

## Echocardiography in Life Support (ELS)

This is a limited echocardiogram used in the setting of non-shockable cardiac arrest rhythms (PEA and asystole). The heart is interrogated during a rhythm check for wall motion and the treatable causes of PEA (cardiac tamponade, hypovolaemia, and pulmonary embolism). Assess the pericardial space for fluid, look for the presence/absence and character of ventricular wall motion, and look for gross abnormalities of right and left ventricular size.

Cardiac views<sup>1</sup>: The subxiphoid view is primarily used, augmented by a further view; most commonly the parasternal long axis view (other appropriate views include the parasternal short axis view and the apical four chamber view).

In addition, the longitudinal subxiphoid view<sup>2</sup> allows visualisation of the inferior vena cava (IVC) for assessment of diameter and collapsability.

