



## Clinical Practice Procedures: Assessment/Perfusion status

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<b>Date</b>	January, 2019
<b>Purpose</b>	To ensure a consistent procedural approach to determining perfusion status.
<b>Scope</b>	Applies to Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) clinical staff.
<b>Health care setting</b>	Pre-hospital assessment and treatment.
<b>Population</b>	Applies to all ages unless specifically mentioned.
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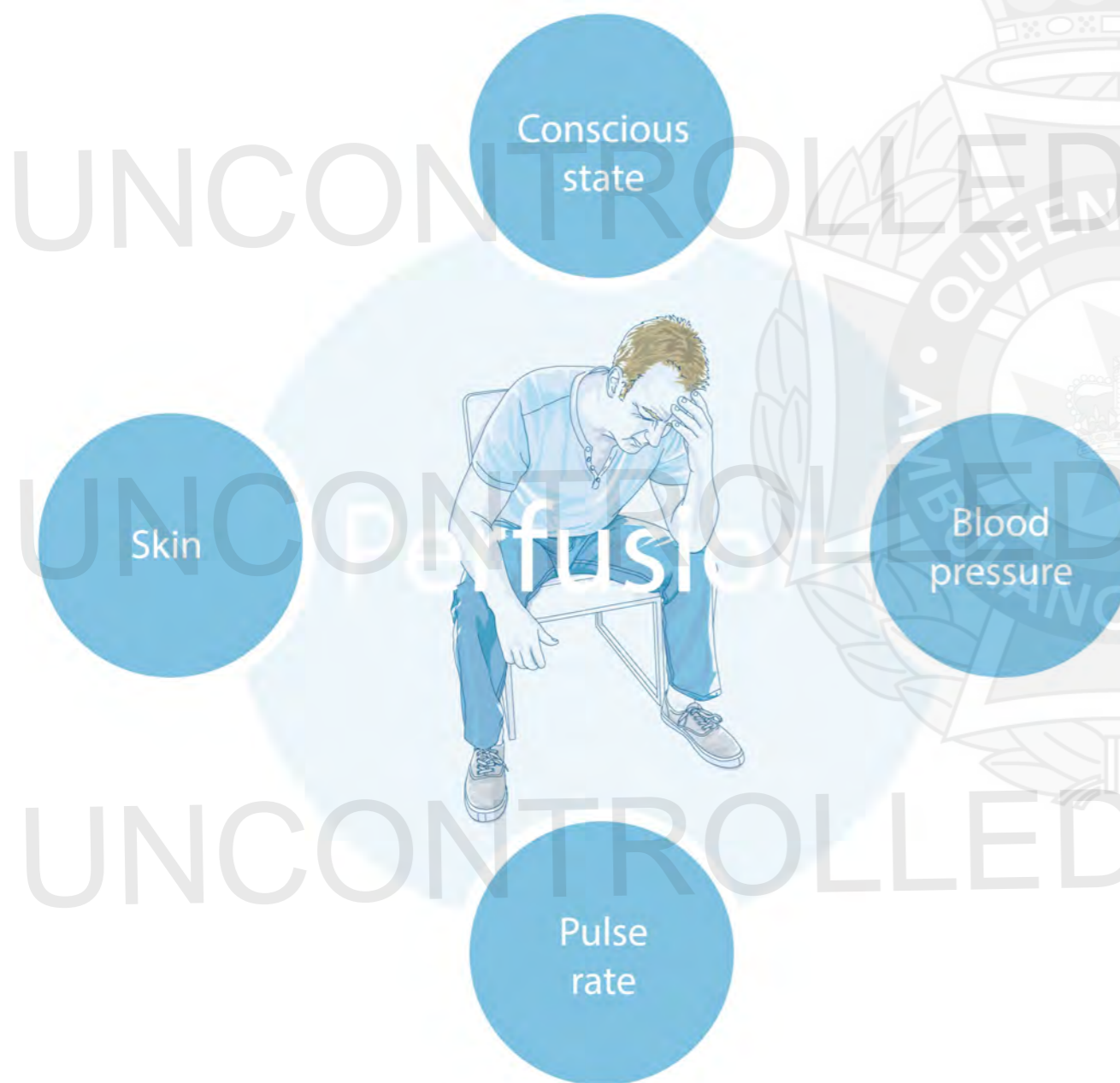
# Perfusion status

January, 2019

**Perfusion** is the ability of the cardiovascular system to supply the body tissues with an adequate blood supply to meet their functional demands.

With inadequate systemic perfusion there is usually an initial loss of blood flow and pressure to less crucial organs (e.g. skin and gastro intestinal system) in order to maintain flow to more vital organs (e.g. brain and heart).

Early vital signs assessment is crucial within the systematic approach to patient care, which considers perfusion as a time critical determinant of management.



## Indications



- All patients who raise a suspicion of haemodynamic compromise, either clinically, in history, or by mechanism of injury

## Contraindications



- Nil in this setting

## Complications



- Nil in this setting

## Procedure – Perfusion status

### ADULT – Perfusion Status Assessment

	Skin	Pulse	BP	Consciousness
<i>Adequate perfusion</i>	Warm, pink, dry	60 – 100 bpm	> 100 mmHg systolic	Alert and orientated in time and place
<i>Borderline perfusion</i>	Cool, pale, clammy	50 – 100 bpm	80 – 100 mmHg systolic	Alert and orientated in time and place
<i>Inadequate perfusion</i>	Cool, pale, clammy	< 50 bpm or > 120 bpm	60 – 80 mmHg systolic	Either alert or altered in their orientation to time and place
<i>Grossly inadequate perfusion</i>	Cool, pale, clammy	< 50 bpm or > 120 bpm	< 60 mmHg systolic or unrecordable	Altered state of consciousness or unconscious
<i>No perfusion</i>	Cool, pale, clammy	Absence of palpable pulses	Unrecordable	Unconscious

### PAEDIATRIC – Perfusion Status Assessment

	Skin	Pulse	BP	Consciousness
<i>Adequate perfusion</i>	Warm, pink, dry	80 – 160 bpm	> 70 mmHg systolic	Alert and interacting normally for age
<i>Borderline perfusion</i>	Cool, pale, clammy	50 – 180 bpm	50 – 70 mmHg systolic	Alert and interacting normally for age
<i>Inadequate perfusion</i>	Cool, pale, clammy	< 75 bpm or > 130 bpm	40 – 50 mmHg systolic	Alert and interacting normally for age
<i>Grossly inadequate perfusion</i>	Cool, pale, clammy	< 50 bpm or > 140 bpm	< 40 mmHg systolic or unrecordable	Altered state of consciousness or unconscious
<i>No perfusion</i>	Cool, pale, clammy	Absence of palpable pulses	Unrecordable	Unconscious