

**TENNESSEE**  
**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

**ALS/BLS BLENDED PROTOCOLS**

## **BLS/ALS Protocols**

### **PURPOSE:**

To provide guidance on ALS/BLS treatment of patients

### **SCOPE:**

All Personnel

## **INDEX**

### **Introduction**

### **Definitions**

### **Medical Director's Statement**

### **Cardiac Emergency (Adult & Pediatric)**

- SOP # 101** Automatic External Defibrillator
- SOP # 102** Bradycardia
- SOP # 103** Acute Coronary Syndrome/STEMI
- SOP # 104** Chest Pain / NON-Cardiac
- SOP # 105** Pulseless Electrical Activity (PEA)
- SOP # 106** Premature Ventricular Contractions (PVC)
- SOP # 107** Supraventricular Tachycardia (SVT)
- SOP # 108** Torsades de Pointes
- SOP # 109** Ventricular Asystole
- SOP # 110** Ventricular Fibrillation / Pulseless V-Tach
- SOP # 111** Persistent Ventricular Fibrillation
- SOP # 112** Ventricular Tachycardia with a pulse
- SOP # 113** Post Resuscitation

### **Environmental Emergency (Adult & Pediatric)**

- SOP # 201** Chemical Exposure
- SOP # 202** Drug Ingestion
- SOP # 203** Electrocution / Lightning Injuries
- SOP # 204** Hyperthermia
- SOP # 205** Hypothermia
- SOP # 206** Near Drowning
- SOP # 207** Nerve Agent Exposure
- SOP # 208** Venomous Snake Bite
- SOP # 209** Radiation / Hazmat
- SOP # 210** Carbon Monoxide Exposure

### **Medical Emergency (Adult & Pediatric)**

- SOP # 300** Medical Complaint Not Specified under other Protocols
- SOP # 301** Abdominal Pain (non-traumatic) / Nausea and Vomiting
- SOP # 302** Acute Pulmonary Edema/CHF
- SOP # 303** Anaphylactic Shock
- SOP # 304** Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA)
- REFERENCE** C-STAT Stroke Assessment Tool
- REFERENCE** Pre-Hospital Screen for Thrombolytic Therapy
- SOP # 305** Croup
- SOP # 306** Family Violence
- SOP # 307** Headache
- SOP # 308** HEENT (Head, Eyes, Ears, Nose & Throat) Pain
- SOP # 309** Hyperglycemia Associated with Diabetes
- SOP # 310** Hypertensive Crisis
- SOP # 311** Hypoglycemia
- SOP # 312** Medications at Schools

**SOP # 313** Non-Formulary Medications  
**SOP # 314** Respiratory Distress (Asthma / COPD)  
**SOP # 315** Seizures  
**SOP # 316** Sexual Assault  
**SOP # 317** Sickie Cell Crisis  
**SOP # 318** Unconscious / Unresponsive / Altered Mental Status  
**SOP # 319** Syncope

#### **Shock / Trauma (Adult & Pediatric)**

**SOP # 401** Air Ambulance Transport  
**SOP # 402** Abdominal / Pelvic Trauma  
**SOP # 403** Avulsed Teeth  
**SOP # 404** Cardiogenic Shock  
**SOP # 405** Eye Trauma  
**SOP # 406** Hypovolemic Shock  
**SOP # 407** Major Thermal Burn  
**SOP # 408** Musculoskeletal Trauma  
**SOP # 409** Neurogenic Shock  
**SOP # 410** Septic Shock  
**SOP # 411** Soft Tissue Trauma / Crush Injuries  
**SOP # 412** Spinal Cord Injuries  
**SOP # 413** Trauma – Blunt  
**SOP # 414** Trauma Arrest (Blunt)  
**SOP # 415** Trauma – Penetrating  
**SOP # 416** Trauma Arrest (Penetrating)  
**SOP # 417** Traumatic Cardiac Arrest  
**SOP # 418** Traumatic Tension Pneumothorax  
**SOP # 419** Traumatic Amputation(s)

#### **Obstetrical Emergencies**

**REFERENCE** APGAR Scoring  
**SOP # 500** Obstetric / Gynecological Complaints (Non-Delivery)  
**SOP # 501** Normal Delivery  
**SOP # 502** Abruptio Placenta  
**SOP # 503** Amniotic Sac Presentation  
**SOP # 504** Breech or Limb Presentation  
**SOP # 505** Meconium Stain  
**SOP # 506** Placenta Previa  
**SOP # 507** Prolapsed Umbilical Cord  
**SOP # 508** Pre-eclampsia and Eclampsia

#### **Miscellaneous**

**SOP # 601** Discontinuation / Withholding of Life Support  
**SOP # 602** Field Determination of Death  
**SOP # 603** Mandatory EKG  
**SOP # 604** Patient Refusal of Care / No Patient Transport Situation  
**REFERENCE** Mini Mental Status Exam  
**SOP # 605** Physician on Scene  
**SOP # 606** Bystanders on Scene  
**SOP # 607** Procedure for Deviation from Standing Orders  
**SOP # 608** Spinal Protection  
**SOP # 609** Stretcher Transport  
**SOP # 610** Terminally Ill Patients

## **Pediatric Cardiac Emergency**

**SOP # 613** Neonatal Resuscitation

## **Behavioral Health Emergency**

**SOP # 701** Agitated Patient

**SOP # 702** Behavioral Emergencies

**SOP # 703** "HyperAgitation with Delirium" / Taser Use

**SOP # 704** Physical Restraint

## **Hazardous Materials**

**SOP # 801** Ammonia

**SOP # 802** Chlorine

**SOP # 803** Cyanide

**SOP # 804** Heavy Metals

**SOP # 805** Hydrogen Fluoride

**SOP # 806** Hydrogen Sulfide

**SOP # 807** Methyl Bromide

**SOP # 808** Nitrogen Oxides

**SOP # 809** Organophosphates

**SOP # 810** Crush Syndrome

## **Additional Optional Procedures and Medications**

### **Medications**

Lidocaine Substitution

Benzodiazepine Substitution

Zofran

Ibuprofen

Acetaminophen

Toradol

TXA

Cyanocobalamin

### **Agitated Patient management**

Droperidol

Haldol

### **Cardiac**

Double Sequential Defibrillation

Irregular Narrow Complex Tachycardia/ Afib with RVR

## **Patient refusal of care**

## **Procedures**

**PROCEDURE** Blood Collection Time Critical Illness

**PROCEDURE** Capnography

**PROCEDURE** Chest Decompression

**PROCEDURE** Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)

**PROCEDURE** Delayed Off Load of Patients to the ED

**PROCEDURE** Endotracheal Tube Introducer (Bougie)

**PROCEDURE** External Cardiac Pacing

**PROCEDURE** Fever / Infection Control

**PROCEDURE** Hemorrhage Control Clamp

**PROCEDURE** Induced Hypothermia Following ROSC

**PROCEDURE** Indwelling IV Port Access

**PROCEDURE** Intranasal Medication

**PROCEDURE** Intraosseous Access

**PROCEDURE** Lucas CPR Device

**PROCEDURE** Radio Report- Adult

**PROCEDURE** Radio Report- Pediatric Trauma  
**PROCEDURE** Radio Report- Trauma  
**PROCEDURE** ResQPod  
**PROCEDURE** Tourniquet  
**PROCEDURE** Vascular Access

## **Reference**

**REFERENCE** Consent Issues  
**REFERENCE** Civilians Riding During Transport  
**REFERENCE** Life Vest  
**REFERENCE** LVAD  
**REFERENCE** MCI Plan Response Levels  
**REFERENCE** Non-Viable Patients on Public Scenes  
**REFERENCE** Patient Assessment Flow Chart  
**REFERENCE** Physician Orders for Scope of Practice (POST)  
**REFERENCE** Pulse Oximetry  
**REFERENCE** QI Documentation Criteria  
**REFERENCE** Sepsis  
**REFERENCE** S.T.A.R.T. TRIAGE  
**REFERENCE** Trauma Assessment / Destination Guidelines  
**REFERENCE** Trauma Treatment Priorities  
**REFERENCE** Trauma Score  
**REFERENCE** Glasgow Coma Scale  
**REFERENCE** Common Medical Abbreviations

## **Pharmacology**

**REFERENCE** Glucose Reference  
**REFERENCE** Ketamine Reference  
**REFERENCE** Opiate Reference  
**REFERENCE** Pain Management Protocol  
**REFERENCE** Post Intubation  
**REFERENCE** Medication Dosage  
**REFERENCE** Drug Infusion Admix Dosage Guidelines

## **Pediatric Guidelines**

**REFERENCE** Pediatric Points to Remember  
**REFERENCE** Pediatric Trauma Score  
**REFERENCE** Triage Decision Scheme  
**REFERENCE** Age, Weight, and Vitals Chart  
**REFERENCE** Age and Weight Related Equipment Guidelines

## **Medical Director's Authorization**

## Introduction

These Standing Orders and Protocols may be used by EMS personnel licensed by the State of Tennessee Department of Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services to render appropriate care. All EMRs, EMTs, AEMTs, and Paramedics are to familiarize themselves with these SOPs. These Standing Orders and Protocols are applicable regardless of the final destination of the patient and/or the personnel's duty session.

### **Notes:**

1. The Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) will function under the current guidelines as stated in the AHA-BLS Healthcare Provider text. They shall also be responsible for other duties as assigned, within their scope of practice, as assigned by the AEMT or Paramedic.
2. These Standing Orders and Protocols are in addition to the minimum guidelines for patient care as outlined in the DOT EMT Curriculum. The EMT and AEMT will assist ALS personnel as requested or as needed.
3. When the Emergency Ambulance is out of quarters for any reason, the Paramedic will be in charge and will be responsible for all the actions and or activities as it relates to the Emergency Ambulance. On the scene of an emergency, the Paramedic will be responsible for patient care. The Senior AEMT will oversee the BLS units when applicable. The EMT or AEMT **will** act within their scope of practice to any request for patient care or maintenance of the unit as directed by the Paramedic. Patient care is limited to acts within their scope of practice. The EMT or AEMT is responsible for reviewing all documentation and signing in the required manner.
4. It is the responsibility of the most qualified provider caring for the patient to ensure transmission of all aspects of the patient assessment and care to the responding Emergency Unit or Medical Control.
5. When reporting a disposition to Medical Control or the responding unit, provide the following minimum information, utilizing the Radio Template in these protocols;
  - a. Patient's age and chief complaint
  - b. Is the patient stable or unstable, including complete vital signs and level of consciousness
  - c. Interventions performed
  - d. Name of physician providing order (if orders received)
  - e. Provide other information as requested
6. For every call, the first directives are scene safety and body substance isolation precautions. Always utilize appropriate PPE for any patient contact.
7. For any drug administration or procedures outside these Standing Orders and Protocols, the EMS Provider must receive authorization from Medical Control. Paramedics en-route to the scene are not authorized to issue medication orders.
8. The minimal equipment required for all patient calls:
  - a. When the patient is in close proximity to the unit or fire company:  
Jump bag, cardiac monitor, and oxygen or other equipment as may be indicated by the nature of the call.
  - b. When the patient is not in close proximity to the unit or fire company:  
The above equipment, stretcher and any other equipment that may be needed as dictated by the nature of the call.
9. The senior Paramedic riding on the ambulance has the ultimate responsibility to ensure that all patient records and reports are properly completed. The Senior AEMT will be responsible for all patient records on BLS Units when applicable. The patient care report should accurately reflect the clinical activities undertaken. If there is a patient refusal, declination, or dismissal of service at the scene of the incident,

the incident report should reflect the details as well as the party or parties responsible to discontinue all evaluations and treatment.

10. Although the SOPs and Protocol procedures have a numerical order, it may be necessary to change the sequence order or even omit a procedure due to patient condition, the availability of assistance, or equipment. Document your reason for any deviations from protocol.
11. EMRs, EMTs, and AEMTs are expected to perform their duties in accordance with local, state, and federal guidelines and within the State of Tennessee Statutes and Rules and Regulations of the Tennessee Department of Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services. The Paramedic will work within their scope of practice dependent on available equipment.
12. The ePCR shall be completed and posted prior to returning to service from the hospital or scene. Prior to the end of shift each Paramedic will verify (or AEMT on BLS Units will verify) that all of their electronic documents including addendums have been posted to the online documentation system. When on the 1st Responder Company, the ePCR will be completed by the end of the shift. This will ensure proper documentation of the continuity of care.
13. In potential crime scenes, any movement of the body, clothing, or immediate surroundings should be documented, and the on-scene law enforcement officer should be notified of such.
14. All patients should be transported to the most appropriate facility according to the patient or family request or to the facility that has the level of care commensurate with the patient's condition. Certain medical emergencies may require transport to a facility with specialized capability. A document with the capabilities of area facilities is available to EMS providers.
15. EMS personnel may transport the patient in a non-emergency status to the hospital. This should be based on the signs and symptoms of the patient, mechanism of injury or nature of illness.
16. The following refusal situations should be evaluated by a Paramedic:
  - a. Hypoglycemic patients who have responded to treatment
  - b. Any patient refusing transport who has a potentially serious illness or injury
  - c. Patients age less than **4** years or greater than **70** years
  - d. Chest pain, any age or cause
  - e. Drug overdose / intoxicated patients
  - f. Potentially head injured patients
  - g. Psychiatric disorders
17. The use of a length-based assessment tape is **required** for all pediatric patients as a guide for medications and equipment sizes. The tape will be utilized on all pediatric patients under the age of 8 years and appropriate for their weight. When assessing a child 8 or older that is small in stature for their age, you should consider using the length-based tape for compiling a complete accurate assessment of the patient. This information will be passed along to the receiving facility during the radio report and documented in the PCR.

#### Clinical Notes:

1. EMTs may administer the following medications and procedures provided they have received appropriate training:
  - a. Beta Agonists (aerosolized/nebulized) for dyspnea and wheezing;
  - b. Oral Glucose for suspected hypoglycemia;
  - c. Oral Aspirin for chest pain of suspected ischemic origin;
  - d. Sublingual nitroglycerine from patient's own prescribed medication;
  - e. Epinephrine (for anaphylactic reaction) Auto-injector;
  - f. Auto-injector Antidotes for hazmat exposure;

- g. Opioid Antagonist Autoinjector;
- h. Over the Counter analgesics for pain or fever;
- i. EMTs are authorized to use glucometers in the assessment of patients.
- j. Nontracheal airways
- k. Tourniquet Application
- l. 12 Lead ECG acquisition and transmission
- m. CPAP

AEMTs may administer the above listed medications and procedures as well as the following, provided they have received proper training:

- a. Immunizations;
  - b. Glucagon for Hypoglycemia;
  - c. Sublingual Nitroglycerin for chest pain of suspected ischemic origin;
  - d. Patient triggered inhaled analgesics (nitrous oxide);
  - e. Attend patients receiving Intravenous Antibiotics;
2. A complete patient assessment, vital signs, treatments and continued patient evaluation are to be initiated immediately upon contact with a patient and continued until patient care is transferred to a higher medical authority. Refer to the Patient Assessment Flow Chart located in these SOPs.
  3. The ongoing assessment times are considered:

**High Acuity**  
Every 3-5 Minutes

**Low Acuity**  
Every 5-15 Minutes

4. If a glucometer reading is less than 80 mg/dL and the patient is asymptomatic, consider the administration of oral glucose. If a glucometer reading is less than 80 mg/dL and the patient is symptomatic, administer oral glucose or start an IV NS and administer dextrose. Reassess patient every 5 minutes, repeat PRN.

**Note:** Any parenteral administration of dextrose must be given through an IV line running normal saline and **NOT VIA AN INT**. Blood glucose should be rechecked after administration of dextrose or oral glucose. Normal blood glucose values for adults are 80 – 120 mg/dL.

5. Blood Glucose and Stroke Screening will be performed on all patients with altered mental status. Glucose should be titrated slowly to restore normal levels while avoiding large rapid changes in serum glucose levels. Be aware that elevated glucose levels are detrimental in conditions such as stroke.
6. Supportive care indicates any emotional and/or physical care including oxygen therapy, repositioning patient, comfort measures, and patient family education.
7. Upon arrival at the receiving hospital, all treatment(s) and monitoring initiated in the field will be continued until hospital personnel have assumed patient care or the ambulance returns to service.
8. The initial blood pressure **MUST** be taken manually. If subsequent blood pressures taken by machine vary more than 15 points diastolic, then the machine reading will be verified by a manual blood pressure.
9. EMTs and AEMTs may obtain and transmit EKG monitoring tracings and 12 Lead EKGs. Paramedics **ONLY** may interpret, treat, and determine destination based on the 12 Lead EKG.
10. Indications for football helmet removal:
  - When a patient is wearing a helmet and not the shoulder pads
  - In the presence of head and or facial trauma
  - Patients requiring advanced airway management when removal of the facemask is not sufficient.



- When the helmet is loose on the patient's head
- In the presence of cardiopulmonary arrest (the shoulder pads must also be removed)

When the helmet and shoulder pads are both on, the spine is kept in neutral alignment. If the patient is wearing only the helmet or shoulder pads, neutral alignment must be maintained. Either remove the other piece of equipment or pad under the missing piece. *All other helmets must be removed to maintain spinal alignment.*

### Clinical Notes – Airway:

1. All EMTs have standing orders for insertion of an approved airway device for patients meeting the indications.
2. I-Gels are approved for pediatric use.
3. Airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition includes any airway maneuver, adjunct, or insertions of tubes that provide a patent airway.
4. Pulse Oximetry should be utilized for all patients complaining of respiratory distress or chest pain (regardless of source). Oxygen therapy should be geared to get patient oxygen saturation to >92%. Use oxygen judiciously with this goal in mind.
5. **Continuous waveform capnography** is **MANDATORY** for all intubations and non-tracheal airways. Reliability may be limited to patients less than 20 kg. Use other methods to assist in confirmation.
6. The use of head blocks or other head restraint post intubation (Blind Insertion Airway Device or ETT) is recommended to reduce the chance of accidental extubation. This is in addition to the tube securing devices currently in use. Cervical collars may cause a limitation in blood flow to the brain in patients with low flow states such as cardiac arrest/CPR and should not be too tightly placed.

### Clinical Notes – Cardiovascular:

1. Cardiac Arrest Best Practices:

All efforts should be made to incorporate the following practices in all cardiac arrests:

- a. CPR is most effective when done continuously, with minimum interruption. Maintain rate of 100-110 BPM, depth of 2", and compression fraction of >80%. Utilize metronomes or timers to ensure proper rate of compression and ventilation.
- b. Initiate compressions first, manage airway after effective compressions for two minutes.
- c. All IV/IO drugs given are to be followed by a 10 cc NS bolus.
- d. Elevate the extremity after bolus when given IV.
- e. Consider other airway maneuvers (i-Gel Airway) whenever intubation takes longer than 30 seconds.
- f. Apply nasal cannula oxygen 2 – 4 LPM during initial CPR.
- g. Tidal volumes should not exceed 500cc in Cardiac Arrest.
- h. Consider the use of Mechanical CPR device if available. Make sure that placement of the device takes no longer than 20 seconds. Longer pauses in CPR substantially decrease the likelihood of a successful resuscitation.
- i. Utilize the ITD16 (ResQPod) in all cardiac arrest situations. High quality CPR is necessary to achieve maximum benefit.
- j. If using Active Compression/Decompression CPR (ResQCPR) or Mechanical CPR Device, ensure utilization of the impedance threshold device (ITD). The ITD can be placed onto the BVM if an adequate facial seal can be maintained.
- k. After completing 2-3 minutes of CPR in the supine position, elevate head and shoulders approximately 30° over 4 minutes.

- l. Remove impedance threshold device upon ROSC.
  - m. If CPR needs to be reinstated, perform 2 minutes of CPR supine prior to head elevation.
2. Treat the patient not the monitor.
3. Defibrillation and synchronized cardioversion joules are based on the use of the current biphasic monitor.
4. If a change in cardiac rhythm occurs, provide all treatment and intervention as appropriate for the new rhythm.
5. In the case of cardiac arrest where venous access is not readily available, paramedics and AEMTs may use the IO as the initial access. Humeral access site is preferred in medical conditions.

#### **Clinical Notes – IV:**

1. AEMTs and Paramedics have standing orders for precautionary IVs and INTs. AEMTs have a standing order for the insertion of an IV or INT under the following guidelines:
  - a. The patient must have some indication that they are unstable (see definitions page).
  - b. Limited to two attempts in one arm only. (IV cannulation of legs or neck is not allowed).
  - c. Drug administration will be followed by a minimum of 10 cc of fluid to flush the catheter.
  - d. Blood glucose will be obtained for all patients with altered mental status.
  - e. IVs should not be attempted in an injured extremity.
  - f. TKO (To Keep Open) indicates a flow rate of approximately 50 cc/hr (peds 5-10 mL/hr).
  - g. IVs will not be started in arms with shunts.
  - h. IVs appropriate for patient's condition:
    - i. If patient is hypotensive, give bolus of fluid
    - ii. If patient's blood pressure is normal, run IV TKO or convert to saline lock (INT)
  - i. A bolus of fluid is 20 cc/kg for all patients.
  - j. Attempt to obtain blood sample tubes on all patients with time critical illnesses.
2. For external jugular IVs attempted by Paramedics, IV catheters should be 18 gauge or smaller diameter based on the patient.

