 or 36-37.5 Celsius are options; probably most important (& low-effort) to avoid hyperthermia (THAPCA-in/out-of-hospital trials)

Questions?

- ?

Recap

- Principles of NRP & PALS similar:
 - Arrests caused by **resp or shock** >> cardiovascular causes
 - **Pre-Arrest** (compensated/'distress' stage) >> **arrest** (hypotensive/decompensated/organ-'failure' stage)
 - Identify & Fix **"rapidly-fatal" threats first**
 - **Ventilation/Oxygenation** provide +++ benefit; circulatory support (fluids/inotropes) in 2nd place
 - **Capnography (ETCO₂) often a good idea**
 - **BLS/Quality of CPR/Early Defib** more important than meds (e.g. epi); find & treat cause with specific Rx's
 - E.g. Hypovolemia? Fluids. Anaphylaxis? Epinephrine. Sepsis? Antibiotics & source control...
- **Systematic Aprch, Organized Team Dynamics / CRM**

Thank You

- Thank you for your commitment to excellent care of critically ill newborns and children
- THE END... now some fun topics for further discussion...

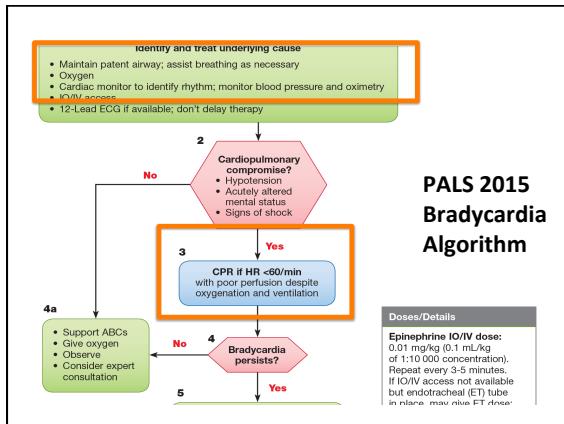
Our Kids Depend On
Your Skills

Common Mistakes PALS/NRPers Make

1. The Bradycardia Blunder
2. Systematic Assessment Slipups
3. Real Life Hesitation
4. Esophageal Intubations Unrecognized
5. Algorithm Confusion
6. Equipment Check Foibles
7. Communication Breakdowns

Common Mistake 1: Bradycardia Blunder

- “HR<60 with poor perfusion. That means I need to start CC’s STAT!” Right?
- **FALSE.**
- **Effective PPV/O₂/CO₂ must be established ‘x 30 sec’ before CCs become an option. * common thread (NRP & PALS)!**



Common Mistake 2: Systematic Assessment Slipups

- “not-so-systematic”/ “Jumping to Cnclsns”
- *Fixation errors: “This must be sepsis!”*
- *Remedy: Ask yourself, “What else could this be?”*
- *Use written guide/checklist to help you not skip steps*

Common Mistake 3: Real Life Hesitation

- “I don’t want to put a *tube* in this baby!”
- “An umbilical vein catheter? That seems drastic...”
- Unexpected events, ‘formerly’-healthy babies
- *Remedy: Expect sometimes to have to provide invasive therapies to babies you didn’t think were sick, if now they are sick*
- If ETT/LMA indicated, better to use it than not
- UVC (placed correctly) is a few-cm-length catheter in an easily accessible vein, reliable, relatively safe, often faster than periph IV and safer than IO

Common Mistake 4: Esophageal Intubations Unrecognized

- Even experienced MDs put ETTs down the esophagus
- That's forgivable
- What's **not** forgivable is not **recognizing** it immediately
- Even less forgivable is continuing the resusc with 'false sense of security' that "the kid's been intubated, so A/B are OK" when they're not
- Remedy:** Use ALL your clues (**especially +ETCO2**); Consider the ETT an untrustworthy, slippery creature that sometimes is in, sometimes slips out, doesn't stay where it's put; ANY problems recheck the ETT, ETCO2, chest rise
- Breath Sounds & "Chest Rise" are subjective & can be misperceived; "wishful thinking"

Common Mistake 5: Algorithm Confusion Ages & Breakpoints



Algorithm Confusion: Compression/Ventilation Ratios

- 30:2 for everybody!
- Except 2-RESCUER CHILD & INFANT, in which case it's 15:2.

Algorithm Confusion: "Should I Stay, Or Should I Go?"

- If ALONE with NO PHONE
- "LEAVE all victims to run, call EMS & come back!"
- **except UNWITNESSED CHILD & INFANT,**
- in which case you do 2' (5 cycles) CPR first, THEN run & call EMS & come back.
 - (We do these "kickstarter" compressions without delay because it was UNWITNESSED, so they may have been hypoxic for a long time, and they're CHILD/INFANT, therefore they burn O2 rapidly.)

