

## A Successful PEA Arrest

“..compressing hard enough to generate excellent blood pressures..”

Michelle Bird, RN (MICU)

### Hospital:



**Salt Lake City VA Medical Center**  
500 Foothill Drive  
Salt Lake City, UT 84148

### Patient Profile:

66 year old male, 217 lbs, was admitted to the ER in respiratory failure. The patient was immediately intubated, had a peripheral IV placed, and was transferred to the MICU.

He was placed on assist/control mechanical ventilation with FiO<sub>2</sub> of 100%.

### Clinical Course:

Shortly after admission to the MICU the patient had a PEA arrest. Manual compressions were started.

The AutoPulse was placed into position within minutes. While the AutoPulse was giving continuous, consistent compressions, the patient's BP was 110-120 / 70-80, SpO<sub>2</sub> in the 80's, and IV Epinephrine, Atropine and Calcium were administered.

Continuous compressions were given for approximately five (5) minutes and the patient regained his pulse with a tachycardia rhythm. The patient was not shocked during the code. Following the return of his pulse, a femoral artery and subclavian lines were placed.

### Outcome:

The patient was extubated in two (2) days after the PEA arrest and discharged from the hospital to home five (5) days after admission.

### Discussion:

The AutoPulse was delivering consistent, continuous compressions, resulting in improved blood flow that resulted in normal blood pressures. Because people were not switching off to administer CPR, it was stated that there was enough room to hook up IV fluids, give medications, monitor ventilation, and perform other interventions. “It also made the atmosphere less chaotic.” Michelle Bird, RN (MICU)

Until now, there has been no practical adjunct to manual CPR. The **AutoPulse® Non-invasive Cardiac Support Pump** with its unique load-distributing LifeBand® squeezes a wide surface area of the chest, helping to move more blood more effectively than is possible with human hands. As a result, patients receive consistent high-quality chest compressions that improve blood flow, minimize no-flow time and increase the likelihood of survival.