Paramedics, when properly equipped and trained, may utilize indwelling access ports such as Port-A-Cath in an **EMERGENCY ONLY**. This procedure should be done with a Huber needle utilizing sterile technique.

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Medical Director:** The physician who has ultimate responsibility for the patient care aspects.

**Unstable (symptomatic):** Indicates that one or more of the following are present:

- a. Chest Pain
- b. Dyspnea
- c. Hypotension (systolic B/P less than 90 mmHg in a 70-kg patient or greater)
- d. Signs and symptoms of congestive heart failure or pulmonary edema
- e. Signs and symptoms of a myocardial infarction
- f. Signs and symptoms of inadequate perfusion
- g. Altered level of consciousness

**Stable (asymptomatic):** Indicates that the patient has no, or very mild signs and symptoms associated with the current history of illness or trauma.

**Firefighter/Non-EMT:** Personnel trained only in basic first aid and CPR. Responsible for immediately identifying and providing patient care and assisting other personnel upon their arrival and ensuring continuity of patient care.

**Emergency Medical Responder (EMR):** Personnel licensed by the Tennessee Department of Health, Office of EMS and authorized by the Medical Director to perform lifesaving interventions while awaiting additional EMS response. EMR may also assist higher level personnel at scene and during transport under medical direction and within scope of practice.

**Emergency Medical Technician (EMT):** Personnel licensed by the Tennessee Department of Health, Office of EMS and authorized by the Medical Director to provide basic emergency care according to the standard of care and these Standing Orders and Protocols.

**Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT):** Personnel licensed by the Tennessee Department of Health, Office of EMS and authorized by the Medical Director to provide limited advanced emergency care according to the standard of care and these Standing Orders and Protocols.

**Paramedic:** Personnel licensed by the Tennessee Department of Health, Office of EMS and authorized by the Medical Director to provide basic and advanced emergency patient care according to the Standard of Care and the EMS BLS and ALS Standing Orders and Protocols.

**Transfer of Care:** Properly maintaining the continuity of care through appropriate verbal and/or written communication of patient care aspects to an equal or higher appropriate medical authority.

**Higher Medical Authority:** Any medical personnel that possesses a current medical license or certificate recognized by the State of Tennessee with a higher level of medical training than the one possessed by Emergency Medical Services Personnel (MD, DO).

**Medical Control (transport):** The instructions and advice provided by a physician, and the orders by a physician that define the treatment of the patient; to access Medical Control, contact the Emergency Department physician on duty of the patient's first choice of destinations. If the patient does not have a preference, the patient's condition and/or chief complaint may influence the choice of medical treatment facilities.

All EMS Providers are expected to perform their duties in accordance with local, state, and federal guidelines.

## **Medical Director's Statement**

I have taken great care to make certain that doses of medications and schedules of treatment are compatible with generally accepted standards at the time of publication. Much effort has gone into the development, production, and proof reading of these Standard Operating Procedures and Protocols. Unfortunately, this process may allow errors to go unnoticed or treatments may change between the creation of these protocols and their ultimate use. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you discover any errors, typos, dosage, or medication errors.

I look forward to any questions, concerns, or comments regarding these protocols. I expect all EMS personnel to follow these guidelines, but also to utilize and exercise good judgment to provide the best care for all our patients.

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Holley MD". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joe Holley, MD FACEP FAEMS  
EMS Medical Director

# CARDIAC EMERGENCY

## SOP # 101

## Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)

### Signs and Symptoms

Patient in cardiopulmonary arrest

Basic life support in progress

AED in use

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. If AED available, apply to patient and follow prompts.
2. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition. All CPR rates of compression are **100-110 per minute for all ages. Res-Q-Pump compression rate is 80 per minute.** Ventilation rates are 2 breaths for every 30 compressions (**peds – 2 breaths for every 15 compressions**) if advanced airway is not in place. If an advanced airway IS in place, give 1 breath every six seconds (10 breaths per minute) for all age groups. Utilize ITD.
3. Continue CPR according to current AHA Healthcare Provider Guidelines, specific for patient's age.
4. If AED is in use (defibrillating) prior to arrival, allow shocks to be completed, and then evaluate pulse:
  - a. If no pulse, continue to provide CPR and basic life support
  - b. If a pulse is present, evaluate respirations and provide supportive care appropriate for the patient's condition

### EMT STOP HERE

5. IV NS bolus (20 cc/kg), then TKO.

### AEMT STOP HERE

6. Monitor patient and treat per SOP specific for the arrhythmia.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

#### Notes

7. AED is relatively **contraindicated** in the following situations:
  - a. If the victim is in standing water
  - b. Trauma cardiac arrest
8. Victims with implanted pacemakers, place pads 1 inch from device. If ICD/AICD is delivering shock to the patients allow 30 to 60 seconds (2 complete treatment cycles) before using the AED.
9. Transdermal medication patch at site of AED pads:  
If a medication patch is in the location of the AED pad, remove the medication patch and wipe the site clean before attaching the AED electrode pad.

## CARDIAC EMERGENCY

### SOP # 102 Symptomatic Bradycardia

#### Signs and Symptoms

Heart rate less than 60 beats per minute and symptomatic  
Decreased / altered LOC  
Chest pain / discomfort  
CHF / pulmonary edema  
Head trauma  
Elevated ICP  
Dyspnea  
Hypothermia  
Hypoglycemia  
Drug overdose  
Signs of decreased perfusion  
Rhythm may be sinus bradycardia, junctional, or heart block  
Heart rates < 80 /min for infant or < 60 /min for child

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.  
If patient will not tolerate NRB, apply Oxygen at 6 LPM BNC (**peds- 4 LPM. Use bag-valve-mask if no response with oxygen by nasal cannula**)
2. Supportive care.
3. Pulse Oximetry. Consider Opiate antagonist if indicated.
4. Glucometer check.
5. Cardiac monitor – 12 Lead EKG, transmit if indicated.

### EMT STOP HERE

6. IV access and administer NS TKO. Attempt for large bore (18 or better) in AC, with second line as time permits.
7. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.
8. Consider Naloxone 0.4-2mg IV/IN/Auto-injector. If utilizing pre-filled delivery systems, dose per manufacturer's instructions.

### AEMT STOP HERE

9. If patient is asymptomatic and heart rate is less than 60 bpm, monitor and transport.
10. If PVCs are present with bradycardia, **DO NOT** administer Amiodarone/lidocaine.
11. Adults:
  - a. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg and heart rate < 60 /min  
If 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> degree blocks are present apply transcutaneous pacer pads (if available), administer Atropine 0.5mg IV
  - b. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg and heart rate < 60/min continues
    - i. Administer Atropine 0.5 mg up to 0.04 mg/kg (3 mg for adults) **(peds 0.02 mg/kg, repeat once in 3 to 5 minutes PRN, max single dose 0.5 mg, max total dose 1 mg)**
  - c. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg and heart rate < 60/min continues
    - i. Notify Medical Control and begin External Pacing per protocol
    - ii. Consider:  
EPINEPHrine 2-10 mcg/min IV slow push.

To prepare EPINEPHrine 10 mcg/ml:

1. Draw up 9 ml of normal saline into 10 ml syringe
2. Into this syringe, draw up 1 ml of EPINEPHrine 0.1 mg/ml (1 mg/10 ml) from a cardiac syringe
3. Label syringe

Adult Push Dose Pressor IV Administration:

Using above EPINEPHrine preparation (EPINEPHrine 10mcg/ml) 10 ml syringe, administer 5-10 mcg (0.5-1 ml) slow IV push (over 30-60 seconds) every 2-5 minutes as needed as a temporizing measure for severe hypotension.

Note: Monitor HR and BP continuously while administering/titrating EPINEPHrine, as it may cause significant tachycardia and tachyarrhythmia in addition to the desired vasoconstriction.

**Pediatric:**

- a. **Heart rates < 80 /min for infant or < 60 /min for child**
- b. **Signs of poor perfusion, respiratory distress, or hypotension**  
**Yes – start chest compressions, IV/IO**
  1. **EPINEPHrine 1:10,000 (now 0.1 mg/mL) - 0.01 mg/kg IV/IO q 3-5 min.**
  2. **Contact Medical Control**
    - a. **Consider external cardiac pacing**  
**Consider EPINEPHrine 0.1-1 mcg/kg/min.**

12. If beta blocker ingestion is suspected, consider Glucagon 1-2 mg IM/IV if unresponsive to Atropine. **(peds – Glucagon 0.5 mg/dose if less than 20 kg, or 1 mg/dose if 20 kg or greater)**

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

## CARDIAC EMERGENCY

### SOP # 103

### Acute Coronary Syndrome/STEMI

#### Signs and Symptoms

Determine the quality, duration, radiation of pain  
Substernal oppressive chest pain (crushing or squeezing)  
Nausea and/or vomiting  
Shortness of breath  
Cool, clammy skin  
Palpitations  
Anxiety or restlessness  
Abnormal pulse rate or rhythm  
History of Coronary Artery Disease or AMI  
Currently taking cardiac medications  
JVD  
Distal pulse for equality/strength to assess for aneurysm  
Diaphoresis, pallor, cyanosis  
Breath sounds – congestion, rales, wheezing  
Motor deficits

#### Notes

**P** – Provocation of pain/discomfort (anything that increases discomfort)  
**Q** – Quality of pain  
**R** – Radiation of pain  
**S** – Severity of pain/discomfort (scale of 1 – 10)  
**T** – Time of pain/discomfort onset; type of pain

The elderly, women, and/or diabetic patients may complain of nausea, weakness, shortness of breath or other vague symptoms. Screen all such patients for possible silent MI.

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen at 2 – 6 LPM BNC and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition. If the patient is in severe respiratory distress, consider Oxygen 12 – 15 LPM NRB (**peds – 4 LPM BNC. Use bag-valve-mask if no response with oxygen by nasal cannula.**)
2. Supportive care.
3. Pulse oximetry – provide Oxygen sufficient to keep SATs > 92%.
4. If systolic BP is > 100 and the patient is symptomatic, may assist patient with their own Nitroglycerine tablet or spray sublingually and reassess every 5 minutes up to a maximum of three doses.
5. Administer 324 mg of Aspirin (Chewable non-enteric coated) if patient has no contraindications or has not already self-dosed.
6. Cardiac Monitor – assist with 12 lead EKG and transmission if applicable. Obtain and transmit EKG to PCI capable hospital within the first 10 minutes of patient contact. Consider repeat EKGs. Approximately 10% of STEMI patients will have at least 1 normal EKG.
7. Glucose check.

**EMT STOP HERE**



8. IV access and administer NS TKO. Attempt for large bore (18 or better) in AC, with second line as time permits.
9. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.
10. If systolic BP > 100 and patient is currently symptomatic, administer one 0.4 mg Nitroglycerin tab or sublingual spray q5min X 3 doses if SBP remains > 100.
11. Contact Medical Control for additional doses.

**Caution:** The three doses include any doses given prior to arrival or patient's own medication administration. Use with caution in patients taking erectile dysfunction medication as this may cause profound hypotension.

## AEMT STOP HERE

12. Perform serial EKGs in order to document progression of EKG changes. Treat arrhythmia appropriately.
13. Patients with probable AMI should be transported to an appropriate PCI capable facility as soon as possible.
14. Systolic BP is < 100 mmHg, give 250 ml NS bolus (assess for signs of pulmonary congestion).
  - a. If PVCs > 15 /min and symptomatic, administer Amiodarone 150 mg over 2 minutes
15. If chest pain/discomfort continues after adequate Nitrate therapy:
  - a. Continue Nitrate therapy
  - b. Complete Thrombolytic screening
  - c. If chest pain is greater than 7 on scale of 1 – 10, administer pain medications per pain management protocol
  - d. Contact Medical Control
  - e. Transport

## PARAMEDIC STOP

**Note:** If EMS suspects a true Acute Coronary Syndrome/STEMI in a patient less than 18 years old, immediately contact online medical control.

## CARDIAC EMERGENCY

### SOP # 104 Chest Pain / Non-Cardiac

#### Signs and Symptoms

Determine quality, duration, and radiation of pain  
Atypical chest pain  
NO nausea and/or vomiting  
NO shortness of breath  
NO cool, clammy skin  
History or chest injury, persistent cough  
NO history of coronary artery disease or AMI  
NOT currently taking cardiac medications  
Distal pulse for equality/strength to assess for aneurysm  
No diaphoresis, pallor, cyanosis  
Normal breath sounds

#### Notes

**P** – provocation of pain/discomfort (anything that increases discomfort)

**Q** – quality of pain

**R** – radiation of pain

**S** – severity of pain/discomfort  
(scale of 1 – 10)

**T** – time of pain/discomfort onset, type of pain

The elderly, women, and/or diabetic patients may complain of nausea, weakness, shortness of breath or other vague symptoms. Screen all such patients for possible silent MI.

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen at 2 – 6 LPM BNC and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition. If the patient is in severe respiratory distress, consider Oxygen at 12 -15 LPM NRB (**peds- 4 LPM. Use bag-valve-mask if no response with oxygen by nasal cannula.**)
2. Supportive care.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. If systolic BP is > 100 and the patient is symptomatic, may assist patient with their own Nitroglycerine tablet or spray sublingually and reassess every 5 minutes up to a maximum of three doses.
5. Administer 324 mg of Aspirin (Chewable non-enteric coated) if patient has no contraindications or has not already self-dosed.
6. Cardiac Monitor – assist with 12 lead EKG and transmission if applicable. Obtain and transmit EKG to PCI capable hospital within the first 10 minutes of patient contact. Consider repeat EKGs. Approximately 10% of STEMI patients will have at least 1 normal EKG.
7. Glucose Check.

### EMT STOP HERE

8. IV access and administer NS TKO. Attempt for large bore (18 or better) in AC, with second line as time permits.
9. Administer 324 mg of Aspirin (Chewable non-enteric coated) if patient has no contraindications or has not already self-dosed.
10. If systolic BP > 100 and patient is currently symptomatic, administer one 0.4 mg Nitroglycerin tab or sublingual spray q5min X 3 doses if SBP remains > 100. Contact Medical Control for additional doses.  
**Caution:** The maximum dosage of Nitroglycerine is three sublingual administrations, whether before or after your arrival. Use with caution in patients taking erectile dysfunction medications. Profound hypotension may occur.
11. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.

### AEMT STOP HERE

12. If chest pain/discomfort persists after adequate nitrate therapy and pain is greater than a **7** on a scale of 1 – 10, administer pain medications per pain management protocol.
13. Perform serial EKGs in order to document progression of EKG changes. Treat arrhythmia appropriately. Be sure to turn place pads and turn on alarms!
14. Contact Medical Control.
15. Transport.

## PARAMEDIC STOP

**CAUTION:** Patients with true cardiac disease may have subtle, atypical symptoms. Always err on the side of the patient's safety.

**Note:** For pediatric patients complaining of chest pain, please contact online medical control before administering aspirin, nitroglycerine, or opiates.

## CARDIAC EMERGENCY

### SOP # 105

### Pulseless Electrical Activity (PEA)

#### Signs and Symptoms

Presence of electrical cardiac rhythm without palpable pulse  
Confirm rhythm with electrodes in two leads

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Utilize AED if available.
2. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition.
3. CPR as indicated, consider Naloxone.
4. Glucose check.
5. EKG Monitor, 12 lead and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

6. IV NS, bolus of fluid (20 cc/kg).
7. Check fingerstick glucose level. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.

### AEMT STOP HERE

8. EPINEPHrine 1:10,000 (now 0.1 mg/mL) 1 mg IVP/IO (**peds – EPINEPHrine 1:10,000 (now 0.1 mg/mL) - 0.01 mg/kg IV/IO q 3-5 min**). Administer as early in the arrest as possible. Early administration results in better outcomes in PEA.
9. Search for underlying cause of arrest and provide the related therapy:
  - a. Hypoxia – ensure adequate ventilation and oxygenation.
  - b. Hypovolemia – fluid administration/fluid challenge – adult 20 cc/kg (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**).
  - c. Cardiac tamponade – adult up to 2 liter bolus (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**).
  - d. Tension pneumothorax – needle decompression.
  - e. **KNOWN** hyperkalemia or tricyclic antidepressant overdose – Sodium Bicarbonate 8.4% 1 mEq/kg, may repeat @ 0.5 mEq/kg q 10 min (**peds <1 month use Sodium Bicarbonate 4.2% - 1 mEq/kg**), (**peds >1 month use Sodium Bicarbonate 8.4% - 1 mEq/kg may repeat at 0.5 mEq/kg q 10 min**) and CaCl<sub>2</sub> 500 mg IVP (**peds 20 mg/kg**).
  - f. **KNOWN** Acidosis in prolonged arrest: consider Sodium Bicarbonate 8.4% 1-2 mEq/kg IV
  - g. Drug Overdose: Naloxone (Narcan) 0.4-2.0 mg IV/IO/IM/IN titrated to adequate ventilation (**peds 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO/IM/IN titrated to adequate ventilation, max dose 2 mg**). If utilizing pre-filled delivery systems, dose per manufacturer's instructions. May repeat dose. Synthetic Opiate overdoses may require much larger doses of Naloxone. Physically manage airway if no response after 8 mg Naloxone.
  - h. Hypothermia: initiate patient re-warming, stop chest compressions with return of spontaneous circulation.
10. Consider External Cardiac Pacing per protocol.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

# CARDIAC EMERGENCY

SOP # 106

## Premature Ventricular Complexes

### Signs and Symptoms

Any PVC in AMI setting with associated chest pain

Multi-focal PVCs

Unifocal and >15 /min

Salvos/couplets/runs of V-Tach (three or more PVCs in a row) and symptomatic PVCs occurring near the "T-wave"

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. Supportive care.
3. Pulse Oximetry.
4. Glucose check.
5. EKG Monitor. 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

6. INT or IV NS TKO.
7. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.

### AEMT STOP HERE

8. If significantly symptomatic PVCs are present with heart rate >60/min:  
Amiodarone 150-300 mg IV/IO (**peds 5 mg/kg, may repeat up to total of 15 mg/kg**)

### PARAMEDIC STOP

# CARDIAC EMERGENCY

SOP # 107

## Supraventricular Tachycardia (SVT) / Regular Narrow Complex Tachycardia

### Signs and Symptoms

Adult patients with heart rates in excess of 160 bpm (*peds – infant rate > 220 bpm, child rate > 180 bpm*) (QRS width < .12 sec [3 small blocks])

**Pediatric SVT typically has no P waves and no beat to beat variability**

Patients may exhibit symptoms of dyspnea, chest pain, radiating pain, altered mental status, hypotension (systolic BP < 90 mmHg)

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. Supportive care.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. Glucose check.
5. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and Transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

6. INT or IV NS TKO.
7. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.

### AEMT STOP HERE

8. Valsalva maneuver for 15 seconds, then immediately lay patient flat, administer Adenosine, and lift legs 45 degrees for 15 seconds.
9. Adenosine 12 mg rapid IV (**peds 0.1 mg/kg 6 mg max, may repeat at 0.2 mg/kg with 12 mg maximum dose if needed**). May repeat dose of 12 mg once. Flush with 10 cc NS after each dose.
  - a. If rhythm does not convert to < 150 /min and patient is significantly symptomatic, or if patient is unstable and significantly symptomatic, prepare for synchronized cardioversion. Sedate as necessary: Diazepam (Valium) 2-5 mg IV (**peds 0.1 mg/kg**) or Midazolam (Versed) 2-5 mg IV (**peds 0.1 mg/kg IV**) or Ketamine/Pain Medication per protocol. Synchronized cardioversion @ 50, 100, 200 joules (**peds 0.5 j/kg then 1 j/kg, then 2j/kg**). Cardiovert until heart rate < 150 /min.
  - b. If rhythm converts to rate < 150 /min: reassess for changes, maintain systolic BP > 90 mmHg, transport, and contact Medical Control.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

**Note:** Due to the increased sensitivity to drug effects, in heart transplant patients and those on Tegretol (Carbamazepine), give ½ the normal dose of Adenosine.

10. Adenosine is administered through a large bore IV in the Antecubital Fossa.
11. Other vagal maneuvers may include asking the patient to hold their breath or Trendelenburg position.
12. Carotid sinus pressure should be applied on the right side if possible. If no effect, then try the left side. **NEVER** massage both sides at once.
13. Unstable SVT may be synchronized cardioverted immediately in frankly unstable patients prior to IV access. Assess the situation and make a good decision. Cardioversion hurts, utilize pain management protocol!
14. Significant symptoms include diaphoresis, hypotension, poor color or perfusion, mental status. changes, chest pain > 7/10.