6: Equipment Foibles:Suggested Checklist: "STATICS-MIMM"

- **S** – "Scopes"
- **T** – "Tubes"
- **A** – "Airways"
- **T** – "Tape"
- **I** – "Introducer" (Stylet)
- **C** – "Circuit" = src of PPV (\pm O2)
 - Blender @ 21%, 21-30% b/o 35wGA
- **S** – "Suction"
 - Bulb, Flex, MecAsp

- **M** – "Monitors"
 - **SaO₂**, **ECG**, **ETCO₂**; (BP, temp, art line...)
- **I** – "IV"/UVC
- **M** – "Meds"
- **M** – "Mask"/LMA

PLUS (NRP):

- Warmer
- Baby Baggie < 32 wks
- NG tubes
- Blankets

Common Mistake 7: Communication Breakdowns

- Can "somebody" get the monitors on?
- "Let's" get oxygen on this patient?
- Does "anyone" have the chart?
- Can we give "some" epinephrine?

Communication: Adapting Air Traffic Lingo to NRP

Yamada & Halamek (J Peds 2015)

Table 11. Representative sample of air traffic control terms and proposed adaptation to neonatal resuscitation	
Air traffic control term	Definition of adaptation in neonatal resuscitation
Abort	Abort a procedure/invention
Acknowledge	To request a re-call if not given spontaneously
Affirmative	Yes
Cancel	Annul the previously transcribed order
Confirm	To request verification of information, vital signs, patient status, position of endotracheal tube, equipment checked and secured.
Correlation	An error has been made in this message. The correct version is:
Hold short	Stop device reaching the specified setting
I say again	I repeat, for clarity or emphasis
Negative	"No," or "permission not granted," or "that is not correct."
Read back	Repeat all, or the specified part of my message back to me so:
Request	I would like to know if I wish to obtain
Resusc	Resusc the infant/child
Stand by	Wait for a few moments so another (e.g. team leader) can attend to other tasks of higher priority. Note: Does not indicate an approach or detail.
Time	To request time of resuscitation
Double	Indicates inability to comply with a specific instruction, request, or order
	"Unintended venous catheter unable."

Other resusc studies since 2015

- "Balanced fluids" Crit Care Med. 2017 Apr 21. doi: 10.1097/CCM.0000000000002365. [Epub ahead of print] Resuscitation With Balanced Fluids in Association With Improved Survival in Pediatric Severe Sepsis. Compared to "unbalanced fluids" (18%), "balanced fluids" had better mortality (12.5% vs 16%) AKI prevalence (16 vs 19%) and 3.0 vs 3.2 days on pressors.
- Two thumb "more useful" than two-finger (J Matern Fetal Neonatal Med. 2017 Mar 5:1-12)
- Curr Opin Crit Care. 2016 Dec;22(6):527-532. Fluid resuscitation for acute kidney injury: an empty promise. – rather than EGD, a new conceptual model is proposed: "Resusc – Optimization – Stabilization – Deceleration".
- Time Perception During Neonatal Resuscitation. J Pediatr. 2016 Oct;177:103-7. We underestimate time elapsed – whether we report feeling stressed or prepared or not.
- Resuscitation. 2016 Oct;107:25-30. doi: 10.1016/j.resuscitation.2016.07.231. Epub 2016 Aug 2. Ventilation during the first 30 s of neonatal resuscitation – Norwegian study showing that time spent not ventilating is about 40% in first 30 s.
- J Pediatr Child Health. 2016 Feb;52(2):141-6. doi: 10.1111/jpc.13085. Fluid resuscitation therapy for paediatric sepsis: balanced solutions preferred; colloids => renal dysfunction, should be avoided for sepsis
- Targeted temperature management: - ? Avoid hyperthermia, but in-hospital cardiac arrest study called THAPCA-IH compared 33 vs 36.8 degC, in-hospital arrests: discontinued early for lack of difference in favor of 33
- Debriefing Framework: "REFLECT": Review the event, Encourage team participation, Focused feedback, Listen to each other, Emphasize key points, Communicate clearly, and Transform the future (Pediatr Emerg Care. 2017 Apr 18)

PICU Pearls

1. If ever unsure a subtle sign indicates severe illness, JUST ASK a pediatrician/PICU. Happy to chat.
2. Most common subtle signs of "sick" kid:
 1. Tachycardia
 2. Silent tachypnea (a sign of acidosis)
 3. Subtle changes in mentation
3. Kids DECOMPENSATE quickly: "**terrifying**"
4. Hypotension LATE, VERY OMINOUS, don't doubt it; ACT STAT.
5. Even teens, when septic, often + myocardial dysfunction, not vasoplegia: need inotropy, not pure pressor
6. Myocarditis can present like sepsis

Thank You

Available upon request