

Heart Rate

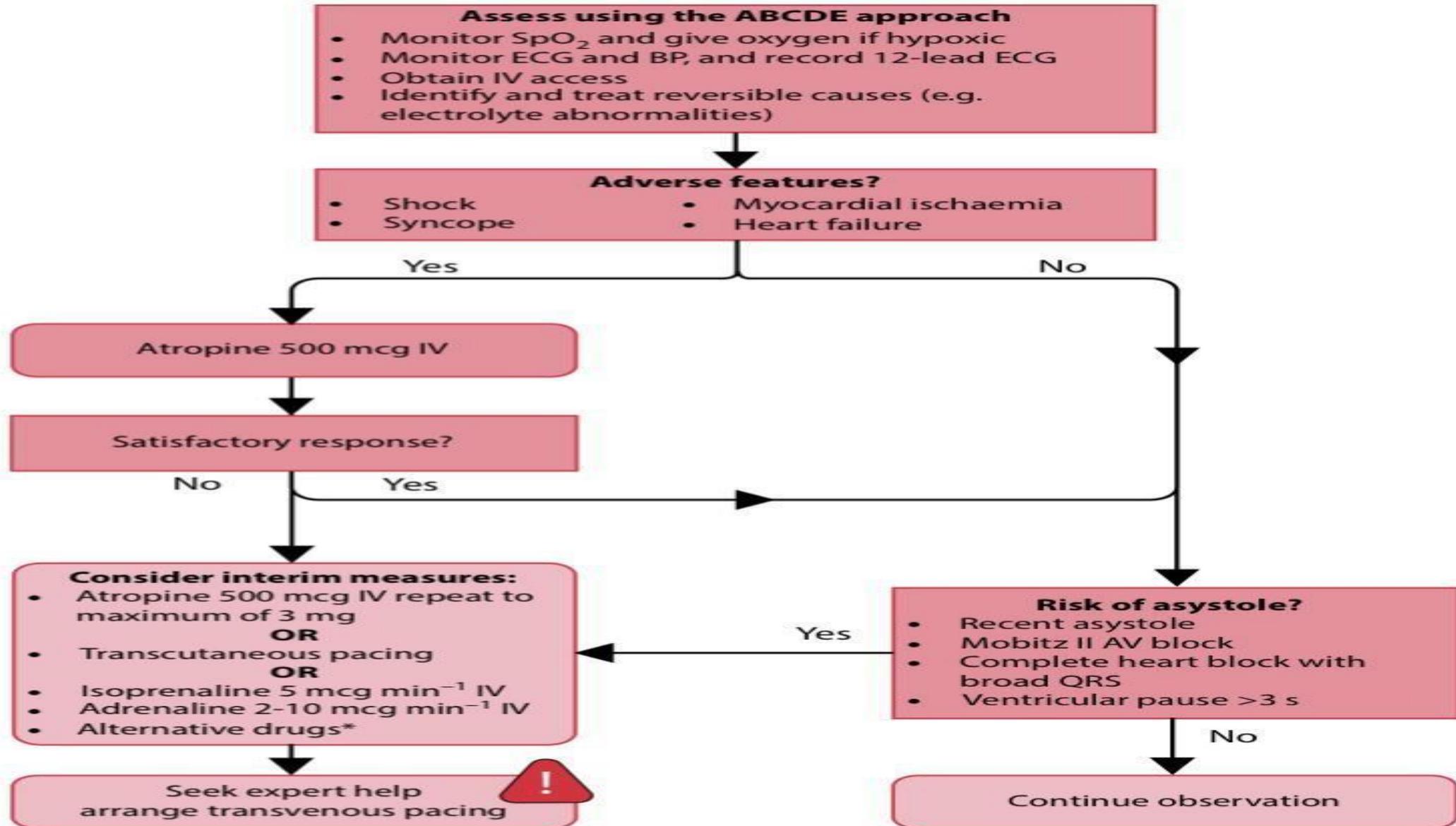
- Once you have measured the heart rate, you need to decide whether it is normal or abnormal.
- As a general rule, a heart rate between 60 and 100/min is normal.
- If the rate is below 60/min, the patient is said to be bradycardic.

With a heart rate above 100/min, the patient is tachycardic.

- Therefore, the two questions you need to ask about heart rate are:

1. Is the heart rate below 60/min?
2. Is the heart rate above 100/min?

Management of patient with bradycardia



*** Alternatives include:**

- Aminophylline
- Dopamine
- Glucagon (if bradycardia is caused by beta-blocker or calcium channel blocker)
- Glycopyrrolate (may be used instead of atropine)

Is The Heart Rate Above 100/Min?

- Tachycardia is defined as a heart rate above 100/m
- When Begin the process of identification by checking whether the QRS complexes are:
 1. Narrow (<3 small squares)
 2. Broad (>3 small squares)

Narrow-complex tachycardias

Always arise from above the ventricles – that is, they are supraventricular in origin.

The possibilities are:

- Sinus tachycardia
- Atrial tachycardia
- Atrial flutter
- Atrial fibrillation
- AV re-entry tachycardia (AVRT)
- AV nodal re-entry tachycardia (AVNRT)

Broad-complex tachycardia:

- Ventricular tachycardia
- Accelerated idioventricular rhythm
- Torsade's de pointes

Broad-complex tachycardia should also make you think of ventricular arrhythmias.