# CARDIAC EMERGENCY

## SOP # 108 Torsades de Pointes

### Signs and Symptoms

Decreased/altered LOC

Dyspnea

Chest pain/discomfort, suspected AMI

Hypotension (Systolic BP < 90 mmHg) (**peds – 70+2x age**)

CHF/pulmonary edema

Heart rate > 160 /min with QRS > .12 sec (three small blocks [wide complex]) and twisting of points

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. Supportive care.
3. Pulse Oximetry.
4. Glucose check.
5. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

6. INT or IV NS TKO.
7. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.

## AEMT STOP HERE

8. Systolic BP
  - a. If < 90 mmHg – unstable/symptomatic:
    - i. Prepare for cardioversion at 50, then 100, then 200 joules, escalating as needed. (**peds – 0.5-1 joule/kg in synchronized cardioversion**).
    - ii. Sedation as necessary.  
Diazepam (Valium) 2-5 mg IV (**peds 0.1 mg/kg**) OR Midazolam (Versed) 2-5 mg IV (**peds 0.1 mg/kg**) or Ketamine and/or Pain Medications per the pain management protocol.
    - iii. If rate <160/min – monitor for changes, transport, Magnesium Sulfate 1-2 g IVP over 2 minutes (**peds – 50 mg/kg IV, max 2 g**).
    - iv. If rate > 160 /min – Contact Medical Control, consider Amiodarone 150 – 300 mg IV/IO (**peds 5 mg/kg, may repeat up to a total dose of 15 mg/kg**).
  - b. Cardiac arrest (pulseless Torsades):
    - i. Defibrillate beginning at 100 J
    - ii. Magnesium Sulfate 1 – 2 g IVP over 2 min
  - c. If > 90 mmHg – stable/asymptomatic:
    - i. Magnesium Sulfate 1 – 2 g IVP over 2 min
9. Transport.

## PARAMEDIC STOP

# CARDIAC EMERGENCY

## SOP # 109 Ventricular Asystole

### Signs and Symptoms

No pulse or respirations  
Confirm cardiac rhythm with electrodes in 2 leads on monitor  
Record in two leads to confirm asystole and to rule out fine V-Fib

### Reversible Causes:

Hypovolemia	Table (Drug overdose)
Hypoxia	Tamponade (cardiac)
Hydrogen ion (acidosis)	Tension pneumothorax
Hyperkalemia/Hypokalemia	Thrombosis-heart
Hypothermia	Thrombosis-lungs

## TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. AED if available.
2. CPR appropriate for patient age.
3. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition, consider Narcan.
4. Glucose check.
5. Cardiac Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

6. IV NS bolus (20 cc/kg bolus fluids)
7. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.

## AEMT STOP HERE

8. EPINEPHrine 1:10,000 (now 0.1 mg/mL) – 0.5 mg IO/IVP every 3-5 minutes **(peds EPINEPHrine 1:10,000 (now 0.1 mg/mL) - 0.01 mg/kg IV/IO q 3-5 min)**. Administer as early in the arrest as possible. Early administration results in better outcomes in Asystole.
9. For prolonged resuscitation, with known acidosis consider: Sodium Bicarbonate 8.4% 1 mEq/kg IV/IO followed by 0.5 mEq/kg q 10 min **(peds < 1 mo, use Sodium Bicarbonate 4.2% - 1 mEq/kg) (peds >1 mo, use Sodium Bicarbonate 8.4% - 1 mEq/kg may repeat at 0.5 mEq/kg q 10 min)**.
10. Consider:
  - a. Magnesium Sulfate 1 – 2 gm IV slow push over 2 minutes **(no pediatric dosing)**.
  - b. Defibrillation for possible fine ventricular fibrillation masquerading as asystole
  - c. Consider external pacing under the following circumstances:  
If cardiopulmonary arrest was witnessed by an experienced provider, and the patient is in asystole, prompt application of the transcutaneous cardiac pacemaker is appropriate prior to the administration of EPINEPHrine when a patient converts to asystole as a primary rhythm during EKG monitoring.
  - d. CaCl<sub>2</sub> if arrest secondary to renal failure, or history of hemodialysis, 500 mg IV **(peds 20 mg/kg IV/IO bolus; Non-Arrest infuse over 30-60 min)**.
  - e. Consider discontinuing efforts if criteria are met under Discontinuation/Withholding of Life Support Standing Order.
  - f. Consider Naloxone if opiate ingestion is a concern

## PARAMEDIC STOP

**NOTE:** EPINEPHrine doses beyond 3mg total are unlikely to be of benefit. Ensure CPR is of high quality.



# CARDIAC EMERGENCY

## SOP # 110 Ventricular Fibrillation/Pulseless Ventricular Tachycardia

### Signs and Symptoms

Ventricular Fibrillation  
Ventricular Tachycardia  
Pulseless  
Apneic

Confirm and record cardiac rhythm with electrodes verified in 2 leads

### Notes

- Defibrillation should not be delayed for any reason other than rescuer or bystander safety.
- Prompt defibrillation is the major determinant of survival. Time on scene should be taken to aggressively treat ventricular fibrillation.
- Consider transport of patient **after** performing 2 CPR/Defibrillation cycles, securing the airway, obtaining IV/IO access, and administering of at least two rounds of drugs. This will provide the best chance of return of a perfusing rhythm.
- EPINEPHrine doses beyond 3mg total are unlikely to be of benefit. Ensure CPR is of high quality.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. AED if available.
2. CPR.
3. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition, consider Naloxone.
4. Glucose check, treat if indicated.
5. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

6. IV NS TKO.
7. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.

### AEMT STOP HERE

8. Defibrillate at manufacturer's recommended energies. **(peds 1-2 j/kg)**
9. Administer:  
EPINEPHrine 1:10,000 (now 0.1 mg/mL) – 0.5 mg IVP/IO (only if no other option) q 4 mins **(peds EPINEPHrine 1:10,000 (now 0.1 mg/mL) - 0.01 mg/kg IV/IO q 3-5 min)**. Administer as early in the arrest as possible. Early administration results in better outcomes.
10. Administer:
  - a. Amiodarone 300 mg IV or IO, repeat after 5 min at 150 mg **(peds 5 mg/kg, may repeat up to total of 15 mg/kg)**.
  - b. For prolonged resuscitation or known acidosis consider: Sodium Bicarbonate 8.4% 1 mEq/kg IV/IO followed by 0.5 mEq/kg q 10 min, **(peds <1 mo, use Sodium Bicarbonate 4.2% - 1 mEq/kg), (peds >1 mo, use Sodium Bicarbonate 8.4% - 1 mEq/kg may repeat at 0.5 mEq/kg q 10 min)**.
  - c. Optional: Instead of Amiodarone, Lidocaine 2% **(peds 1 mg/kg, max dose 3 mg/kg. Repeat if infusion initiated more than 15 after the initial dose)**.
  - d. CaCl<sub>2</sub> 500 mg IVP **(peds 20 mg/kg)**, if arrest secondary to renal failure, or history of hemodialysis.
  - e. Magnesium Sulfate 1 – 2 gm IV slow push over 2 min **(no pediatric dosage)**.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

## CARDIAC EMERGENCY

### SOP # 111 Persistent Ventricular Fibrillation / Pulseless Ventricular Tachycardia

#### Signs and Symptoms

Unresponsive

Pulseless

Persistent ventricular fibrillation/tachycardia or returned to this rhythm post ROSC/other rhythm changes

#### Notes

For use after SOP Ventricular Fibrillation / Pulseless Ventricular Tachycardia Protocol has been ineffective

Limit EPINEPHRine to 3 mg max if possible. Further dosing of EPINEPHrine may decrease chances of successful resuscitation.

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

### PARAMEDIC ONLY

#### If there is no change in V-Fib:

1. Complete 5 cycles of CPR, check rhythm and pulse.
2. Repeat defibrillation without further pulse checks.
3. Resume CPR.

#### If there is a change in V-Fib:

1. Apply new defibrillation pads at new sites.
2. Complete 5 cycles of CPR, check rhythm and pulse.
3. Repeat defibrillation, pause 5 seconds maximum to check rhythm and pulse.
4. Resume CPR.

#### Notes:

- Recurrent ventricular fibrillation/tachycardia is successfully broken by standard defibrillation techniques, but subsequently returns. It is managed by ongoing treatment of correctable causes and use of anti-arrhythmic medication therapies.
- Refractory ventricular fibrillation/tachycardia is an arrhythmia not responsive to standard external defibrillation techniques. It is initially managed by alternate pad placement and defibrillation.
- Prolonged cardiac arrests may lead to tired providers and decreased quality. Ensure compressor rotation, summon additional resources as needed, use mechanical CPR device if available and ensure provider rest and rehab during and post event.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

## CARDIAC EMERGENCY

SOP # 112

### Ventricular Tachycardia with a Pulse

#### Signs and Symptoms

Confirm and record cardiac rhythm with electrodes in two leads

Check for palpable carotid pulse

Decreased / altered mental status

Dyspnea

Chest pain / discomfort, suspected AMI

Hypotension (systolic BP < 90 mmHg)

CHF / pulmonary edema

Heart rate > 150 /min (peds >200 /min) and QRS > .12 sec (peds QRS> .09 sec) (3 small blocks)

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition.
2. Supportive Care.
3. Pulse Oximetry.
4. Glucose check.
5. Monitor. 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

6. INT or IV NS TKO.
7. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.

### AEMT STOP HERE

8. If rhythm is stable, regular, and monomorphic, administer 12 mg Adenosine via rapid IV push.
9. If rhythm possibly Torsades de Pointes – Go to Torsades de Pointes protocol.
10. If BP < 90 mmHg prepare for synchronized cardioversion.
  - a. Administer sedative as necessary – Diazepam (Valium) 2-5 mg IV (peds 0.1 mg/kg) OR Midazolam (Versed) 2-5 mg IV (peds 0.1 mg/kg) or Ketamine and/or Pain Medications per pain management protocol.
  - b. Synchronize cardiovert beginning at 50 joules initial energy level until heart rate < 150 /min (peds begin at 0.5 j/kg).
  - c. If rhythm converts, monitor for changes, transport. If rhythm does not convert, administer Amiodarone 150 mg over 10 minutes (peds 5 mg/kg). Reattempt cardioversion @ 100 joules (peds 0.5 j/kg).
  - d. Contact Medical Control.
11. If systolic BP > 90 mmHg – stable/asymptomatic.
  - a. Have patient perform Valsalva Maneuver for 10 seconds and administer Amiodarone 150 mg (peds 5 mg/kg, may repeat up to a total of 15 mg/kg) over 10 minutes.
  - b. If rhythm converts, monitor for changes, transport. If rhythm does not convert, administer Amiodarone 150 mg over 10 minutes (maximum 3 150 mg doses) (peds three doses of 5 mg/kg).

### PARAMEDIC STOP

# CARDIAC EMERGENCY

## SOP # 113 Post Resuscitation

### Signs and Symptoms

***Completion of arrhythmia treatment***

### Notes

- Monitor HR and BP continuously while administering/titrating EPINEPHrine, as it may cause significant tachycardia and tachyarrhythmia in addition to the desired vasoconstriction.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for patient's condition.
2. Supportive care.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. Glucose check.
5. 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

6. IV NS TKO.
7. Check fingerstick glucose level. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.
8. Assess BP – if systolic < 90 mmHg administer 250 ml NS Bolus (**peds systolic BP 70 + 2 x age, 20 cc/kg bolus**) repeat until BP > 90 mmHg or appropriate for pediatric age.
9. Raise Head of Bed 30°.

## AEMT STOP HERE

10. Medications:
  - a. If anti-arrhythmic is administered:
    - i. Amiodarone – 300 mg IV (**peds 5 mg/kg, may repeat x 2**), if one dose given and arrhythmia persists, give a second dose 150 mg.
  - b. If continued hypotension and/or bradycardia despite volume replacement:  
EPINEPHrine 2–20 mcg/min (**peds 0.1-1 mcg/kg/min**).To prepare EPINEPHrine 10 mcg/ml:
  1. Draw up 9 ml of normal saline into 10 ml syringe
  2. Into this syringe, draw up 1 ml of EPINEPHrine 0.1 mg/ml (1 mg/10 ml) (1:10,000)
  3. Label syringeAdult Push Dose Pressor IV Administration:  
Using above EPINEPHrine preparation (EPINEPHrine 10mcg/ml) 10 ml syringe, administer 5-10 mcg (0.5-1 ml) slow IV push (over 30-60 seconds) every 2-5 minutes as needed as a temporizing measure for severe hypotension.  
Note: Monitor HR and BP continuously while administering/titrating EPINEPHrine, as it may cause significant tachycardia and tachyarrhythmia in addition to the desired vasoconstriction.
11. For adults, continue ventilator support to maintain EtCO<sub>2</sub> > 20. Respirations < 12 per minute ideally. (**Peds – infants-preschool minimum respiratory rate should be 30, School aged children, minimum respiratory rate should be 20.**)

12. Initiate Induced Hypothermia protocol if appropriate.
13. Ensure Head of Bed elevated 30°.

**Treatment – Protocol**

If patient does not tolerate ET tube or for purposeful movement during CPR:  
Utilize patient sedation.

**Note:** Use soft restraints if necessary for patient safety (to prevent extubation).

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

# ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 201 Chemical Exposure

### Signs and Symptoms

History of exposure to chemical  
Identify substance and verify with documentation, if possible.  
Material Safety Data Sheets (M.S.D.S.), if available  
Stay within the appropriate zone for protection

### Notes

Personnel safety is the highest priority. Do not handle the patient unless they have been decontaminated. All EMS treatment should occur in the Support Zone after decontamination of the patient. Appropriate PPE will be utilized.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition.
2. Supportive care.
3. IV NS TKO or INT PRN.
4. Treatment – Standing Order
  - If Internal Exposure and Conscious:
    - a. Treat as Drug Ingestion
    - b. Contact Medical Control
  - If External Exposure:
    - a. Remove victims clothing, jewelry, glasses, and contacts
    - b. Decontaminate – EMS Personnel must be wearing proper protective clothing prior to helping with the decontamination process
  - Powder or like substance:
    - a. Brush off patient
    - b. Flush with copious amounts of water for at least 20 minutes; assess for hypothermia q 5 minutes
    - c. Transport and continue flushing if necessary and possible
  - Liquid substance:
    - a. Flush with copious amounts of water for at least 20 minutes; assess for hypothermia q 5 minutes
    - b. Transport and continue flushing if necessary and possible
  - If Inhalation:
    - a. Reconsider Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
    - b. Remove victim from source ensuring there is no danger to personnel
    - c. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition
  - If Ocular:
    - a. Immediately flush eye with tap water or normal saline for 15 minutes
    - b. Contact Medical Control

**Note:** Coordinate through the HazMat officer prior to transport

**EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC      STOP**

# ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 202 Drug Ingestion

### Signs and Symptoms

History of drug ingestion  
Level of consciousness (**A**lert, **V**erbal, **P**ain, or **U**nresponsive)  
Neurologic status (LOC, pupils)  
General appearance (sweating, dry or flushed skin, signs of trauma)

### Notes

- Poison control may be contacted for **INFORMATION ONLY**. Treatment modalities are given within these protocols. Further treatments will be received through Medical Control.
- Consider IO if other access unavailable and patient significantly symptomatic.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
2. Ensure personnel protection from toxin and/or unruly patient.
3. Supportive care.
4. Obtain Pulse Oximetry while providing 2 minutes ventilatory support with BVM.
5. Utilize Naloxone Auto-injector or Naloxone 0.4 IN, if needed. If utilizing pre-filled delivery systems, dose per manufacturer's instructions.
6. Glucose check.
7. EKG Monitor – 12 Lead, transmission if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

8. IV NS TKO or INT PRN.
9. Check fingerstick glucose level. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.
10. Naloxone 0.4 mg IV/IO/IM/IN titrated to adequate ventilation (**peds 0.1 mg/kg IVP/IN**) if narcotic use is suspected. If utilizing pre-filled delivery systems, dose per manufacturer's instructions. May repeat dose. Synthetic opiates may require significantly larger doses of Naloxone. Physically manage airway if no response after 8 mg Naloxone.

## AEMT STOP HERE

11. Observe EKG carefully for evidence of hyperkalemia and treat accordingly. Note: Patients with significant Opiate overdoses have been known to develop rhabdomyolysis.
12. If actively seizing:  
Adults:  
Diazepam (Valium) SLOW IVP/IO 2-5 mg or Midazolam (Versed) 2-5 mg IV/IO/IM may repeat if seizure continues, OR  
LORazepam 1-2 mg IV, every 5 minutes or; 2-4 mg IM, every 10 minutes (maximum dose 8 mg)

**Peds:**

- a. Diazepam (Valium) 0.1 mg/kg or Midazolam (Versed) 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO, OR
- b. Midazolam (Versed) IM 0.2 mg/kg IM (max single dose 6 mg). Repeat once if seizure activity persists after 10 minutes. Contact MEDICAL CONTROL if seizure activity persists after repeat dose.
- c. Midazolam (Versed) IN 0.3 mg/kg IN (max single dose 10 mg) with maximum total dose of 0.4 mg/kg.
- d. LORazepam (peds 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO, max single dose 4 mg, may repeat in 5 minutes if seizure activity continues; not to exceed 0.2 mg/kg total (maximum of 8 mg).

**If seizure persists for 4 minutes repeat medication once.** Contact Medical Control to consider Ketamine.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**



## ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY

### SOP # 203      Electrocution / Lightning Injuries

#### Signs and Symptoms

Presence of signs and symptoms of electrical injury

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for patient's condition.
2. Spinal protection if electrocution/lightning over 1,000 volts or suspicion of spinal injury.
3. Treat burn per burn protocol.
4. Supportive care.
5. Control any gross hemorrhage and dress wounds.
6. Pulse oximetry.
7. EKG Monitor and transmit 12 Lead EKG if applicable.

#### EMT STOP HERE

8. IV LR – if signs of shock 20 cc/kg bolus of fluid (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**).

#### AEMT STOP HERE

9. Consider 2<sup>nd</sup> IV enroute to hospital.
10. Consider pain medication per protocol.

#### PARAMEDIC STOP

# ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 204      Hyperthermia

### Signs and Symptoms

History of exposure to warm temperature  
Usually seen with increased exertion  
Febrile  
May have hot and dry **or** warm and moist skin  
May be hypotensive  
Determine history of therapeutic drug use (antipsychotics); history of substance abuse (cocaine, amphetamines, etc.)  
Poor skin turgor  
Signs of hypovolemic shock  
History of infection or illness  
Drug use  
Dark urine – suggests muscle breakdown and possible kidney damage  
Tachycardia, hyperventilation, hypertension  
Neurologic – light headedness, confusion to coma, seizures

### Notes:

1. Time is of the essence in decreasing the patient's body temperature.
2. **DO NOT** use IV iced saline for cooling patient. Use of fluids cooled slightly below ambient temperature is appropriate.
3. Hyperthermia may be caused by the following:
  - Antipsychotic Medications and major tranquilizers: Phenothiazine (Thorazine®), Butyrophenones (Haldol®)
  - SSRI (Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors): Citalopram (Celexa®), Escitalopram (Lexapro®), Fluoxetine (Prozac®), Paroxetine (Paxil®), Pexeva®, Sertraline (Zoloft®), Vilazodone (Viibryd®)
  - Cyclic antidepressants such as: Elavil®, Norpramin®, Tofranil®
  - Amphetamines
  - Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOI) such as: Nardil®, Marplan®
  - Anticholinergic drugs such as: Atropine, Cogentin, Scopolamine
  - Illicit drugs: Cocaine, PCP, LSD, Ecstasy (MDMA)

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
2. Remove clothing: apply wet linen or wet abdominal pads to groin/axillary area
  - a. Expose to circulating air
  - b. **DO NOT** cool patient to the point of shivering
3. Move patient to protected environment (shade, AC, etc.).
4. Pulse Oximetry.
5. Glucose check.
6. Monitor – 12 Lead EKG and transmit if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

7. IV NS or LR 20 cc/kg bolus (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**). Note: **DO NOT** use chilled IV fluids.
  - a. Repeat second bolus of fluid if needed
  - b. Oral rehydration if patient able to maintain airway
8. GENTLY massage extremities to prevent cold induced vasoconstriction.
9. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.

