Bradycardia With a Pulse Algorithm

Assess appropriateness for clinical condition. Heart rate typically < 50/min if bradyarrhythmia.

Identify and treat underlying cause
- Maintain patent airway; assist breathing as necessary*
- If the patient is short of breath, administer oxygen
- Oxygen as indicated
- Cardiac monitor to identify rhythm; monitor blood pressure and oximetry
- IV access
- 12-lead ECG if available; don't delay therapy

Persistent bradyarrhythmia causing:
- Hypotension?
- Acutely altered mental status?
- Signs of shock?
- Ischemic chest discomfort?
- Acute heart failure?

Monitor and observe

Y

Atropine IV Dose:
First dose: Atropine 1 mg
Repeat every 3–5 minutes
Maximum: 3 mg

If atropine ineffective:
- Transcutaneous pacing** OR
- Dopamine IV infusion: 5–20 mcg/kg per minute OR
- Epinephrine IV infusion: 2–10 mcg per minute

Consider:
- Expert consultation
- Transvenous pacing