

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?



Emergent Cardioversion

Use DCCV for

- a. Significant hemodynamic instability, or
- b. Ongoing myocardial ischemia, hypotension, or HF from RVR not responding promptly to meds, or
- c. Pre-excitation, like WPW

Requires [anticoagulation](#)

Elective Cardioversion

Must be (a) clearly recent-onset AFF (<48h), or (b) recent TEE (<48h) negative for thrombus, or (c) paroxysmal or persistent AFF <4w and adequately anticoagulated for at least 3w. Contraindicated in digoxin toxicity or $K^+ < 3.5 \text{ mEq/L}$, or mechanical valve w/o adequate pre-ED anticoagulation.

- **Best candidates** have one or more of the following characteristics:
 - First AFF episode or infrequent episodes
 - Structurally normal heart
 - Low $\text{CHA}_2\text{DS}_2\text{-VASc}$ (0-1)
 - Markedly symptomatic AFF (usually RVR)
 - Younger, healthier patient
 - Patient preference
- **Advantages**
 - AFF symptom resolution
 - Reduces electrical and structural remodeling from persistent AFF
 - Reduces need for hospitalization
- **Address other AFF medication needs**
 - Antecedent IV **rate reduction medications may reduce effectiveness** of cardioversion efforts (cf. Blecher. *CJEM*. 2012.)
 - If $\text{CHA}_2\text{DS}_2\text{-VASc}$ score $\geq 2_m$ or $\geq 3_f$ [anticoagulate](#) in ED and at least 4w post