## AEMT STOP HERE

10. EKG Monitor – Observe for hyperkalemia.

## PARAMEDIC STOP

# ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 205 Hypothermia

### Signs and Symptoms

History of exposure to cold temperature including duration  
Core body temperatures < 95°F  
Drug/Alcohol use  
CNS depressants  
Examine for associated trauma  
Immersion in cold water  
Predisposing medical condition  
Signs – Vital signs, Bradycardia, Hypotension, Cold extremities, Neurologic (confusion, altered LOC, coma)

### Notes:

- If patient is alert and responding appropriately, rewarm actively:
  - Heat packs or warm water bottles to the groin, axillary, and cervical areas
- If patient is unresponsive, rewarm passively:
  - Increase the room temperature gradually, cover with blankets
- The following signs and symptoms are found at varying body core temperature:
  - 95°F – amnesia, poor judgment, hyperventilation, bradycardia, shivering
  - 90°F – loss of coordination (drunken appearance), decreasing rate and depth of respirations, shivering ceases or bradycardia
  - 85°F – decreased LOC, slow respirations, atrial fibrillation, decreased BP, decreased heart rate, ventricular irritability

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition.
2. Remove the patient from the cold environment.
3. Remove wet clothing and cover with warm dry blankets.
4. Evaluate pulse for one full minute (DO NOT perform CPR until NO PULSE is confirmed).
5. Handle patient gently (*aggressive handling may trigger V-Fib*).
6. Do not allow patient to walk or exert themselves.
7. Do not massage extremities.
8. Glucose check.
9. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

10. IV NS warmed if possible (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus then 4 cc/kg/hr**).
11. Check fingerstick glucose level. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.
12. If patient in coma, Naloxone (Narcan) 0.4 mg IV/IO/IM/IN titrated to adequate ventilation (**peds 0.1 mg/kg slow IVP/IN/IO/IN. If no response, may repeat q 2-3 min with maximum single dose of 2 mg**). If utilizing pre-filled delivery systems, dose per manufacturer's instructions. May repeat dose.

## AEMT STOP HERE

13. EKG monitor, no CPR if Bradycardic rhythm exists.
14. If body temperature > 85°F – follow normal arrest protocols.
15. If body temperature < 85°F and patient in V-fib:
  - a. Defibrillate @ 100 j, if no change, begin CPR ***defib at 2 min intervals, increase joules at each interval until 200 j max*** (120 j, 150 j, 200 j) ***(peds 2 j/kg then 4 j/kg)***
  - b. Withhold medications and further shocks until patient warmed to >85°F
  - c. Continue CPR and rewarming attempts

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

# ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 206

## Drowning/ Near Drowning

### Signs and Symptoms

History compatible with near drowning  
Suspect hypothermia in "cold water" near drowning  
Suspect cervical spine injury

### Notes:

- Reinforce the need to transport and evaluation for all patients with a submersion incident.
- Consider C-Spine protection

### Treatment Pathway

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition:
  - Heimlich Maneuver may be indicated for airway obstruction
  - Gastric decompression may be necessary to ensure adequate respirations or ventilations; if necessary, ventilations may be started prior to patient's removal from the water
2. Remove patient from the water, clear airway while protecting the C-Spine ASAP.
3. If patient is unconscious and pulseless – refer to the appropriate cardiac arrest protocol.
4. If hypothermic – go to hypothermia protocol.
5. Supportive care.
6. Pulse oximetry.
7. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

8. INT or IV NS TKO, if hypotensive give 20 cc/kg bolus of fluid (**peds 20 cc/kg**).

## AEMT STOP HERE

9. EKG Monitor and treatment specific for arrhythmia.

## PARAMEDIC STOP

# ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 207 Nerve Agent Exposure

### Signs and Symptoms

History of exposure  
Hyper-stimulation of muscarinic sites (smooth muscles, glands) and nicotinic sites (skeletal muscles, ganglions)  
Increased secretions – saliva, tears, runny nose, secretions in airways, secretions in GI Tract, sweating  
Pinpoint pupils  
Narrowing airway  
Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea  
Fasciculations, flaccid paralysis, general weakness  
Tachycardia, hypertension  
Loss of consciousness, convulsions, apnea

### Notes

Personnel safety is the highest priority. DO NOT handle the patient unless they have been decontaminated. All EMS treatment should occur in the support zone (aka Cold Zone) after decontamination of the patient. Appropriate PPE will be utilized.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen 100% and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition.
2. Depending on signs and symptoms administer Nerve Agent Antidote Kit.
  - a. Mild – Increased secretions, pinpoint pupils, general weakness
    - i. Decontamination, supportive care
  - b. Moderate – Mild symptoms and respiratory distress
    - i. 1 Nerve Agent Antidote Kit
    - ii. May be repeated in 5 minutes PRN
  - c. Severe – Unconsciousness, convulsions, apnea
    - i. 3 Nerve Agent Antidote Kits
3. Keep patient warm.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

**EMT STOP HERE**

6. IV NS TKO.

**AEMT STOP HERE**

7. EKG monitoring for arrhythmias.
8. If actively seizing:

Adults:

Diazepam (Valium) SLOW IVP/IO 2-5 mg or Midazolam (Versed) 2-5 mg IV/IO/IM may repeat if seizure continues, OR  
LORazepam 1-2 mg IV, every 5 minutes or; 2-4 mg IM, every 10 minutes (maximum dose 8 mg).

**Peds:**

- a. **Diazepam (Valium) 0.1 mg/kg or Midazolam (Versed) 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO.**
- b. **Midazolam (Versed) IM 0.2 mg/kg IM (max single dose 6 mg) Repeat once if seizure activity persists after 10 minutes. Contact MEDICAL CONTROL if seizure activity persists after repeat dose.**
- c. **Midazolam (Versed) IN 0.3 mg/kg IN (max single dose 10 mg) with maximum total dose of 0.4 mg/kg.**
- d. **LORazepam (peds 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO, max single dose 4 mg, may repeat in 5 minutes if seizure activity continues; not to exceed 0.2 mg/kg total (maximum of 8 mg).**
- e. **If seizure persists for 4 minutes repeat medication once.**

**Treatment – Protocol:**

Repeated doses of Atropine (**peds: 0.05 mg/kg IV/IO/IM**) may be required after Nerve Agent Antidote Kit(s) given. Give repeat doses every 5 to 10 minutes until response has been achieved and SLUDGE symptoms have resolved.

**Note:** This is for mass casualty situations and is dependent on supplies available. There is no contraindication for the use of a Nerve Agent Antidote Kit in the case of true nerve agent exposure.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

# ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 208      Venomous Snake Bite

### Signs and Symptoms

Protect yourself from the exposure of snakebite. Snakes can envenomate up to one hour after death.  
Determine type of snake if possible, time of bite, and changes in signs and symptoms since occurrence  
If possible, obtain pictures of the snake for identification  
Paresthesia (numbing or tingling of mouth, tongue, or other areas)  
Local pain  
Peculiar or metallic taste  
Chills, nausea and vomiting, headache, dysphagia  
Hypotension  
Fever  
Local edema, blebs (blister or pustule jewel), discoloration  
Bite wound configuration

### Notes

**DO NOT USE** ice, tourniquets, hemorrhage control clamps, or constricting bands at the bite site or proximal to bite site. If already applied, remove.  
**DO NOT** place IV or IO in affected extremity if possible.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Remove rings and bracelets from patient immediately.
2. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
3. Immobilize affected area keeping extremities in neutral position.
4. Mark progression of swelling at the time of initial assessment and q 5 minutes.
5. Supportive care.
6. Pulse oximetry.
7. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

8. INT or IV NS TKO, if hypotensive 20 mL/kg (**peds 20 mL/kg**) NS bolus.

### AEMT STOP HERE

9. EKG Monitor. Assess and treat arrhythmias.

#### Treatment – Protocol:

Diazepam (Valium) or Midazolam (Versed) may be indicated if anxiety is overwhelming. Contact Medical Control prior to initiating therapy. (**peds Diazepam (Valium) 0.1 mg/kg IV, Midazolam (Versed) 0.1 mg/kg IV for anxiety**)

Consider use of pain management protocol.

### PARAMEDIC STOP



# ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 209 Radiation / HazMat Exposure

### Signs and Symptoms

Extent of radiation/chemical exposure  
(number of victims, skin vs. inhalation exposure)  
Nature of exposure  
Symptoms exhibited by patient  
Neurologic status (LOC, pupil size)  
General appearance (dry or sweaty skin, flushed, cyanotic, singed hair)  
Associated injuries  
Decontamination prior to treatment

### Notes

Personnel safety is the highest priority. Do not handle the patient unless they have been decontaminated. All EMS treatment should occur in the Support Zone after decontamination of the patient. Appropriate PPE will be utilized.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient condition.
2. If eye exposure, irrigate for a minimum 20 minutes.
3. Treat associated injuries (LSB, limb immobilization, wound treatment).
4. Supportive care.
5. Treat burn per burn protocol.
6. Pulse oximetry (keep sats > 94%).
7. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

8. INT or IV NS/LR, if hypotensive 20 cc/kg (peds 20 cc/kg).

### AEMT STOP HERE

9. EKG Monitor. Assess and treat arrhythmias.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

# ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 210 Carbon Monoxide Exposures

### Signs and Symptoms

Known or suspected CO exposure (Active Fire Scene)  
Suspected source/duration exposure  
Known or possible pregnancy  
Measured atmospheric levels  
Past medical history, medications  
Altered mental status/dizziness  
Headache, nausea/vomiting  
Chest pain/respiratory distress  
Neurological impairments  
Vision problems/reddened eyes  
Tachycardia/tachypnea  
Arrhythmias, seizures, coma

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

Measure Carbon Monoxide COHb% (SpCO)

If SpCO is 0% - 5% no further medical evaluation of SpCO is required\*

SpCO < 15% **and** SpO<sub>2</sub> > 90%

If patient has **NO** symptoms of CO and/or Hypoxia no treatment for CO exposure is required\*  
Recommend that smokers seek smoking cessation treatment  
Recommend evaluation of home/work environment for presence of CO

SpCO < 15% **and** SpO<sub>2</sub> > 90% that show symptoms of CO and/or Hypoxia transport  
> 15% Oxygen by NRB and transport to ED

If cardiac/respiratory/neurological symptoms are also present, go to the appropriate protocol

### Notes:

- If monitoring responders at fire scene, proceed with Scene Rehabilitation Protocol (SOP 203.09).
- \*Fetal hemoglobin has a greater attraction for CO than maternal hemoglobin. Females who are known to be pregnant or who could be pregnant should be advised that EMS measure SpCO levels reflect the adult's level, and that fetal COHb levels may be higher. Recommend hospital evaluation for any CO exposed pregnant person.
- The absence (or low detected levels) of COHb is not a reliable predictor of firefighter or victim exposure to other toxic byproducts of fire.
- In obtunded fire victims, consider HazMat Cyanide treatment protocol.
- The differential list for CO toxicity is extensive. Attempt to evaluate other correctible causes when possible.
- Utilize a device with the ability to monitor CO, these functions should be utilized any time Carbon Monoxide Exposure is suspected.
- Transport patients with CO/CN toxicity to the burn center for evaluation.

Paramedic: Consider use of Cyanide Antidote if available.

**EMT AEMT PARAMEDIC STOP**

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

SOP # 300

Medical Complaint Not Specified Under Other Protocols

### Signs and Symptoms

Pertinent history to complaint  
Allergies/medications taken or prescribed  
Onset, type, and duration of pain  
Provocation  
Quality of pain/discomfort  
Relieved by?

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. Patient positioning appropriate for condition.
3. Supportive Care.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Glucose check, PRN.
6. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

**EMT STOP HERE**

7. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.
8. If indicated, Consider INT or IV NS TKO unless signs of shock, then 20 cc/kg fluid bolus.

**AEMT STOP HERE**

9. EKG monitor as indicated.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

SOP # 301

Abdominal/GU Pain (non-traumatic) / Nausea and Vomiting

### Signs and Symptoms

Description of pain, onset, duration, location, character, radiation

Aggravating factors, last menstrual period and/or vaginal bleeding in females

Recent trauma

History of abdominal surgery or problems

Blood in urine, vomitus, or stool

Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

Fever, diaphoresis, jaundice

Abdomen – tenderness, masses, rigidity, hernia, pregnancy, distension, guarding

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition.
2. Allowing patient to assume comfortable position or place patient supine, with legs elevated with flexion at hip and knees unless respiratory compromise or a procedure contraindicates.
3. Supportive care.
4. Pulse Oximetry.
5. Glucose check.
6. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

7. IV NS 20 cc/kg if signs of shock (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**).
8. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.

### AEMT STOP HERE

9. EKG Monitor for arrhythmias.
10. Ondansetron (Zofran) 2-4 mg IV (**peds >20 kg, 0.15 mg/kg IV, max single dose 8 mg**) if intractable nausea and persistent vomiting and no signs of shock. Ensure QT is not prolonged prior to ondansetron IV administration.  
May use Zofran ODT as an alternative to Zofran IV for the treatment of nausea in the prehospital setting. In situations where IV access is unavailable or IV fluids are not necessary, consider the use of Zofran ODT at the following doses:
  - a. Adults and Pediatrics > 31kg, give 8mg PO as a one-time dose.
  - Pediatrics 15-30kg, give 4mg PO as a one-time dose.
  - Pediatrics < 15kg, contact medical control.Use lower dose initially especially in the elderly.
11. Consider second IV en route if patient exhibits signs of shock.
12. Contact Medical Control regarding initiation of pain management.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

SOP # 302

### Acute Pulmonary Edema / CHF

#### Signs and Symptoms

Focus assessment on airway, breathing, and circulation  
Shortness of breath  
Cyanosis  
Pedal edema  
Profuse sweating, or cool and clammy skin  
Erect posture  
Distended neck veins (engorged, pulsating) – late sign  
Bilateral rales/wheezes  
Tachycardia (rapid pulse, > 100 bpm)  
History of CHF or other heart disease, or renal dialysis  
Lasix or Digoxin on medication list

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition. If respiration is less than 10/min, or greater than 30/min, consider assisting breathing with BVM and 100% Oxygen. **(peds: NRB or 4 L/min BNC or assist with BVM as needed. Contact medical control if CHF suspected in a pediatric patient).**
2. Keep patient in upright seated position.
3. Consider Albuterol 2.5 mg/3 cc NS via nebulizer or MDI if wheezing.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

6. INT.
7. If Systolic BP is > 100 mmHg.
  - a. Assess for crackles, wheezes or rales, JVD, peripheral edema, cyanosis, diaphoresis, respiratory rate > 25/min or < 10/min then:
    - i. One Nitroglycerine spray or tablet sublingually, repeat Nitroglycerine q 5 minutes after initial dose, discontinue therapy if systolic BP < 100 mmHg
    - ii. Use caution in patients taking erectile dysfunction medications profound hypotension may occur
    - iii. Albuterol 2.5 mg/3 cc NS via nebulizer q 5 minutes to maximum of 3 doses
8. If systolic BP < 100 mmHg.  
Continue oxygen and initiate rapid transport, see hypotension protocol. Contact Medical Control immediately.
9. If respiratory distress and no contraindications, begin CPAP.

### AEMT STOP HERE

10. May continue Nitroglycerine spray or tablet and apply 1" of Nitropaste to chest wall. Discontinue therapy if systolic BP < 100 mmHg.
11. 12 Lead EKG. Assess for Ischemia.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

SOP # 303

## Anaphylactic Shock

### Signs and Symptoms

Contact with a known allergen or with substances that have a high potential for allergic reactions  
Sudden onset with rapid progression of symptoms  
Dyspnea, presents with an audible wheeze, generalized wheeze on auscultation, decreased air exchange on auscultation  
Generalized urticarial, erythema, angioedema especially noticeable to face and neck  
Complaint of chest tightness or inability to take a deep breath

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Position of comfort, reassure.
2. Pulse oximetry, Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for patient's condition.
3. Administer patient prescribed Beta Agonist MDI if available.
4. Administer EPINEPHrine autoinjector for anaphylaxis if available.
5. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

6. IV NS or LR, large bore @ TKO – If hypotensive 20 mL/kg bolus (peds 20 mL/kg bolus).
7. Administer EPINEPHrine. 1:1,000 (now 1 mg/mL) - 0.3-0.5 mg IM, (peds EPINEPHrine 1:1,000 (now 1 mg/mL) - 0.01 mg/kg IM, max dose is 0.3 mg).
8. Albuterol Inhalation Treatment if wheezing is present and persists post EPINEPHrine IM.

### AEMT STOP HERE

9. EKG Monitor. Assess for Ischemia.
10. EPINEPHrine 1:1,000 (now 1 mg/mL) - 0.3-0.5 mg IM or IV/IO EPINEPHrine 1: 10,000 (now 0.1 mg/mL), (peds EPINEPHrine 1:1,000 (now 1 mg/mL) - 0.01 mg/kg IM, max dose is 0.3 mg).  
IV/IO route should be reserved for unstable patients, especially pediatric.
  - a. If repeat IM doses are required, consider:
    - i. EPINEPHrine 2–20 mcg/min (peds 0.1-1 mcg/kg/min.)
11. DiphenhydrAMINE (Benadryl) 25-50 mg IV or deep IM (peds 1 mg/kg IVP).
12. Methylprednisolone (Solu-Medrol) 62.5 mg (if small in stature, sensitive to steroids, on chronic steroid therapy) or 125 mg IVP (peds contact Medical Control).

### PARAMEDIC STOP

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

### SOP # 304 Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA) / Stroke

#### Signs and Symptoms

Altered level of consciousness (coma, stupor, confusion, seizures, delirium)

Intense or unusually severe headache of sudden onset or any headache associated with decreased level of consciousness or neurological deficit unusual and severe neck or facial pain

Aphasia/Dysphasia (unable to speak, incoherent speech or difficulty speaking)

Facial weakness or asymmetry (paralysis of the facial muscles, usually noted when the patient speaks or smiles); may be on the same side or opposite side from limb paralysis

In-coordination, weakness, paralysis, or sensory loss in one or more limbs; usually involves one half of the body particularly in the hand

Ataxia (poor balance, clumsiness, or difficulty walking)

Visual loss (monocular or binocular); may be a partial loss of visual field

Intense vertigo, double vision, unilateral hearing loss, nausea, vomiting, photophobia or phonophobia

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen at 2 – 6 LPM BNC and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
2. Continually monitor airway due to decreased gag reflex and increased secretions.
3. Conduct a brief targeted history and physical exam. Establish time of onset. Document witness to time of onset and contact information.
4. Maintain body heat, protect affected limbs from injury, and anticipate seizures.
5. Pulse oximetry.
6. If trauma is suspected, spinal stabilization, elevate head 30° if no evidence of spinal injury.
7. Glucose check and treat patient appropriately.
8. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

#### EMT STOP HERE

9. IV NS TKO (30 cc/hr) or INT.
10. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.
11. Naloxone 0.4 mg IV/IO/IM/IN titrated to adequate ventilation, **(peds 0.1 mg/kg up to 2 mg titrated to adequate ventilation)** if Narcotic use suspected. If utilizing pre-filled delivery systems, dose per manufacturer's instructions. May repeat dose.
12. Complete a Cincinnati Pre-Hospital Stroke Scale (CPSS)

#### AEMT STOP HERE

13. EKG Monitor, 12 Lead EKG.
14. Complete thrombolytic screening protocol.
15. Complete the C-STAT Stroke Assessment Tool.
16. If LVO Score 2 or greater, recommend transport to stroke center.
17. If possible, obtain Blood sample tubes.
18. Contact Medical Control if SBP > 220 mmHg or DBP > 140 mmHg. If authorized give Nitro spray q 5 min. The goal is to reduce initial blood pressure by no more than 15%.

#### PARAMEDIC STOP



## REFERENCE

### REF-01

Cincinnati Prehospital Stroke Scale (CPSS)			
Sign/Symptom	How tested	Normal	Abnormal
Facial Droop	Have the patient show their teeth or smile	Both sides of the face move equally	One side of the face does not move as well as the other
Arm Drift	The patient closes their eyes and extends both arms straight out for 10 seconds	Both arms move the same, or both do not move at all.	One arm either does not move, or one arm drifts downward compared to the other.
Speech	The patient repeats "The sky is blue in Cincinnati".	The patient says correct words with no slurring of words.	The patient slurs words, says the wrong words, or is unable to speak

## C-STAT Evaluation Tool

CINCINNATI PREHOSPITAL STROKE SEVERITY SCALE		
CPSSS Exam Domain	Scoring Method	Possible Score
Conjugate Gaze Deviation	Normal; no gaze deviation	0
	Partial gaze palsy	1
	Forced deviation	2
LOC Questions and LOC Commands	Normal responses to both LOC Questions and to both LOC Commands	0
	Incorrect responses to at least 1 of 2 LOC Q <b>and</b> at least 1 of 2 LOC C	1
Arm Drift	Holds arms above the bed for 10 seconds	0
	Cannot hold arm (L, R or Both) up for 10 seconds before arm(s) falls to bed	1
Total Score		0-4

Katz BS, et al. Stroke. 2015; 46: 1508-1512.  
[doi: 10.1161/STROKEAHA.115.008804](https://doi.org/10.1161/STROKEAHA.115.008804)..

The C-STAT score more accurately identifies patients with Large Vessel Occlusion (L.V.O.)  
 If C-STAT Score  $\geq 2$ , patient should be transported to a stroke center with interventional capability.



