23.3 CARDIOVASCULAR SUPPORT

DESCRIPTION

Patients are often admitted to ICU for cardiovascular support, the commonest reason being for the treatment of shock. Although it is important to treat the underlying cause, patients may need cardiovascular monitoring and support in ICU while this is happening.

GENERAL MEASURES

In the critically ill patient, the following should be considered:

» Parenteral dosing of medications
» Balanced salt solutions for resuscitation

Monitoring should include (1) continuous ECG, oxygenation (SpO_2, arterial blood gases), (2) continuous blood pressure monitoring (preferably invasive blood pressure monitoring if available), (3) central venous pressure, and (4) urine output.

For cardiac arrest: see section 20.1 Cardiac arrest in adults.
For post-cardiac arrest care: see section 20.2: Post-cardiac arrest care.
For Acute Coronary Syndromes see section 3.2.1: ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) and section 3.2.2: Non ST elevation myocardial infarction (NSTEMI) and Unstable angina (UA).
For dysrhythmias: see section 3.3: Cardiac dysrhythmias..
For hypertension: see section 3.6: Hypertension.
For hypertensive urgency: see section 3.6.2: Hypertensive urgency.
For hypertensive emergency: see section 3.6.3: Hypertensive crisis, Hypertensive emergency.
For Acute cardiac failure see acute pulmonary oedema: section 20.10: Pulmonary oedema, acute andCongestive Cardiac Failure: section 3.4: Congestive cardiac failure (CCF).