

Call for help

- Alert any HCWs nearby for assistance.
- Activate code blue and call for the standby team.

- A standby team consisting of 6 members must be within the premises.
- This team is to serve, both, as emergency responders and to take over the tasks of the victim HCW after resuscitation.

Initiate resuscitation

If both pulse and breathing are present, monitor the victim till the emergency response team arrives.

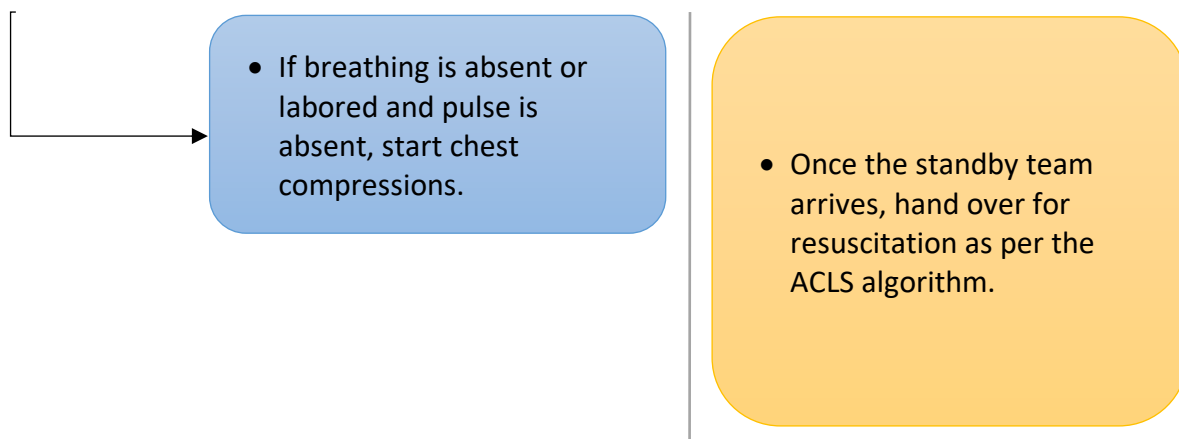
- If heat syncope seems the likely cause, remove the hood and unzip the suit. Remove the N95 mask last, and only if necessary.
- Elevate the legs if a vasovagal attack has occurred.

- Dehydration and heat stress are common in summer and the usual cause for the collapse of a HCW.

If pulse is present but breathing absent or labored, cut open the hood, remove goggles and the N95 mask.

- Open the airway with a head tilt and chin lift maneuver
- Bag and mask the victim to support respiration.

- A resuscitation cart must be present on every floor.
- Mouth to mouth is not advocated as it would lead to a breach in PPE of the resuscitator as well.
- Removal of the hood and N95 mask of the victim must be performed gently to minimize aerosolization.



Removal of PPE

- To minimize aerosolization, cut open the PPE gently.
- Remove the hood by making cuts on either side of the neck.
- Remove the goggles.
- Remove the N95 mask by cutting its strings on either side.
- Unzip the suit or cut it open along the midline to expose the chest.
- Remove both pairs of gloves to secure an IV access.
- To remove sleeves, cut them open lengthwise.

Supplemental Figure 1: Algorithm for the resuscitation of a collapsed health care worker in personal protective equipment caring for patients with coronavirus disease-19 (COVID-19).