## REFERENCE

REF-02

## Pre-hospital Screen for Thrombolytic Therapy

- Complete this report for all patients symptomatic for a myocardial infarct or CVA
- Report to the Emergency Department Physician/Nurse any positive findings
- Document all findings in the patient's ePCR

**EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC**

Time of onset of symptoms: _____		
Witness/Next of Kin Contact Info: _____		
Systolic BP > 240 mmHg	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Diastolic BP > 110 mmHg	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Right arm vs. Left arm Systolic BP difference > 15 mmHg	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
History of recent brain/spinal cord surgery, CVA, or injury	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Recent trauma or surgery	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Bleeding disorder that causes patient to bleed excessively	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Prolonged CPR (> 10 minutes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Pregnancy	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Taking Coumadin, Aspirin, or other blood thinners	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

# MEDICAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 305      Croup

### Signs and Symptoms

History

Viral infections resulting in inflammation of larynx, trachea

Seasonal – Late fall / early winter

Children under 6 years old with cold symptoms for 1 – 3 days

Hoarseness

Barking, seal-like cough

Stridor, NOT wheezes

Low grade fever

No history of obstruction, foreign body, trauma

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition.
2. Allow patient to assume comfortable position or place patient supine.
3. Supportive care.

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**STOP HERE**

4. Nebulized EPINEPHrine 1:1,000.
  - a. 1 mg diluted to 2.5 – 3 cc with saline flush, nebulized (mask or blow-by)
  - b. May repeat up to 3 total doses
  - c. If the patient has significant distress, 3 ml (3 mg) diluted with 2.5 to 3 cc saline flush may be administered as an initial aerosol.
5. Contact Medical Control for subsequent aerosols.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

# MEDICAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 306      Family Violence

### Signs and Symptoms

- Injury to soft tissue areas that are normally protected
- Bruise or burn in the shape of an object
- Bite marks
- Rib fracture in the absence of major trauma
- Multiple bruising in various stages of healing

### Assessment

Fear of household member  
Reluctance to respond when questioned  
Unusual isolation, unhealthy / unsafe living environment  
Poor personal hygiene / inappropriate clothing  
Conflicting accounts of the incident  
History inconsistent with injury or illness  
Indifferent or angry household member  
Household member refused to permit transport  
Household member prevents patient from interacting openly or privately  
Concern about minor issues but not major ones  
Household with previous violence  
Unexpected delay in seeking treatment

## TREATMENT PATHWAY

### Treatment – Standing Order

1. Patient care is first priority.
2. If possible, remove patient from situation and transport.
3. Police assistance as needed.
4. If sexual assault, follow sexual assault protocol.
5. Obtain information from patient and caregiver.
6. Do not judge.
7. Report suspected abuse to hospital after arrival. Make a verbal and written report.

### Direct questions to ask when alone with patient and if time available

- Has anyone at home ever hurt you?
- Has anyone at home touched you without your consent?
- Has anyone ever made you do things you didn't want to?
- Has anyone taken things that were yours without asking?
- Has anyone scolded or threatened you?
- Are you afraid of anyone at home?

**NOTE:** National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

**EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC      STOP HERE**

# MEDICAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 307 Headache

### Notes

- Rapidly assess and manage life-threatening injuries
- Pertinent history to complaint
- Allergies/medications taken or prescribed
- Onset, type, and duration of complaint
- Provocation
- Quality of pain/discomfort
- Relieved by?
- Signs and symptoms

### Always consider:

- Heat Illness
- Carbon Monoxide
- Intracranial catastrophe
- Infection
- Altitude Illness
- Hypertension/CVA
- Ocular sources (Glaucoma)
- Preeclampsia/eclampsia
- Medications
- Migraine

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. Patient positioning appropriate for condition.
3. Supportive Care.
4. Pulse oximetry.
6. Glucose check, PRN.
7. EKG Monitor prn.

## EMT STOP HERE

8. IV NS/LR TKO. If systolic BP < 90mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg bolus (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**). Target SBP is 90 – 110 mmHg in adult trauma patients. If not hypotensive, avoid administering more than 500 cc crystalloid.

## AEMT STOP HERE

9. Perform Stroke Screening.
10. Manage Fever if appropriate.
11. Manage Blood Pressure per appropriate protocol.
12. Contact Medical Control for pain management authorization.

## PARAMEDIC STOP

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

SOP # 308

HEENT (Head, Eyes, Ears, Nose, Throat) Complaints

### Notes

- Rapidly assess and manage life-threatening injuries
- Pertinent history to complaint
- Allergies/medications taken or prescribed
- Onset, type, and duration of complaint, signs and symptoms
- Provocation
- Quality of pain/discomfort
- Relieved by?

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. Patient positioning appropriate for condition.
3. Supportive Care.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Glucose check, PRN.

### EMT STOP HERE

6. IV NS/LR TKO. If systolic BP < 90mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg bolus (***peds 20 cc/kg bolus***). Target SBP is 90 – 110 mmHg in adult trauma patients. If not hypotensive, avoid administering more than 500 cc crystalloid.
7. EKG Monitor prn.

### AEMT STOP HERE

8. Address any need for airway intervention, hemorrhage control, foreign body, need for suctioning.
9. Manage Fever if appropriate.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

# MEDICAL EMERGENCY

SOP # 309

## Hyperglycemia Associated with Diabetes

### Signs and Symptoms

History of onset  
Altered level of consciousness  
Pulse: Tachycardia, thready pulse  
Respirations (Kussmaul-Kien – air hunger)  
Hypotension  
Dry mucous membranes  
Skin may be cool (consider hypothermia)  
Ketone odor on breath (Acetone smell)  
Abdominal pain, nausea and vomiting  
History of polyuria, or polydipsia (excessive urination or thirst)  
Blood glucose determination

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition; suction airway as needed.
2. Supportive care.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. Glucose check.
5. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

6. IV NS TKO or INT. If BS >250 mg/dl, start 10-20cc/kg NS bolus if patient with signs of dehydration, vomiting, or DKA. (**Peds 4 cc/kg/hr max 150cc/hr. No Bolus**).

### AEMT STOP HERE

7. EKG Monitor Consider 12 lead EKG.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

### SOP # 310      Hypertensive Crisis

#### Signs and Symptoms

Decreased / Altered LOC

Headache, blurred vision, dizziness, weakness

Elevated blood pressure (systolic BP > 220 mmHg and/or diastolic BP > 140 mmHg) with:

Dyspnea, peripheral or pulmonary edema

Cardiac dysrhythmia, neurological deficits, or signs of end organ dysfunction

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
2. Position of comfort, elevation of head is preferred.
3. Keep patient calm, reassure.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

#### EMT STOP HERE

6. INT or IV NS TKO.
7. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.

#### AEMT STOP HERE

8. Assess for Ischemia.
9. Evaluate cardiac rhythm for dysrhythmia and treat appropriately with medical direction. Contact Medical Control prior to initiation of anti-arrhythmic therapy.
10. If motor/neuro deficits present, go to stroke protocol.  
If NO motor/neuro deficits:
  - a. If systolic BP < 220 mmHg, contact Medical Control, monitor patient changes.
  - b. If systolic BP > 220 mmHg and/or diastolic BP > 140 mmHg:  
Nitroglycerine one spray 0.4mg SL q 3 – 5 min until noted decrease in BP by 15%. May use Nitro Paste 1 inch to chest wall, remove if BP drops 15% from the original reading.  
Use with caution in patients taking erectile dysfunction medications as profound hypotension may occur.

#### PARAMEDIC STOP

# MEDICAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 311 Hypoglycemia

### Signs and Symptoms

History of onset of event  
History of insulin excess (overdose, missed meal, exercise, vomiting or diarrhea)  
Confusion, agitation, headaches, or comatose  
Pulse rate (normal to tachycardia)  
Respirations (shallow, slow)  
Skin (sweaty, often cool)  
Flaccid muscle tone  
Grand Mal seizures  
Fecal, urinary incontinence

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition. (Snoring respirations is a sign of an INADEQUATE airway)
2. Supportive care.
3. If patient is hypoglycemic and is conscious with an intact gag reflex, administer one tube of instant glucose and reassess.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Glucose check, monitor.

### EMT STOP HERE

6. IV NS TKO.
7. If patient is unresponsive, infuse 250cc bag D10 until patient responds. May repeat once.
8. If blood sugar is <80 mg/dL and symptomatic: titrate D10 slowly until patient responds. Try to avoid large swings in serum glucose levels, (peds 2 mL/kg D<sub>25</sub> IV/IO; if needed an admixture of D<sub>50</sub> and Normal Saline can be obtained through mixing 1 mL to 1 mL for the treatment of symptomatic hypoglycemia in pediatric patients). Reassess blood sugar level q 15 min.

### AEMT STOP HERE

9. EKG Monitor. Consider 12 Lead EKG.
10. Search for explanation of hypoglycemia (noncompliance, Infection, STEMI, Stroke, etc.).

### PARAMEDIC STOP



## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

### SOP # 312 Medications at Schools

#### Signs and Symptoms

The patient must exhibit the signs and symptoms for which the medication is prescribed.

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. Other treatments will be in accordance with the BLS / ALS SOPs.

**EMT AEMT STOP HERE**

3. Necessary medication(s) administration as requested by caregiver(s):
  - a. Schools must provide the medication(s) to be administered
  - b. Schools must provide a written copy of the physician order and care plan for attachment to the patient care report
  - c. This documentation by the patient's primary physician should list the following:
    - i. Name of the patient
    - ii. Name of the primary physician
    - iii. Document must be signed by the primary physician
    - iv. Contact phone number of the primary physician
    - v. Name of the medication(s)
    - vi. Signs and symptoms for which the medication(s) is prescribed
    - vii. Dosage of the medication(s)
    - viii. Number of repeat doses of the medication(s)
    - ix. Route(s) of administration(s)
    - x. Potential side-effects of medication(s)
4. Medication(s) will only be administered if the patient means the signs and symptoms for that medication.
5. Copies or picture of the care plan and physician order must be attached to the patient care report.
6. If the medication(s) is not administered, documentation must include those reasons for withholding.
7. Whenever medication is administered under these circumstances, transport is mandatory.

**Note:** If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact Medical Control.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

# MEDICAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 313 Non-Formulary Medications

To provide authorization for the use of medications not commonly used within the current guidelines.  
For Emergency Use Only.

### Signs and Symptoms

The patient must exhibit the signs and symptoms for which the medication is prescribed.

### Notes

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact Medical Control.

## TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition.
2. Other treatments will be in accordance with the BLS / ALS SOPs.

**EMT AEMT STOP HERE**

3. Necessary medication(s) administration as requested by caregiver(s):
  - a. Caregiver must provide the medication(s) to be administered
  - b. Caregiver must provide a written copy of the physician order and care plan for attachment to the patient care report
  - c. This documentation by the patient's primary physician should list the following:
    - i. Name of the patient
    - ii. Name of the primary physician
    - iii. Document must be signed by the primary physician
    - iv. Contact phone number of the primary physician
    - v. Name of medication(s)
    - vi. Signs and symptoms for which the medication(s) is prescribed
    - vii. Dosage of the medication(s)
    - viii. Number of repeat doses of the medication(s)
    - ix. Route(s) of administration(s)
    - x. Potential side-effects of medication(s)
4. Medication(s) will only be administered if the patient meets the signs and symptoms for that medication.
5. Copies or picture of the care plan and physician order must be attached to the patient care report.
6. If the medication(s) is not administered the documentation must include those reasons for withholding.
7. Whenever medication is administered under these circumstances, transport is mandatory.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

### SOP # 314      Respiratory Distress (Asthma/COPD)

#### Signs and Symptoms

Mild Attack – Slight increase in respiratory rate. Mild wheezes. Good skin color.

Moderate Attack – Marked increase in respiratory rate. Wheezes easily heard. Accessory muscle breathing.

Severe Attack – Respiratory rate more than twice normal. Loud wheezes or so tight no wheezes are heard, patient anxious, grey or ashen skin color.

Hx – COPD, emphysema, asthma, or other restrictive lung disease.

Respiratory rate greater than 25 per minute or less than 10 per minute.

Labored respiration, use of accessory muscles or tripodding

Breath sounds: Bilaterally diminished, dry crackles, wheezing

Cyanosis / Diaphoresis

Use of short sentences

Unilateral breath sounds

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. If the patient has a prescribed Albuterol inhalation treatment, assist the patient with 2.5 mg/3 ml NS and start the oxygen flow rate at 6 LPM or until the appropriate mist is achieved.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. If the patient uses an MDI, assist patient with one dose.
6. Administer Albuterol 2.5 mg/ 3 mL NS (**peds 2.5 mg/ 3 mL NS q 5-15 min**) and start the oxygen flow rate at 6 LPM or until the appropriate mist is achieved.
7. CPAP if no contraindications.

### EMT STOP HERE

8. INT or IV NS TKO.
9. Administer Albuterol 2.5 mg/ 3 mL NS (**peds 2.5 mg/ 3 mL NS q 5-15 min**) and start the oxygen flow rate at 6 LPM or until the appropriate mist is achieved.
10. EPINEPHrine 1:1,000 (now 1 mg/mL) 0.3-0.5 mg IM (**peds 1: 1,000 (now 1 mg/mL) - 0.01 mg/kg IM, max dose is 0.3 mg**) for patients in severe distress. Be mindful of cardiac side effects.
11. EKG monitor.

### AEMT STOP HERE

11. Epinephrine 1:1,000, 0.3 – 0.5 mg IM (**peds 1: 1,000 0.01 mg/kg IM, max dose is 0.3 mg**) for patients in severe distress. Be mindful of cardiac side effects.
12. In severe cases consider Solumedrol 62.5 mg (if small in stature, sensitive to steroids, or on chronic steroid therapy) or 125 mg IV (**peds dosing – contact Medical Control**).
13. If asthma exacerbation, consider Magnesium 1-2 gms IV slowly. Magnesium is not recommended in COPD exacerbations.

**Note:**

**Peds: consult Medical Control prior to administering Methylprednisolone (Solu-Medrol)**

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

# MEDICAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 315      Seizures

### Signs and Symptoms

Seizure (onset, duration, type, post-seizure, level of consciousness)

Medical (diabetes, headaches, drugs, alcohol, seizure history)

Physical (seizure activity, level of consciousness, incontinence, head and mouth trauma, vital signs)

Trauma (head injury or hypoxia secondary to trauma)

### Notes

- Specifically evaluate for: active bleeding, trauma, eye deviation, pupil equality, mouth or tongue bleeding, Urinary or fecal incontinence, lack of arm or leg movement or tone.
- The goal of Naloxone therapy is to restore adequate ventilation. Patients, particularly those on chronic opiate therapy, often need very small doses of Naloxone in the event of overdose. Larger doses of Naloxone usually create more agitation and behavioral symptoms.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
2. Protect patient from injury during active seizures.
3. If patient is actively seizing, consider therapy if:
  - Unstable ABC's exist.
  - Patient has been actively seizing for 5 or more minutes.
  - Patient has underlying disease or condition that will be adversely affected if seizures continue (trauma, COPD, pregnancy, severely hypertensive).
4. C-Spine precautions if appropriate, consider Naloxone if Opiates suspected.
5. If febrile, cool as per hyperthermia protocol and monitor.
6. Pulse oximetry.
7. Glucose check.
8. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

9. IV NS TKO or INT.
10. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.
11. If no IV available and blood glucose levels are <80 mg/dl, consider Glucagon 1-2 mg IM (peds – Glucagon 0.5 mg/dose IM/IV if <20 kg, or 1 mg/dose IM/IV if 20 kg or greater.)
12. If narcotic overdose, Naloxone (Narcan) 0.4 mg IV/IO/IM/IN titrated to adequate ventilation (**peds 0.1 mg/kg, titrated to adequate ventilation**). If utilizing pre-filled delivery systems, dose per manufacturer's instructions. May repeat dose. Synthetic opiates may require larger Naloxone doses. Physically manage the airway if no response after 8 mg Naloxone.

## AEMT STOP HERE

13. Adults – If actively seizing:
  - Diazepam (Valium) SLOW IVP/IO 2-5 mg or Midazolam (Versed) 2-5 mg IV/IO/IM may repeat if seizure continues.OR
  - LORazepam 1-2 mg IV, every 5 minutes or; 2-4 mg IM, every 10 minutes (maximum dose 8 mg).

Consider Ketamine (if available) for refractory seizures unresponsive to benzodiazepines.

**14. Peds:**

- a. Diazepam (Valium) 0.1 mg/kg or Midazolam (Versed) 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO
- b. Midazolam (Versed) IM 0.2 mg/kg IM (max single dose 6 mg) Repeat once if seizure activity persists after 10 minutes. Contact MEDICAL CONTROL if seizure activity persists after repeat dose.
- c. Midazolam (Versed) IN 0.3 mg/kg IN (max single dose 10 mg) with maximum total dose of 0.4 mg/kg.
- d. LORazepam (peds 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO, max single dose 4 mg, may repeat in 5 minutes if seizure activity continues; not to exceed 0.2 mg/kg total (maximum of 8 mg)
- e. If seizure persists for 4 minutes repeat medication once.
- f. Additional Alternative: Diazepam rectal gel (DiaStat) is 0.2-0.5 mg/kg depending on age. See the dosing table for specific recommendations.

Age (years)	Recommended Dose
2 through 5	0.5 mg/kg
6 through 11	0.3 mg/kg
12 and older	0.2 mg/kg

Because Diazepam rectal gel is provided as unit doses of 2.5, 5, 7.5, 10, 12.5, 15, 17.5, and 20 mg, the prescribed dose is obtained by rounding upward to the next available dose. The following table provides acceptable weight ranges for each dose and age category, such that patients will receive between 90% and 180% of the calculated recommended dose.

2 - 5 Years 0.5 mg/kg		6 - 11 years 0.3 mg/kg		12+ Years 0.2 mg/kg	
Weight (kg)	Dose (mg)	Weight (kg)	Dose (mg)	Weight (kg)	Dose (mg)
6 to 10	5	10 to 16	5	14 to 25	5
11 to 15	7.5	17 to 25	7.5	26 to 37	7.5
16 to 20	10	26 to 33	10	38 to 50	10
21 to 25	12.5	34 to 41	12.5	51 to 62	12.5
26 to 30	15	42 to 50	15	63 to 75	15
31 to 35	17.5	51 to 58	17.5	76 to 87	17.5
36 to 44	20	59 to 74	20	88 to 111	20

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

### SOP # 316 Sexual Assault

#### Signs and Symptoms

Traumatic Injuries

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition
2. Be calm and assuring with sensitivity toward the patient, do not evaluate/pass judgement of the credibility of the circumstances of the assault, and take a medical history, not a history of the assault. By nature of this event, any touch may be traumatic for this patient. Overtly and repeatedly explain what you are doing to try to lessen the impact of procedures and touching.
3. DO NOT make unnecessary physical contact with the patient and do not disturb the crime scene.
4. If possible, have an attendant the same gender as the victim present at all times.
5. If needed, wrap a linen sheet around the victim.
6. DO NOT inspect genitals unless evidence of uncontrolled hemorrhage, trauma, or severe pain is present.
7. Advise the patient not to eat, drink, smoke, bathe, change clothing or go to the bathroom if it all possible to preserve any forensic evidence. If they must urinate, request that they do not wipe.
8. Collect patient's clothing when possible
  - a. Place clothing in paper bags with ID labels.
  - b. Leave all sheets placed in paper bag with patient at facility.
  - c. Notify all staff of clothing samples.
9. Transport patient to appropriate facility for treatment and examination.
10. Contact dispatch to notify Rape Crisis Agency of possible Sexual Assault. Law Enforcement notification should be offered to the victim but should not be pushed or forced upon them.

**EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC      STOP HERE**

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

SOP # 317

### Sickle Cell Crisis

#### Signs and Symptoms

History of Sickle Cell  
Anemia  
Signs of infection  
Hypoxia  
Dehydration  
Painful joints  
Limited movement in joints

#### Notes:

- Use caution in administering narcotics to a patient with SpO<sub>2</sub> < 95%
- All patients who receive narcotic medication must be transported for further evaluation or have documented capacity for decision making to decline.
- The goal of Naloxone therapy is to restore adequate ventilation; larger doses, especially in patient on chronic opiate therapy, often need very small doses in the event of overdose. Larger doses of Naloxone usually create more agitation and behavioral symptoms.

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition.
2. Supportive care.
3. Pulse oximetry (Keep sats > 94%).

