

PULSELESSNESS: A POCUS HORROR STORY

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SPARK EM



Photo Credit: "Family exercising outdoors" OPEN ACCESS ageingbetter.resourcespace.com



SPARK EM

I DON'T
FEEL A
PULSE!



Patricia Nopulse

1952 - 2022

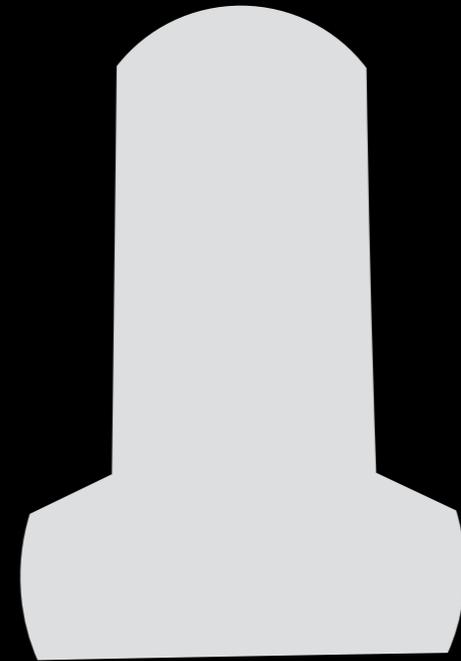
TOR because mortal fingers
couldn't feel a pulse



SPARK EM

Spark 1:

Replace fingers with POCUS for pulse checks.



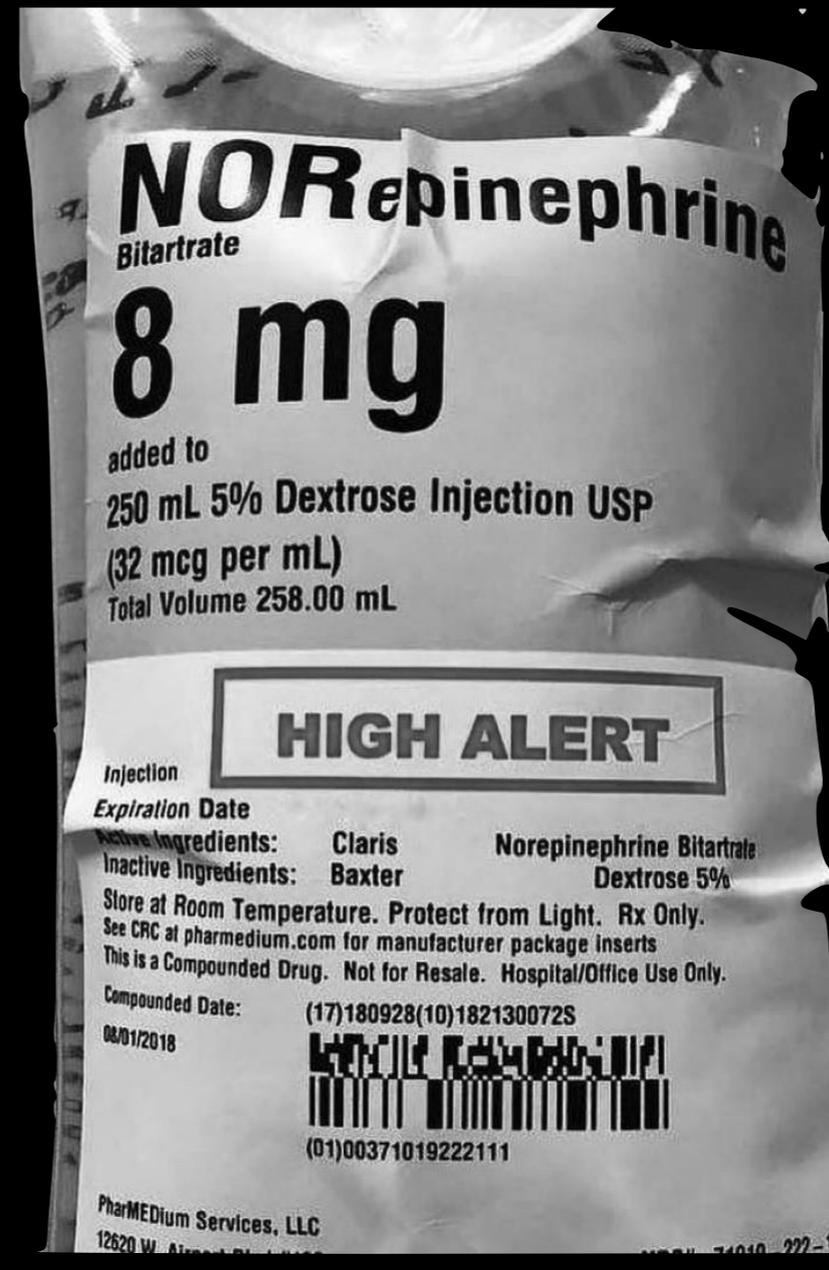
Femoral
Artery



SPARK EM

Spark 2:

Conceptualize pseudoPEA as
end-stage hypotension



POCUS In Patients with Hypotension *RUSH Exam* (*H.I.M.A.P.*)

HEART

- LV function good?
RV large? effusion?

IVC

- full/empty?

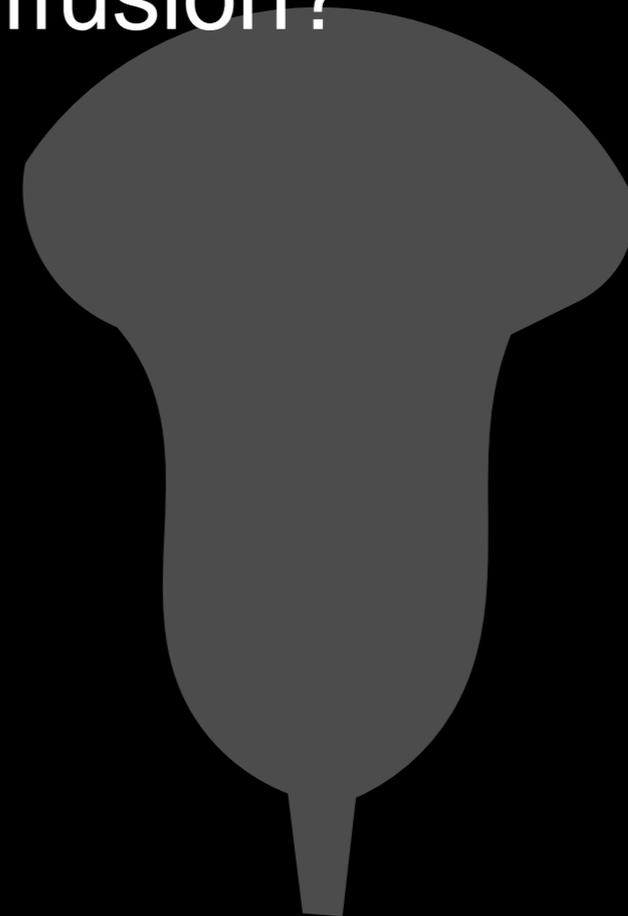
MORRISON'S

- free fluid?

AORTA

- aneurysm?

PNEUMO/LUNG - sliding?



M9



5

10

15

Left Ventricle

Right Ventricle



SPARK EM

*pseudo*PEA is more
survivable
than genuine PEA.



Spark 1:

Use POCUS for pulse check in cardiac arrest

Spark 2:

*Pseudo*PEA is end-stage hypotension: treat with pressors & use POCUS exam to identify reversible causes



PULSELESSNESS: APOCUS HORROR STORY

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