Broad Complex tachycardia

A 46 year old man is brought to your emergency department by ambulance following an overdose of unknown medications. He has had a brief generalized seizure en route. On arrival his observations are:





Describe the ECG (5 marks)

* + - Rate 150, Axis normal, Rhythm irregular broad complex tachycardia, R Prime AVR ,
		- Interpretation – consistent with Na Channel Blockade
		- QRS upper limit or slightly prolonged,
		- QT almost half the RR along with examples gave extra marks

What are the first 5 things you would do to manage the patient?

* + - Mx in resus area, team approach, delegate care of rest of department
		- treatment with NaHCo3 (50 ml 8.4%, repeat to achieve pH 7.5 and QRS <120ms)
		- Fluid Mx for hypotension (1litre 0.9% NaCl stat and repeat if necessary to achieve MAP > 65mmHg)
		- Benzodiazepines for seizures (appropriate dose for agent chosen)
		- RSI and ventilation to low normal CO2