**EMT STOP HERE**

4. IV NS bolus 20 cc/kg (peds 20 cc/kg bolus).

**AEMT STOP HERE**

5. EKG Monitor prn.
6. If pain persists, administer pain medications per pain protocol.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**



## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

SOP # 318

Unconscious / Unresponsive / Altered Mental Status

### Signs and Symptoms

Unconscious or unresponsive with vital signs  
Any patient not responding appropriately to verbal or painful stimulus  
Altered level of consciousness with vital signs  
Assess for head trauma  
Assess for Hypothermia or Hyperthermia, hemiparesis, fever, OD, hypoglycemia  
**Peds** – less commonly associated with intussusception (fold of one intestine into another), intracranial catastrophe, metabolic disorder

### Note

The goal of Naloxone therapy is to restore adequate ventilation. Patients, particularly those on chronic opiate therapy, often need very small doses of Naloxone in the event of overdose. Larger doses of Naloxone usually create more agitation and behavioral symptoms except in the case of synthetic opioids.

## TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
2. Assess for underlying causes: head trauma, hypovolemia, hypothermia, hemiparesis, and fever and treat accordingly.
3. Consider Naloxone if opiates suspected.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Glucose check.
6. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

7. IV NS TKO or INT.
8. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.
9. Administer Naloxone (Narcan) 0.4 mg IV/IM/IN/IO titrated to adequate ventilation (**peds 0.1 mg/kg IV, max single dose 2 mg**). If utilizing pre-filled delivery systems, dose per manufacturer's instructions. May repeat dose, with the exception of synthetic opioids which may require larger doses of Naloxone. Physically manage the airway if no response after 8mg of Naloxone.

## AEMT STOP HERE

10. Contact Medical Control for further orders; 20 cc/kg NS fluid challenge (**peds 20 cc/kg**).
11. If hypoglycemic and unable to maintain airway, and CVA is not suspected, and the patient has a history of diabetes:
  - a. If blood sugar is < 80 mg/dL and symptomatic, infuse 250cc bag D10 until patient responds. (**peds 2 mL/kg D25 IV/IO; IV Infusion of 10% Dextrose in 250mL for Hypoglycemia Max dose 250mL. Titrate to patient's response/condition. Not to exceed 25g (1g/10ml)**)
  - b. Reassess blood sugar level q 15 min. If unable to obtain IV access, consider Glucagon 1-2 mg IM (**peds Glucagon 0.5 mg/dose IM/IV if <20 kg, or 1 mg/dose IM/IV if 20 kg or greater**).
  - c. 20 cc/kg NS fluid challenge (**peds 20 cc/kg**).

## PARAMEDIC STOP

# MEDICAL EMERGENCY

## SOP # 319      Syncope

### Signs and Symptoms

Loss of consciousness with recovery  
Lightheadedness, dizziness  
Palpitations, slow or rapid pulse, irregular pulse  
Decreased blood pressure

### Note

Consider repeat EKGs. A single normal EKG does not rule out a cardiac etiology.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen at 2 – 6 LPM and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
2. Supportive care.
3. Consider Naloxone if Opiates suspected.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Glucose check.
6. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and Transmission if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

7. INT or IV NS TKO – if hypotensive 20 cc/kg bolus (peds 20 cc/kg bolus).
8. If glucose <60, titrate D10 slowly per hypoglycemia guidelines.

## AEMT STOP HERE

9. Treat any cardiac dysrhythmia per appropriate protocol. Consider repeat EKGs.
10. Assess neuro status; if abnormal refer to appropriate protocol.

## PARAMEDIC STOP

# SHOCK/TRAUMA

## SOP # 401

## Air Ambulance Transport

In the absence of an on-scene Paramedic or EMS Lieutenant, the most qualified FF/EMT or AEMT shall have the responsibility of determining the need for an air ambulance transport. Request for an Air Ambulance must be through the Incident Commander.

A scene flight by air ambulance MAY be indicated IF:

The Level I trauma patient's condition warrants immediate and extreme action **and** the extrication **and/or** transport time is greater than **30** minutes **and** if patient **is not** in trauma full arrest.

Transport time is defined as the length of time beginning when the emergency unit would leave the scene transporting until time of arrival at the trauma center.

### Additional Criteria:

- Multi-system blunt or penetrating trauma with unstable vital signs
- Greater than 25% TBSA burns
- Paralysis or spinal injury
- Amputation proximal to wrist or ankle
- Flail or crushed chest
- Consider need for blood transfusion or advanced airway when not available by ground crew

### Situational Criteria:

- High energy mechanisms
- Prolonged entrapment
- Multiple casualty incident

Patients will be categorized according to the current Tennessee Trauma Destination Determinates.

**DO NOT** call for air ambulance transport if patient is in traumatic cardiopulmonary arrest. If the patient has no vital signs, they are a trauma full-arrest.

The Paramedic in charge of the patient shall have the authority through the Incident Commander to disregard the response of the air ambulance.

The Paramedic will coordinate with the Incident Commander to ensure the helicopter receives patient information and landing zone location.

### The following may impact transport by helicopter:

- Adults who have a traction splint(s) applied
- Patients over 6' 4" (relative limitation)
- Patients whose girth exceeds 27"
- Any splint or device that exceeds the boundary of the long spine board

**Note:** Medical responsibility will be assumed by the medical flight crew personnel upon arrival at the scene.

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

**STOP HERE**

# SHOCK/TRAUMA

SOP # 402

## Abdominal / Pelvic Trauma

### Signs and Symptoms

Abdominal / retroperitoneal abrasions / contusions  
Penetrating injuries  
Hypotension  
Abdominal evisceration(s)  
Abdominal pain on palpitation  
Hematuria, bloody stool  
Altered bowel sounds  
Vomiting blood  
History of abdominal injury / trauma  
Suspected injury secondary to mechanism of trauma

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen 100% and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. C-Spine protection as appropriate.
3. Stop any life-threatening hemorrhaging.
4. Supportive care.
5. Pulse oximetry.
6. Systolic BP or peds normal for age:
  - a. If systolic BP > 90 mmHg place patient supine with legs elevated and flexed at knees and hips if no c-spine concerns, contact Medical Control.
  - b. Patient pregnant:
    - i. IF patient is not past 1<sup>st</sup> trimester: place patient supine with legs elevated and flexed at knees and hips if no c-spine concerns, contact Medical Control.
    - ii. If patient is past 1<sup>st</sup> trimester: place patient in left lateral recumbent position.
  - c. Penetrating object:
    - i. If no penetrating object: place patient supine with legs elevated and flexed at knees and hips if no c-spine concerns, contact Medical Control.
  - d. Evisceration:
    - i. If present: place patient supine with legs elevated and flexed at knees and hips if no c-spine concerns, contact Medical Control, cover evisceration(s) with saline soaked trauma dressing.
7. EKG Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

8. IV NS/LR TKO. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg bolus (peds 20 cc/kg bolus) target SBP is 90 – 110 mmHg in adult trauma patients.

### AEMT STOP HERE

9. EKG monitor. Assess for arrhythmias, ischemia.
10. The KED may be inverted and used as a Pelvic Stabilization Device.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

# SHOCK/TRAUMA

SOP # 403

## Avulsed Teeth

### Signs and Symptoms

Avulsed teeth may be handled in the same manner as small parts; i.e. rinse in normal saline (do not rub or scrub) and place in gauze moistened with saline

Do not cool tooth/teeth with ice

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient condition.
2. C-spine protection as appropriate.
3. Treat other associated injuries.
4. Pay attention to the airway, bleeding and avulsed teeth may cause airway obstruction.
5. Supportive care.

**EMT      AEMT      STOP HERE**

6. Re-implantation is recommended at the scene as this creates maximum possibility of reattachment if possible. The following guidelines pertain to re-implantation at the scene:
  - a. Applicable only for permanent teeth (i.e., with patients over 6.5 years of age)
  - b. Applicable when only one or two teeth are cleanly avulsed, and the entire root is present
  - c. Applicable only to anterior teeth (front 6, upper and lower)
  - d. The patient must be conscious
  - e. Should be attempted within the first 30 minutes (the sooner performed, the greater the success rate).
  - f. Do not force re-implantation, gentle insertion is all that is necessary, slight incorrect positioning can be corrected later
7. If re-implantation is not feasible and the patient is a fully conscious adult, then the best procedure is to place the tooth in mouth, either under the tongue or in the buccal vestibule. This is not recommended for children.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

## SHOCK/TRAUMA

SOP # 404

### Cardiogenic Shock

#### Signs and Symptoms

Frequently associated with tachy/brady dysrhythmia, AMI, or blunt chest trauma  
Neck vein distention in sitting position  
Moist sounding lungs (rales, rhonchi)  
Peripheral edema (if chronic heart failure)  
Determine if cardiac dysrhythmia exists  
Consider tension pneumothorax  
Consider cardiac tamponade  
Increased heart rate  
Decreased BP  
Altered LOC

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Semi-fowlers or position of comfort.
2. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

#### EMT STOP HERE

5. IV NS/LR TKO. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg bolus (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**) target SBP is 90 – 110 mmHg in adult trauma patients.

#### AEMT STOP HERE

6. Evaluate cardiac rhythm and treat appropriately.

Contact Medical Control, consider: EPINEPHrine 2-10 mcg/min, (**peds 0.1-1 mcg/kg/min**).

#### PARAMEDIC STOP

# SHOCK/TRAUMA

SOP # 405

## Eye Trauma

### Signs and Symptoms

Impaled object  
Inability to open eye(s)  
Swollen, edematous eye(s)  
Photophobia  
Visual defects, loss of vision  
Redness

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

#### EMT AEMT PARAMEDIC

##### Treatment – Standing Order

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. C-Spine protection PRN.
3. If thermal or chemical:
  - a. Flush eye(s) with NS or water for 15 minutes
  - b. Cover both eyes
  - c. Transport
4. Penetration:
  - a. Stabilize
  - b. Do not apply tight dressing to penetrating eye injury, simply cover with eye shield
  - c. Consider covering unaffected eye
  - d. Transport
5. Blunt trauma:
  - a. Consider covering both eyes
  - b. Transport
6. Is loss of vision present?
  - a. No – contact Medical Control
  - b. Yes – If loss of vision was sudden, painless and non-traumatic, consider Retinal Artery Occlusion. Contact Medical Control and:
    - i. Apply cardiac monitor and assess for changes (EMT and above only)
    - ii. Apply vigorous pressure using heel of hand to affected eye for 3 – 5 seconds, then release (patient may perform this procedure and may be repeated as necessary)

# SHOCK/TRAUMA

## SOP # 406

## Hypovolemic Shock

### Signs and Symptoms

Blood loss due to penetrating injuries to torso or other major vessel

Fracture of femur or pelvis

G.I. bleeding, vaginal bleeding, or ruptured ectopic pregnancy

Dehydration cause by vomiting, diarrhea, inadequate fluid intake, excessive fluid loss due to fever, uncontrolled diabetes, or burns

Pulse may be greater than 120 beats per minute

Blood pressure may be less than 90 mmHg systolic

Orthostatic (Tilt) changes in vital signs (consider possible spinal injury) pulse increase of 20 beats per minute, BP decrease of 10 mmHg systolic

Severe shock (hypovolemia) is defined as a decreased level of consciousness, absent radial pulse, capillary refill greater than 2 seconds, no palpable blood pressure

### Note

Cervical spine immobilization is not necessary in patients suffering penetrating trauma (stab or gunshot wound) below the nipple line **and** no evidence of spinal or head injury. Do not delay transport of patients meeting these criteria for immobilization.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition.
2. Consider spinal protection.
3. Trendelenburg patient if no suspected injury.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Control gross hemorrhage – consider tourniquet or hemorrhage control clamp.
6. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG, transmission if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

7. IV NS or LR x 2 large bore titrated to restore patient's vital signs (in patients with ongoing blood loss maintain patient's systolic blood pressure 90 – 110 mmHg).
8. **Pediatrics –**
  - a. **IV/IO NS 20 cc/kg bolus**
  - b. **Reassess patient**
  - c. **Repeat fluid bolus 20 cc/kg if no improvement**
  - d. **Place a second IV as needed**
  - e. **Maintain temperature > 97°**

## AEMT STOP HERE



If nonresponsive to volume resuscitation, consider: Adults EPINEPHrine 2–20 mcg/min (peds EPINEPHrine 0.1-1 mcg/kg/min).

To prepare EPINEPHrine 10 mcg/ml:

- a. Draw up 9 ml of normal saline into 10 ml syringe
- b. Into this syringe, draw up 1 ml of EPINEPHrine 0.1 mg/ml (1 mg/10 ml) (1:10,000)
- c. Label syringe

Adult Push Dose Pressor IV Administration:

Using above EPINEPHrine preparation (EPINEPHrine 10mcg/ml) 10 ml syringe, administer 5-10 mcg (0.5-1 ml) slow IV push (over 30-60 seconds) every 2-5 minutes as needed as a temporizing measure for severe hypotension.

Note: Monitor HR and BP continuously while administering/titrating EPINEPHrine, as it may cause significant tachycardia and tachyarrhythmia in addition to the desired vasoconstriction.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

## SHOCK/TRAUMA

### SOP # 407

### Major Thermal Burns

#### Signs and Symptoms

Look for burns of the nares, oropharyngeal mucosa, face or neck

Listen for abnormal breath sounds

Note if burn occurred in closed space

Determine extent of injury (including associated injuries)

Cardiac monitor for all major burn patients

Respiratory distress

ETOH / drug use

Associated injuries / trauma

Hypotension

Past medical history

#### Note

Remove clothing from affected parts

**DO NOT** pull material out of the burn site.

Cut around it

Major Burn:

- Greater than 20% BSA, partial thickness surface involvement
- Greater than 10% BSA, full thickness burn
- Full thickness burns of the head, face, feet, hands, or perineum
- Inhalation burns or electrical burns
- Burns complicated by fractures or other significant injury
- Elderly, pediatric, or compromised patients

## TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Stop the burn process with tepid water or normal saline solution and remove any smoldering clothing.
2. High flow oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition:
  - a. Edema may cause patient's airway to close without warning signs
  - b. Be prepared to assist ventilation with BVM
3. Monitor all vital signs and continue reassessment with emphasis on the respiratory rate, peripheral pulses (circulation) and level of consciousness.
4. Remove any jewelry and document.
5. Cover burned area with dry sterile dressing or burn sheet. Attempt to keep blisters intact.
6. DO NOT use Water-jel or any other commercially manufactured burn products. DO NOT remove if applied prior to arrival.
7. Monitor to prevent hypothermia.
8. Stabilize all associated injuries (e.g., chest, potential spine injury, fractures, dislocations, etc.).
9. Pulse oximetry.
10. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

11. IV NS/LR TKO. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg bolus (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**) target SBP is 90 – 110 mmHg in adult trauma patients.

## AEMT STOP HERE

12. For major burns, administer pain medication per pain management protocol (contact Medical Control in multi-system trauma/pregnancy), transport (all additional doses must be approved by Medical Control).
13. If extremely injured, cover open fractures/lacerations/injuries with sterile dressing, splint fractures PRN, avoid unnecessary movement, transport.
14. Consider cyanide poisoning and smoke inhalation in all burn patients.

15. Patients with significant possibility of smoke inhalation or exposure to superheated air should be transported to the Regional Burn Center.
16. Consider contacting Medical Control for sedating/pain management agents especially in pediatric patients.

Administer IV fluids using the following guide:

- 500 mL per hour for patients over 15 years old.
- **250 mL per hour for patients 5 – 15 years old.**
- **125 mL per hour for patients under 5 years old.**

Excessive or overly aggressive amounts of fluid administration may increase third spacing shock.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

# SHOCK/TRAUMA

SOP # 408

## Musculoskeletal Trauma

### Signs and Symptoms

Deformity, swelling, tenderness, crepitus, open or closed fractures  
Hemorrhaging, lacerations, ecchymosis, instability  
Decreased function, pulses  
Loss of sensation of distal extremities  
ETOH/drug use  
Mechanism of injury

### Notes

- May also utilize patient controlled Nitrous Oxide for pain management
- Cervical spine protection is not necessary in patients suffering penetrating trauma if no evidence of neurological injury

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. C-spine protection PRN.
3. Control any life-threatening hemorrhaging.
4. Splint PRN, stabilize penetrating objects.
5. Consider tourniquet or hemorrhage control clamp.
6. Pulse oximetry.
7. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

8. IV NS/LR TKO. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg bolus (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**) Target SBP is 90 – 110 mmHg in adult trauma patients.

### AEMT STOP HERE

9. Assess and manage Perfusion Status, Injuries, and Pain:
  - a. If systolic BP > 90 mmHg or peds normal range for age
    - i. Consider pain medications per pain management protocol.
    - ii. Cover open fractures/lacerations, check distal motor/sensory/pulse pre/post splinting, avoid unnecessary movement.
  - b. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg (**peds 20 cc/kg**).
  - c. If patient pregnant: isolated extremity trauma only
    - i. If past 1<sup>st</sup> trimester and systolic BP > 90 mmHg contact Medical Control.
    - ii. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg place patient in left lateral recumbent position, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg.
10. Consider Pain Management per protocol

### PARAMEDIC STOP

# SHOCK/TRAUMA

SOP # 409

## Neurogenic Shock

### Signs and Symptoms

Associated with spinal cord injuries, closed head injuries, and overdoses

Signs of hypovolemic shock without pale diaphoretic skin (warm shock)

### Note

Consider occult bleeding and treat as Hypovolemic Shock protocol.

Hypotension and Hypoxemia are profoundly harmful in traumatic brain injury patients. AVOID THEM.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
2. Establish and maintain c-spine protection.
3. Supportive care.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Hemorrhage control - Consider tourniquet use or hemorrhage control clamp.
6. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

7. IV NS/LR TKO. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg bolus (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**). Target SBP is 90 – 110 mmHg in adult trauma patients.

## AEMT STOP HERE

8. If refractory hypotension:

**EPINEPHrine 2-10 mcg/min (**peds 0.1-1 mcg/kg/min**).**

To prepare EPINEPHrine 10 mcg/ml:

1. Draw up 9 ml of normal saline into 10 ml syringe
2. Into this syringe, draw up 1 ml of EPINEPHrine 0.1 mg/ml (1 mg/10 ml) from a cardiac syringe
3. Label syringe

Adult Push Dose Pressor IV Administration:

Using above EPINEPHrine preparation (EPINEPHrine 10mcg/ml) 10 ml syringe, administer 5-10 mcg (0.5-1 ml) slow IV push (over 30-60 seconds) every 2-5 minutes as needed as a temporizing measure for severe hypotension.

Note: Monitor HR and BP continuously while administering/titrating EPINEPHrine, as it may cause significant tachycardia and tachyarrhythmia in addition to the desired vasoconstriction.

## PARAMEDIC STOP

## SHOCK/TRAUMA

SOP # 410

### Septic Shock

#### Signs and Symptoms

Hot and dry or cool and clammy skin  
Poor capillary refill with Tachycardia / Hypotension  
End Tidal CO<sub>2</sub> levels below normal  
Potential for underlying infection

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
2. Obtain and record an oral or axillary temperature if possible.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. Maintain body temperature above 97°F.
5. Glucose check.
6. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

7. IV NS/LR TKO, If systolic BP < 90 mmHg, IV NS/LR **30 cc/kg bolus** (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**).
8. If hypoglycemic, titrate D10 slowly until patient responds. (**peds – see glucose dosing**).

### AEMT STOP HERE

9. Obtain Blood Sample tubes if available.
10. Notify receiving hospital of Sepsis Alert.

#### Treatment – Protocol

If no improvement after two boluses of IV fluids, contact Medical Control and consider:  
Adult EPINEPHrine 2-10 mcg/min (**peds 0.1-1 mcg/kg/min**).

To prepare EPINEPHrine 10 mcg/ml:

1. Draw up 9 ml of normal saline into 10 ml syringe
2. Into this syringe, draw up 1 ml of EPINEPHrine 0.1 mg/ml (1 mg/10 ml) (1:10,000)
3. Label syringe

Adult Push Dose Pressor IV Administration:

Using above EPINEPHrine preparation (EPINEPHrine 10mcg/ml) 10 ml syringe,  
administer 5-10 mcg (0.5-1 ml) slow IV push (over 30-60 seconds) every 2-5 minutes as  
needed as a temporizing measure for severe hypotension.

**Note:** Monitor HR and BP continuously while administering/titrating EPINEPHrine, as it may cause  
significant tachycardia and tachyarrhythmia in addition to the desired vasoconstriction.  
Ensure body substance isolation precautions.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

# SHOCK/TRAUMA

SOP # 411

## Soft Tissue / Crush Injuries

### Signs and Symptoms

Hypotension  
Deformity, swelling, tenderness, crepitus, open or closed fractures  
Hemorrhaging, lacerations, ecchymosis, instability  
Decreased function, pulses  
Loss of sensation of distal extremities  
ETOH / drug use  
Mechanism of injury

### Notes

Cervical spine protection is not necessary in patients suffering penetrating trauma (stab or gunshot wound) below the nipple line **and** no evidence of spinal or head injury. Do not delay transport of patients meeting these criteria for immobilization.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. C-spine protection PRN.
3. Control any life-threatening hemorrhaging.
4. Other splints PRN, stabilize penetrating objects.
5. Consider hemorrhage control clamp, iTClamp may be used on scalp lacerations as well.
6. Pulse oximetry.
7. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

8. IV NS/LR TKO. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg bolus (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**). Target SBP is 90 – 110 mmHg in adult trauma patients.

