Resuscitation Council (UK)

Adult bradycardia algorithm

- Assess using the ABCDE approach
- Give oxygen if appropriate and obtain IV access
- Monitor ECG, BP, SpO_2, record 12-lead ECG
- Identify and treat reversible causes (e.g. electrolyte abnormalities)

Adverse features?
- Shock
- Syncope
- Myocardial ischaemia
- Heart failure

YES → **Atropine** 500 mcg IV

NO → **Risk of asystole?**

Satisfactory response?

YES → **Risk of asystole?**

NO → **Interim measures:**
- Atropine 500 mcg IV repeat to maximum of 3 mg
- Isoprenaline 5 mcg min^{-1} IV
- Adrenaline 2-10 mcg min^{-1} IV
- Alternative drugs *

OR
- Transcutaneous pacing

→ **Seek expert help**
Arrange transvenous pacing

Risk of asystole?
- Recent asystole
- Mobitz II AV block
- Complete heart block with broad QRS
- Ventricular pause > 3 s

YES → **Interim measures:**

NO → **Observe**

***Alternatives include:**
- Aminophylline
- Dopamine
- Glucagon (if beta-blocker or calcium channel blocker overdose)
- Glycopyrrolate can be used instead of atropine

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