### AEMT STOP HERE

9. Trauma:
  - a. If systolic BP > 90 mmHg or peds normal range for age;
    - i. Consider pain medications per pain management protocol.
    - ii. Cover open fractures/lacerations, check distal motor/sensory/pulse pre/post splinting, avoid unnecessary movement.
  - b. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg (**peds 20 cc/kg**)
  - c. If patient pregnant: isolated extremity trauma only
    - i. If past 1<sup>st</sup> trimester and systolic BP > 90 mmHg, contact Medical Control.
    - ii. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg, place patient in left lateral recumbent position, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg.

Consider Ketamine/opiate per pain management protocol.

# SHOCK/TRAUMA

SOP # 412

## Spinal Cord Injury

### Signs and Symptoms

Hypotension without actual volume loss  
Warm/flushed skin despite hypotension  
Paralysis  
Loss of reflexes  
Posturing  
Priapism  
Diaphragmatic breathing

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. C-Spine protection.
3. Control hemorrhaging.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

6. IV NS/LR TKO. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg bolus (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**). Target SBP is 90 – 110 mmHg in adult trauma patients.

### AEMT STOP HERE

7. If signs of Hypotension/ inadequate perfusion:

Adult EPINEPHrine 2-10 mcg/min (**peds 0.1-1 mcg/kg/min**).

To prepare EPINEPHrine 10 mcg/ml:

1. Draw up 9 ml of normal saline into 10 ml syringe
2. Into this syringe, draw up 1 ml of EPINEPHrine 0.1 mg/ml (1 mg/10 ml) (1:10,000)
3. Label syringe

Adult Push Dose Pressor IV Administration:

Using above EPINEPHrine preparation (EPINEPHrine 10mcg/ml) 10 ml syringe, administer 5-10 mcg (0.5-1 ml) slow IV push (over 30-60 seconds) every 2-5 minutes as needed as a temporizing measure for severe hypotension.

**Note:** Monitor HR and BP continuously while administering/titrating EPINEPHrine, as it may cause significant tachycardia and tachyarrhythmia in addition to the desired vasoconstriction.

### PARAMEDIC STOP



# SHOCK/TRAUMA

SOP # 413

Trauma - Blunt

## Notes

- Rapidly assess and manage life-threatening injuries
- Safely move the patient to prevent worsening injury severity
- Rapidly and safely transport to the appropriate level of trauma care.
- Hypotension and Hypoxemia are profoundly harmful in traumatic brain injury patients. AVOID THEM.

## TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Initiate in-line C-Spine protection while simultaneously evaluating and controlling the patient's ABCs. Incorporate the mechanism of injury into the patient care scheme.
2. Control any hemorrhage and simultaneously provide oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
3. Spine injuries in the adult population may be present at more than one level simultaneously. Spinal Motion Restriction (SMR), when indicated, should apply to the entire spine. An appropriately sized cervical collar is a critical component of SMR and should be used to limit movement of the cervical spine whenever SMR is employed. The remainder of the spine can be stabilized using an ambulance cot, a vacuum mattress, a long back board or a similar device.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Consider tourniquet use or hemorrhage control clamp.
6. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

## EMT STOP HERE

7. IV NS/LR TKO. If systolic BP < 90mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg bolus (peds 20 cc/kg bolus). Target SBP is 90 – 110 mmHg in adult trauma patients. If not hypotensive, avoid administering more than 500 cc crystalloid.

## AEMT STOP HERE

8. If refractory hypotension:

**EPINEPHrine 2-10 mcg/min (peds 0.1-1 mcg/kg/min).**

To prepare EPINEPHrine 10 mcg/ml:

1. Draw up 9 ml of normal saline into 10 ml syringe
2. Into this syringe, draw up 1 ml of EPINEPHrine 0.1 mg/ml (1 mg/10 ml) (1:10,000)
3. Label syringe

Adult Push Dose Pressor IV Administration:

Using above EPINEPHrine preparation (EPINEPHrine 10mcg/ml) 10 ml syringe, administer 5-10 mcg (0.5-1 ml) slow IV push (over 30-60 seconds) every 2-5 minutes as needed as a temporizing measure for severe hypotension.

**Note:** Monitor HR and BP continuously while administering/titrating EPINEPHrine, as it may cause significant tachycardia and tachyarrhythmia in addition to the desired vasoconstriction.

9. Contact Medical Control for pain management authorization.

## PARAMEDIC STOP

## **SHOCK/TRAUMA**

**SOP #414**

### **Adult Trauma Arrest (Blunt)**

**This protocol establishes criteria for the appropriate management for handling blunt traumatic cardiac arrest.**

#### **TREATMENT PATHWAY**

If patient meets criteria for Death or No resuscitation/DNR/ POST Form OR has all the following clinical findings:

- Apnea
- Pulselessness
- Asystole or PEA <40

If patient does not meet all the above criteria, Initiate resuscitation per protocol.

Consider chest decompression in these patients prior to discontinuing resuscitative efforts.

#### **NOTES**

Withholding resuscitative efforts with blunt and penetrating trauma victims who meet criteria is appropriate.

First arriving EMS personnel should make the assessment concerning agonal respirations, pulselessness, asystole or PEA < 40.

If mechanism not consistent with traumatic arrest and cardiac could have been primary cause, then the arrest should be worked in conjunction with that protocol.

Efforts should be directed at high quality and continuous compressions with limited interruptions and early defibrillation when indicated. Consider early IO placement if available and difficult IV anticipated.

**DO NOT HYPERVENTILATE:** If no advanced airway (BIAD, ETT) compressions to ventilations are 30:2. If advanced airway in place ventilate 8 – 10 breaths per minute.

Lightning strike, drowning or in situations causing hypothermia, resuscitation should be initiated.

Where multiple lightning strike victims are found used Reverse Triage: Begin CPR where apneic / pulseless.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

# SHOCK/TRAUMA

SOP # 415

## Trauma - Penetrating

### Notes

- Rapidly assess and manage life-threatening injuries
- Safely move the patient to prevent worsening injury severity
- Rapidly and safely transport to the appropriate level of trauma care
- Hypotension and Hypoxemia are profoundly harmful in traumatic brain injury patients. AVOID THEM
- Cervical spine protection is not necessary in patients suffering penetrating trauma if no evidence of neurological injury

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Initiate in-line C-Spine protection while simultaneously evaluating and controlling the patient's ABCs. Incorporate the mechanism of injury into the patient care scheme.
2. Control any hemorrhage and simultaneously provide oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
3. Spine injuries in the adult population may be present at more than one level simultaneously. Spinal Motion Restriction (SMR), when indicated, should apply to the entire spine. An appropriately sized cervical collar is a critical component of SMR and should be used to limit movement of the cervical spine whenever SMR is employed. The remainder of the spine can be stabilized using an ambulance cot, a vacuum mattress, a long back board or a similar device.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Consider tourniquet use or hemorrhage control clamp.
6. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

7. IV NS/LR TKO. If systolic BP < 90mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg bolus (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**). Target SBP is 90 – 110 mmHg in adult trauma patients. If not hypotensive, avoid administering more than 500 cc crystalloid.

### AEMT STOP HERE

Cont'd...

8. If refractory hypotension:

**EPINEPHrine 2-10 mcg/min (peds 0.1-1 mcg/kg/min).**

To prepare EPINEPHrine 10 mcg/ml:

1. Draw up 9 ml of normal saline into 10 ml syringe
2. Into this syringe, draw up 1 ml of EPINEPHrine 0.1 mg/ml (1 mg/10 ml) (1:10,000)
3. Label syringe

Adult Push Dose Pressor IV Administration:

Using above EPINEPHrine preparation (EPINEPHrine 10mcg/ml) 10 ml syringe, administer 5-10 mcg (0.5-1 ml) slow IV push (over 30-60 seconds) every 2-5 minutes as needed as a temporizing measure for severe hypotension.

**Note:** Monitor HR and BP continuously while administering/titrating EPINEPHrine, as it may cause significant tachycardia and tachyarrhythmia in addition to the desired vasoconstriction

9. Contact Medical Control for pain management authorization.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

## SHOCK/TRAUMA

SOP # 416

### Adult Trauma Arrest (Penetrating)

This protocol establishes criteria for the appropriate management for handling penetrating traumatic cardiac arrest.

## TREATMENT PATHWAY

If patient meets criteria for Death or No resuscitation/DNR/ POST Form OR has all the following clinical findings:

- Apnea
- Pulselessness
- Asystole or PEA <40
- Absence of Pupillary Reflexes
- No Spontaneous movements

If patient does not meet all the above criteria, Initiate resuscitation per protocol

## NOTES

Withholding resuscitative efforts with blunt and penetrating trauma victims who meet criteria is appropriate.

First arriving EMS personnel should make the assessment concerning agonal respirations, pulselessness, asystole or PEA < 40, pupillary reflexes and spontaneous body movements.

Efforts should be directed at high quality and continuous compressions with limited interruptions and early defibrillation when indicated. Consider early IO placement if available and difficult IV anticipated.

DO NOT HYPERVENTILATE: If no advanced airway (BIAD, ETT) compressions to ventilations are 30:2. If advanced airway in place ventilate 8 – 10 breaths per minute.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

# SHOCK/TRAUMA

SOP # 417

## Adult Traumatic Cardiac Arrest

### Signs and Symptoms

Cardiac arrest secondary to trauma

### Note

Upon arrival at scene, patients in traumatic cardiac arrest should be placed on a cardiac monitor. If no cardiac activity, consider cessation of resuscitative efforts.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. CPR.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

5. IV NS/LR give 20 cc/kg bolus.
6. Consider second IV access.

### AEMT STOP HERE

7. Treat cardiac rhythms per specific protocols.
8. If suspected pneumothorax, perform needle chest decompression.
9. Consider viability of patient prior to transport.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

## SHOCK/TRAUMA

### SOP # 418

### Tension Pneumothorax

#### Signs and Symptoms

Acute respiratory distress, cyanosis  
Unilaterally decreased breath sounds or absent breath sounds  
Hyper-resonance of chest unilaterally  
Jugular vein distention  
Subcutaneous Emphysema  
Acute traumatic chest injury, ecchymosis or obvious rib fractures  
History of COPD or other chronic lung disease which predisposes patient to spontaneous pneumothorax  
Hypotension  
Tracheal deviation away from the affected side  
Arrhythmia  
Oxygen saturation - < 90%  
Mechanism of injury

#### Note

Patient must meet **AT LEAST THREE** of these Signs/Symptoms to qualify for this standing order; otherwise, contact Medical Control.

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen 12 – 15 LPM NRB and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
2. Perform frequent evaluation of the breath sounds and blood pressure.
3. Control any life-threatening hemorrhaging.
4. Consider initiation of the multiple trauma protocol if indicated. Remember this order may be indicated for the medical patient as well.
5. If the traumatic tension pneumothorax is secondary to a sucking chest wound, apply an occlusive dressing and treat appropriately.
6. Pulse oximetry.
7. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

#### EMT STOP HERE

8. IV NS/LR TKO. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg bolus (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**). Target SBP is 90 – 110 mmHg in adult trauma patient.

#### AEMT STOP HERE

9. If tension pneumothorax suspected, perform needle decompression. Use 14 g 3.5" needle (**peds may use smaller 18 g needle**).

#### PARAMEDIC STOP

# SHOCK/TRAUMA

## SOP # 419 Traumatic Amputation(s)

### Signs and Symptoms

Hypotension  
Past medical history  
Deformity, swelling, tenderness, crepitus, open or closed fractures  
Hemorrhaging, lacerations, ecchymosis, instability  
Decreased function, pulses  
Loss of sensation of distal extremities  
ETOH / Drug use  
Mechanism of injury

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. C-spine protection PRN.
3. Control any life-threatening hemorrhaging.
4. Other splints PRN.
5. Amputated part: if recovered rinse with NS, wrap in moist dressing, place in plastic bag, and transport with patient.
6. Consider use of tourniquet or hemorrhage control clamp, if appropriate.
7. Pulse oximetry.
8. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

9. IV NS/LR TKO. If systolic BP < 90 mmHg, IV NS/LR 20 cc/kg (**peds 20 cc/kg bolus**). Target SBP is 90 – 110 mmHg in adult trauma patients.

### AEMT STOP HERE

10. Amputation:
  - a. If present and systolic BP > 90 mmHg, consider pain management per protocol
  - b. Cover open fractures/lacerations, check distal motor/sensory/pulse pre/post splinting, avoid unnecessary movement

### PARAMEDIC STOP



## REFERENCE OBSTETRICAL EMERGENCIES

### APGAR Scoring

#### EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC

<u>Clinical Sign</u>	<u>0 points</u>	<u>1 point</u>	<u>2 points</u>
<b>Appearance</b>	Blue/Pale	Body Pink Extremities Blue	Completely Pink
<b>Pulse</b>	Absent	Below 100/minute	Above 100/minute
<b>Grimace</b>	No response	Grimace	Cries
<b>Activity</b>	Limp	Some flexion of extremities	Action motion
<b>Respiratory</b>	Absent	Slow/irregular	Good strong cry

The APGAR score should be calculated after birth of the infant. The five (5) clinical signs are evaluated according to the scoring system detailed above. Each sign is assigned points to be totaled. A total score of 10 indicates that the infant is in the best possible condition. A score of 4 to 6 indicates moderate depression and a need for resuscitative measures.

- **DO NOT delay resuscitation efforts to obtain APGAR score.**
- Obtain APGAR at 1 and 5 minutes after delivery.

## OBSTETRICAL EMERGENCIES

### SOP # 500      Obstetrical / Gynecological Complaints (Non-Delivery or Gynecological Only)

#### Signs and Symptoms

Patient Para (number of births) and Gravida (number of pregnancies)  
Term of pregnancy in weeks, EDC, Multiple births expected, or history  
Vaginal bleeding (how long and approximate amount)  
Possible miscarriage / products of conception  
Pre-natal medications, problems, and care  
Last menstrual cycle  
Any trauma prior to onset  
Lower extremity edema

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
2. Patient positioning appropriate for condition.
3. Control hemorrhage as appropriate.
4. Pulse oximetry.
5. Glucose check.

#### EMT STOP HERE

6. INT or IV NS TKO unless signs of shock, then 20 cc/kg fluid bolus.

#### AEMT STOP HERE

7. EKG monitor PRN.

#### PARAMEDIC STOP

# OBSTETRICAL EMERGENCIES

## SOP # 501 Normal Delivery

### Signs and Symptoms

Patient Para (number of births and  
Gravida (number of pregnancies)  
Term of pregnancy in weeks, EDC  
Vaginal bleeding  
Pre-natal medications, problems,  
and care  
Membranes ruptured  
Lower extremity edema

### Notes

- The greatest risks to the newborn infant are airway obstruction and hypothermia. Keep the infant warm (silver swaddler), dry, covered, and the infant's airway maintained with a bulb syringe. Always remember to squeeze the bulb prior to insertion into the infant's mouth or nose.
- The greatest risk to the mother is post-partum hemorrhage. Watch closely for signs of hypovolemic shock and excessive vaginal bleeding.
- Spontaneous or induced abortions may result in copious vaginal bleeding. Reassure the mother, elevate legs, treat for shock, and transport.
- Record a blood pressure and the presence or absence of edema in every pregnant woman you examine, regardless of chief complaint.
- Complete individual patient care reports on **BOTH** mother and child.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.

#### Mother:

2. Pulse oximetry.
3. Check mother for crowning PRN.
4. Use gentle pressure to control delivery. When head delivers, suction airway and check for cord around neck.
5. After delivery, keep mother and infant on same level, clamp cord at 8 and 10 inches from the baby and cut between clamps.
6. Dry infant and wrap to keep warm, maintain airway.
7. Check APGAR at 1 and 5 minutes post delivery.
8. Allow placenta to deliver:
  - a. Massage uterine fundus (lower abdomen)
  - b. Observe and treat signs of shock with increased delivery of oxygen and IV fluids
  - c. Be alert to the possibility of multiple births
9. Re-evaluate vaginal bleeding.

#### Infant:

1. Protect against explosive delivery.
2. After delivery, suction airway (mouth first then nose) and check for cord around neck.
3. After delivery, clamp cord at 8 and 10 inches from baby and cut between clamps.
4. Dry infant and wrap to keep warm (silver swaddler). Maintain airway, suction PRN.
5. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
6. Check APGAR score at 1 and 5 minutes after delivery.
7. Re-evaluate cord for bleeding, if bleeding, add additional clamp and re-evaluate.

**EMT STOP HERE**

8. NT or IV LR TKO if patient in active labor defined as regular contractions q 3 – 5 min with 30 – 60 second duration.

## AEMT STOP HERE

9. EKG monitor PRN.
10. Evaluate for postpartum hemorrhage.
11. If available, administer Oxytocin (Pitocin) 10 units per ampule/vial IM. If no IV access or 30-40 units in 1 liter free flow.
12. For severe Postpartum hemorrhage, if available, give either:  
Methergine 0.2mg IM 1 dose only. Do not give if SBP>160 or DBP>110,  
OR  
Misoprostol (Cytotec) 400 mcg buccal or sublingual

## PARAMEDIC STOP

# OBSTETRICAL EMERGENCIES

## SOP # 502      Abruptio Placenta

### Signs and Symptoms

Multiparity  
Maternal hypertension  
Trauma  
Drug Use  
Increased maternal age  
History  
Vaginal bleeding with no increase in pain  
No bleeding with low abdominal pain

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition.
2. Position patient in left lateral recumbent position.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

5. IV NS TKO, if hypotensive 20 cc/kg (*peds 20 cc/kg*).

### AEMT STOP HERE

6. EKG monitor for arrhythmias.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

# OBSTETRICAL EMERGENCIES

## SOP # 503 Amniotic Sac Presentation

### Signs and Symptoms

Amniotic sac visible  
Membranes not broken  
Fetus may or may not be visible  
Pre-natal medications, problems, and care  
Usually third trimester  
Applies to greater than 20 weeks gestation  
Abdominal pain  
Indications of immediate delivery

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition.
2. Place patient in position of comfort.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. Amniotic sac:
  - a. If no fetus visible, cover presenting part with moist, sterile dressing
  - b. If head of the fetus has delivered, tear sac with fingers and continue steps for delivery
5. Contact Medical Control ASAP.
6. Monitor.

### EMT STOP HERE

7. IV NS TKO, if hypotensive 20 cc/kg (*peds 20 cc/kg*).

### AEMT STOP HERE

8. EKG monitor for arrhythmias.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

# OBSTETRICAL EMERGENCIES

## SOP # 504 Breech or Limb Presentation

### Signs and Symptoms

Patient Para (number of births and Gravida (number of pregnancies))  
Term of pregnancy in weeks, EDC  
Vaginal bleeding  
Pre-natal medications, problems, and care  
Water broken  
Buttock, arm, or leg presentation

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.

#### Breech Presentation:

##### Treatment – Standing Order

- a. Allow the delivery to progress spontaneously – DO NOT PULL!
- b. Support the infant's body as it delivers.
- c. If the head delivers spontaneously, deliver the infant as noted in 'Normal Delivery'.
- d. If the head does not deliver within **3** minutes, insert a gloved hand into the vagina to create an airway for the infant.
- e. DO NOT remove your hand until relieved by a Higher Medical Authority.

#### Limb Presentation:

##### Treatment – Standing Order

2. Position the mother in a supine position with head lowered and pelvis elevated.
3. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

4. IV NS TKO, if hypotensive 20 cc/kg (**peds 20 cc/kg**).

### AEMT STOP HERE

5. EKG monitor for arrhythmias.
6. Transport ASAP.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

# OBSTETRICAL EMERGENCIES

## SOP # 505 Meconium Stain

### Signs and Symptoms

Patient para (number of births and Gravida (number of pregnancies)  
Term of pregnancy in weeks, EDC  
Vaginal bleeding  
Pre-natal medications, problems, and care  
Membranes ruptured  
Amniotic fluid that is greenish or brownish-yellow  
Fecal material expelled with the amniotic fluid

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Do not stimulate respiratory effort before suctioning the oropharynx.
2. Suction the **mouth then nose** (using a meconium aspirator) while simultaneously providing Oxygen by blow-by method and while maintaining the airway appropriate to the patient's condition.
3. Obtain an APGAR score after airway treatment priorities. Score at one minute after delivery and at five minutes after delivery (Time permitting).
4. Repeat initial assessment and complete vital signs until patient care is transferred to the appropriate ED staff.
5. Pulse oximetry.
6. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

7. IV NS TKO, if hypotensive 20 cc/kg (peds 20 cc/kg).

### AEMT STOP HERE

8. EKG monitor for arrhythmias.

### PARAMEDIC STOP



# OBSTETRICAL EMERGENCIES

## SOP # 506      Placenta Previa

### Signs and Symptoms

Painless bleeding which may occur as spotting or recurrent hemorrhage  
Bright red vaginal bleeding usually after 7th month  
History  
Multiparity  
Increased maternal age  
Recent sexual intercourse or vaginal exam  
Patient para (number of births) and gravida (number of pregnancies)  
Term of pregnancy in weeks  
Pre-natal medications, problems, and care  
History of bed rest  
Placenta protruding through vagina

### Note

Any painless bleeding in the last trimester should be considered Placenta Previa until proven otherwise. If there are signs of eminent delivery membranes rupture is indicated followed by delivery of the baby. The diagnosis of eminent delivery depends on the visual presence of the baby's body part through the membrane.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to the patient's condition.
2. Position of comfort.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

5. IV NS TKO, if hypotensive 20 cc/kg (peds 20 cc/kg).

### AEMT STOP HERE

6. EKG monitor for arrhythmias.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

# OBSTETRICAL EMERGENCIES

SOP # 507

## Prolapsed Umbilical Cord

### Signs and Symptoms

Cord emerges from the uterus ahead of the baby

With each uterine contraction, the cord is compressed between the presenting part and the pelvis

Pulse on exposed cord may or may not be palpable

Patient para (number of births) and gravida (number of pregnancies)

Term of pregnancy in weeks, EDC

Vaginal bleeding

Pre-natal medications, problems, and care

Membranes ruptured

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's condition.
2. Position the mother with hips elevated:
  - a. Knee to chest
  - b. Hips elevated as much as possible on pillows
3. Palpate pulses in the cord.
4. Instruct mother to pant with each contraction, which will prevent her from bearing down.
5. Check for a pulse in the cord:
  - a. If no pulse – insert a gloved hand into the vagina and gently push the infant's head off the cord, while pressure is maintained on the head cover the exposed cord with a sterile dressing moistened in saline; transport immediately and **DO NOT** remove your hand until relieved by hospital staff
  - b. If pulse present – cover exposed cord with moist dressing
6. Contact Medical Control as soon as possible if time and patient condition allows.
7. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

8. IV NS TKO, if hypotensive 20 cc/kg (peds 20 cc/kg).

### AEMT STOP HERE

9. EKG monitor for arrhythmias.

### PARAMEDIC STOP

# OBSTETRICAL EMERGENCIES

## SOP # 508 Pre-eclampsia and Eclampsia

### Signs and Symptoms

Patient para (number of births) and gravida (number of pregnancies)  
Term of pregnancy in weeks, EDC  
Vaginal bleeding  
Pre-natal medications, problems, and care  
Membranes ruptured  
Usually begins after the 20th week of pregnancy  
Most often affects women during their first pregnancy  
May have a history of chronic hypertension and/or diabetes  
May experience headaches, blurred vision, and abdominal pain  
May experience seizures which indicates a progression from pre-eclampsia to eclampsia

### Note

Record a blood pressure and the presence or absence of edema in every pregnant woman you examine regardless of chief complaint.

**This condition can occur several weeks after delivery!!**

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to patient's saturation >95%.
2. Place patient in left lateral recumbent position.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

5. IV NS TKO, if hypotensive 20 cc/kg (peds 20 cc/kg).

### AEMT STOP HERE

6. EKG Monitor for arrhythmias.
7. Administer Magnesium Sulfate 4-6 g IV slowly (over 20 minutes).
8. If seizures continue, administer additional 2g of Magnesium Sulfate, then Diazepam (Valium) 5 mg slow IV or Midazolam (Versed) 2-5 mg IVP/IM per seizure protocol if persistent generalized seizure activity.
9. Contact Medical Control.

Maternal hypertension management (Indicated for SBP>160 or DBP>110):

If available, administer:

Labetalol 20 mg IV over 2 minutes, doubling dose every 10 minutes to max of 80mg until SBP<140 or DBP<90, OR

Hydralazine 5-10 mg IV over 2 minutes, repeating every 20 minutes until SBP<140 or DBP<90, OR

Immediate release oral nifedipine, 10mg po, may repeat in 20 minutes if not below 140/90. OR

Utilize Nitrates sublingual/ repeated

### PARAMEDIC STOP

## MISCELLANEOUS

### SOP # 601 Discontinuation / Withholding of Life Support

#### Notes

- Once life support has been initiated in the field, **non-ALS** personnel **CANNOT** discontinue resuscitative measures unless directed to do so by the on-scene physician, Paramedic or presented with a valid Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST).
- Upon termination in the field any tubes, needles and IV lines will be left in place (IV lines to be tied off and cut with catheter left in place).
- Personnel shall give careful consideration when utilizing this standing order. Conditions such as overdose, electrical shock, hypothermia, and hypoglycemia may mimic some of the above signs and symptoms.
- All deaths **must** be confirmed by a Paramedic.

## EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC

#### Withholding CPR – Standing Orders

1. If there is no CPR in progress, CPR may be withheld if one or more of the conditions are met:
  - a. Obviously dead patients with dependent lividity, rigor mortis, or massive trauma (i.e., crushed chest, crushed head, etc.)
  - b. Obviously dead patients with tissue decomposition
  - c. Patients without vital signs who cannot be accessed for treatment due to entrapment for prolonged time (12 – 15 minutes or greater)
  - d. Severe blunt trauma with absence of BP, pulse, respiratory effort, neurologic response, and pupillary response
  - e. When presented a valid POST order or a copy as approved by the Tennessee Department of Health, DNR and POST orders not on the official state form can be accepted if it is documented in a medical record such as a nursing chart, hospice care, or home nursing
  - f. Instructed to do so by the Paramedic on the scene

#### Discontinuing Life Support

Once life support has been initiated in the field, to discontinue life support, the following conditions must be met:

1. Asystole present on the EKG monitor in two leads **and**;
2. There is absence of pulse, respirations, and neurological reflexes, **and**
3. At least one of the following conditions are met:
  - a. Appropriate airway management has been confirmed, the patient has been well ventilated with 100% oxygen and multiple (at least three administrations of medications have not been effective in generating an EKG complex)
  - b. Transcutaneous pacing, if available, has not been effective in generating a pulse
  - c. Obvious signs of death in the absence of hypothermia, cold water drowning, lightning strikes, or induced coma
  - d. The Paramedic can document a lack of CPR for at least ten minutes
  - e. Prolonged resuscitation in the field (25 minutes of resuscitation with agonal or asystolic rhythm) without hope for survival, and ETCO<sub>2</sub> less than 10 mmHg
  - f. Massive trauma such as complete evacuation of the cranial vault, etc.
  - g. Severe blunt trauma with absence of vital signs and pupillary response
  - h. End-tidal CO<sub>2</sub> less than 10 mmHg while performing effective CPR

## MISCELLANEOUS

### SOP # 602

### Field Determination of Death

#### Signs and Symptoms

Pulseless, non-breathing with definitive signs of death

Rigor Mortis

Dependent lividity

Decomposition of body tissue

Devastating, un-survivable injury

Decapitation

Incineration

Separation of vital internal organ from the body or total destruction of organs

Gunshot wound to the head that crosses the midline (entrance and exit)

**EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC**

If the patient is pulseless, non-breathing without definitive signs of death:

Must receive resuscitation unless a properly executed DNR or POST form is present.

#### Treatment – Standing Order

##### **DNR Orders:**

- If family member or caregiver can produce a properly executed DNR or POST order, resuscitation can be withheld
- Treat patients with known DNR orders appropriately; do not initiate CPR if they develop cardiovascular or respiratory arrest
- When there is any doubt about what to do, begin resuscitative efforts with all skill and equipment available and consider contacting an EMS Supervisory Personnel or Medical Control.

##### **Resuscitation has been initiated prior to EMS arrival:**

Anytime CPR or an attempt at resuscitation has been initiated by anyone at the scene, resuscitative efforts will be continued until:

- Medical Control directs the team to stop (either online or on scene)
- It is determined the patient meets the criteria for “definitive signs” of death
- A properly executed DNR or POST form is presented

## MISCELLANEOUS

SOP # 603

Mandatory EKG

### EMT AEMT PARAMEDIC

EKGs will be mandatory under the following conditions:

1. Patients complaining of or presenting with:
  - Chest pain regardless of source (trauma or illness)
  - Abdominal pain
    - All males > 40 years old
    - All females > 50 years old
  - Nausea and vomiting
    - All males > 40 years old
    - All females > 50 years old
  - Shortness of breath – all new onset
  - All diabetics and smokers whose symptoms may be cardiac related
  - Known heart disease (including CHF, post-surgery, previous MI)
  - Weakness – new onset
  - Syncope
  - Unresponsive
  - Patients with sympathomimetically active drug use (cocaine, crack, methamphetamine, etc.)
2. Cardiac arrest with or without CPR in progress.
3. That are non-viable (other than those exhibiting body decomposition, dependent lividity, or rigor mortis, decapitation).

EKGs will have the following information printed on the recording:

- Name or report number
- Age (if possible)
- Unit number and date

EKGs will be appended appropriately to the patient care report.

**Note:** 12 Lead EKGs may be applied and transmitted by any EMT or higher on scene; however, treatment decisions may only be made by a Paramedic.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### SOP # 604

### Patient Refusal or Declination of Care – Patient Non-Transport Situations

#### Signs and Symptoms

Determine presence of injury or illness and desire for transport

Identify the person who made the EMS call

Reason for refusal

**EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC**

#### Standing Orders:

1. Utilize the mini-mental status exam on any patient where you have concerns regarding the decision-making capacity of the patient.
2. Confirm and document the absence of intoxicating substance or injury.
3. Confirm patient is of legal age of majority, or emancipated minor.
4. Document mechanism of injury or circumstances of illness.
5. Document pertinent past history.
6. Perform at least two sets of vital signs (one on arrival and one before leaving) and problem directed exam, document if unable to obtain vital signs.

#### **The following may not refuse transport:**

- Patients with impaired judgment and decreased mental status (Utilize the mini-mental status exam to determine, document). Engage law enforcement for protective custody options.
- Minors (less than 18 years of age unless they are emancipated by the courts).
- All minors must have refusal from parent or guardian, not older sibling or other relative.
- Do not release minor on the scene without parent/guardian consent.

#### **Reasons for Non-Transport:**

- Minor illness or injury and acceptable alternative transportation available.

#### **No patient found on scene:**

- Patient Care Report is to be completed in detail as to why no patient was found (i.e., no person found on scene, person located with no complaint of injury/illness and denies needing medical assistance).

## REFERENCE

### Mini-Mental Status Exam

#### EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC

1. Orientation to time – time of day, day, week, month, year	5 points max
2. Orientation to place – building, street, city, state, country	5 points max
3. Say “boy, dog, ball” and have them repeat it	3 points max
4. Ask the patient to spell would backward, or do serial 3s backward from 20	5 points max
5. Without repeating the words, ask them to repeat the previous 3 words (boy, dog, ball)	3 points max
6. Ask the patient to do the following after you have completed the request: “stick out your tongue and touch your right hand to your left ear.”	3 points max
7. Ask the patient to identify your pen and watch	2 points max
8. Ask the patient to read the following sentence and then does as it says “shut your eyes”	1 point
9. Ask the patient to write a sentence	1 point
10. Ask the patient to draw two overlapping pentagons (show them an example)	1 point

A score of 21 or better is considered mentally capable for a patient to make reasonable decisions.



## MISCELLANEOUS

### SOP # 605 Physician On-Scene

#### EMT AEMT PARAMEDIC

If private physician intervenes by phone, the Firefighter/EMR, EMT, AEMT, or Paramedic shall:

- Request the physician contact Medical Control and relay any orders through them
- **NO ORDERS** will be taken over the phone from the private physician

#### Standing Orders:

1. No one will be recognized as a physician without proof of license. This must be in the form of a wallet card or visual personal recognition. NO ORDERS will be accepted until proof of license is verified.
2. Consider need for Law Enforcement if any difficulty with person occurs.
3. The EMT shall:
  - a. Inform the physician that they must contact Medical/Trauma Control.
  - b. Inform Medical/Trauma Control of the presence of a physician on scene.
4. Medical/Trauma Control may:
  - a. Speak to the physician to determine qualifications.
  - b. Request the EMT/Paramedic to verify licensure of the physician.
  - c. Relinquish total responsibility for the patient to the on-scene physician.
5. Physician (intervening) may:
  - a. Assist the EMT (or above) and allow you to operate under standing orders and protocols, offer assistance by allowing the EMS provider to remain under Medical/Trauma Control.  
OR
  - b. Request to talk to Medical/Trauma control to offer advice and assistance.  
OR  
Take total responsibility for the care given by the EMS Provider if ok with Medical/Trauma Control, then physically accompany the patient to the Emergency Department where responsibility is assumed by the receiving physician; and shall:
    - i. Sign for all instructions given to the EMS Provider.
    - ii. Contact should be made with Medical/Trauma Control if this happens.
6. If private physician intervenes by phone or in person, the EMS Provider shall:
  - a. Inform the physician that the EMS Provider must contact Medical/Trauma control.
  - b. Request the physician contact Medical Control and relay any orders through them
  - c. NO ORDERS should be taken over the phone from the private physician, at no time should any order be taken over the telephone except from Medical/Trauma control.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### SOP # 606

### Bystanders on the Scene

**EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC**

#### Standing Order:

Bystander participation – you may use them at your discretion. However, YOU will be responsible for their actions and treatment. This includes other medical professionals. In any situation you need assistance you may utilize their expertise and skills.

**Note:** Request proof of their licensure by visualization of their current license, if possible. Remember YOU are responsible for the patient. If any bystander is trying to take over direction of patient care, other than a physician (Follow Physician on Scene SOP # 606 in this situation), you may have law enforcement remove the person for “Obstruction of Emergency Services”.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### SOP # 607

### Procedure for Deviation from Standing Orders

**EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC**

NEVER simply disregard a standing order or protocol.

These standing orders have been established so that EMS personnel may provide the best care possible for our patients. Most of our patients will be covered by a single standing order. However, some patients may have illnesses and/or injury that are covered by more than one standing order or, in rare cases, following a standing order may not be in the best interest of the patient. In these cases, you must be aware that combining standing orders may not be in the best interest of the patient and that combining standing orders may lead to medication errors, overdose, and medication incompatibility. You are expected to use your judgment and to always make decisions that are in the best interest of the patient.

If you use more than one standing order when treating your patient, you must document your reasoning in the NARRATIVE SECTION of the Patient Care Report.

If in your judgment, following a standing order is not in the best interest of the patient, CONTACT MEDICAL CONTROL regarding your treatment. Document the rationale for deviation, and the name of the physician giving the order.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### SOP # 608

### Spinal Protection

## EMT AEMT PARAMEDIC

The intent of this guideline is to decrease injury and discomfort to patients caused by unnecessary spinal immobilization and use of long spine boards.

- Studies show that immobilizing trauma victims may cause more harm than good to the patient.
- Penetrating trauma victims benefit the most from rapid assessment and transport to a trauma center without **spinal motion restriction (SMR)**.
- There is evidence that backboards result in harm by causing pain, changing the normal anatomic lordosis of the spine, inducing patient agitation, causing pressure ulcers, and compromising respiratory function.
- **Use of the backboard is recommended in the event of CPR.**

### Spinal Injury Assessment

#### Introduction:

- Perform spinal motion restriction (**SMR**) for a patient who is suspected of having a traumatic unstable spinal column injury. Have a high index of suspicion for pediatrics and patients with degenerative skeletal/connective tissue disorders (i.e., osteoporosis, elderly, previous spinal fractures, etc.).
- Penetrating trauma such as a gunshot wound or stab wound should **NOT** be immobilized on a long board unless there are signs of spinal injury. Emphasis should be on airway and breathing management, treatment of shock, and rapid transport to a Level 1 trauma center.
- Determination that immobilization devices should be used or removed should be made by the highest-level provider on scene.
- If the immobilization process is initiated prior to the arrival and assessment by the highest level of provider, STOP and perform spine injury assessment to determine the best course of action.

### Spinal Motion Restriction

The term spinal motion restriction (**SMR**) better describes the procedure used to care for patients with possible unstable spinal injuries. SMR includes:

- Reduction of gross movement by patient
- Prevention of duplicating the damaging mechanism to spine
- Regular reassessment of motor/sensory function

#### Procedure:

1. Assess the scene to determine the risk of injury. Mechanism alone should not determine if a patient requires cervical spinal immobilization. However, mechanisms that have been associated with higher risk of injury are the following:
  - a. Motor vehicle collisions, including automobiles, all-terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles
  - b. Axial loading injuries to the spine
  - c. Associated, substantial torso injuries
  - d. Falls >10 feet
2. Assess the patient in the position he/she was found, initial assessment should focus on determining whether or not a cervical collar needs to be applied.
3. Assess for mental status neurological deficits, spinal pain or tenderness, any evidence of intoxication, or other severe injuries.

### Treatment and Interventions

1. Immobilize patient with cervical collar if there is **any** of the following:
  - a. Patient complains of midline neck or spine pain

- b. Any midline neck or spinal tenderness with palpation
  - c. Any abnormal mental status (including extreme agitation) or neurologic deficit
  - d. Any evidence of alcohol or drug intoxication (which limits your ability to accurately assess the patient)
  - e. Another severe or painful distracting injury is present
  - f. Torticollis in children
  - g. A communication barrier that prevents accurate assessment
  - h. If none of the above apply, patients should not have a cervical collar placed
2. Patients with penetrating injury to the neck should not receive spinal immobilization, regardless of whether they are exhibiting neurologic symptoms or not. Doing so can lead to delayed identification of injury or airway compromise and has been associated with increased mortality.
  3. If extrication may be required:
    - a. From a vehicle: After placing a cervical collar, if indicated, children in a booster seat and adults should be allowed to self-extricate, for infants and toddlers already strapped in a car seat with a built-in harness, extricate the child while strapped in his/her car seat
    - b. Other situations requiring extrication: A padded long board may be used for extrication, using the lift and slide (rather than a logroll) technique
    - c. Patients should not routinely be transported on long boards unless the clinical situation warrants long board use. An example of this may be facilitation of immobilization of multiple extremity injuries or an unstable patient where removal of a board will delay transport and/or other treatment priorities. In these rare situations, long boards should be padded or have a vacuum mattress applied to minimize secondary injury to the patient. Spine injuries in the adult population may be present at more than one level simultaneously
    - d. SMR, when indicated, should apply to the entire spine, and an appropriately sized cervical collar is a critical component of SMR and should be used to limit movement of the cervical spine whenever SMR is employed.
    - e. The remainder of the spine can be stabilized using an ambulance cot, a vacuum mattress, a long back board or a similar device

If a patient experiences negative effects of SMR methods used, alternative methods should be utilized.

1. If hard backboard is utilized for extrication, the patient should be removed from the backboard when possible and placed on the ambulance stretcher.
2. Patient positions and/or methods/tools to achieve SMR that are allowable (less invasive to more invasive):
  - a. Patient position: supine, lateral, semi fowlers, fowlers.
  - b. Tools/methods to achieve position of comfort include, but not limited to pillows, children's car seat, scoop, vacuum mattress.
3. Provide manual stabilization restricting gross motion. Alert and cooperative patients may be allowed to self-limit motion if appropriate with or without cervical collar.
4. Apply cervical collar; patients who are unable to tolerate cervical collar may benefit from soft collars, pillows, or other padding.
5. Considerations for patient movement when decision to SMR has been made:
  - a. Keeping with the goal of restricting gross movement of spine and preventing increased pain and discomfort, self-extrication of the patient is allowable.
  - b. If needed, extricate the patient limiting flexion, extension, rotation and distraction of spine.
  - c. Pull sheets, other flexible devices, scoops, and scoop like devices can be employed, if necessary, hard backboards should only have limited utilization.
6. **Standing take downs of ambulatory patients are unnecessary.** Ambulatory patients who meet the above criteria for cervical immobilization should have c-collar applied and are allowed to sit onto the stretcher.
7. Apply adequate padding to prevent tissue ischemia and increase comfort. **Patients should be allowed to be in a position of comfort if they do not meet the requirements for immobilization.**
8. Place patient in position best suited to protect airway.

9. Regularly reassess motor/sensory function (include finger abduction, wrist/finger extension, plantar/dorsal flexion, and sharp/dull exam if possible).
10. Use SpO<sub>2</sub> and EtCO<sub>2</sub> to monitor respiratory function.
11. Delivery to hospital: movement of patient to hospital stretchers should be done while limiting motion of the spine.

#### Special Considerations:

- **Patients with acute or chronic difficulty breathing:** SMR has been found to limit respiratory function an average of 17% with the greatest effect experienced by geriatric and pediatric subjects restricted to a hard backboard. **USE SMR WITH CAUTION with patients presenting with dyspnea and position appropriately.**
- **Pediatric patients, < 9 years of age:**
  - Consider use of padded pediatric motion restricting board
  - Avoid methods that provoke increased spinal movement
  - If choosing to apply SMR to patient in car seat, ensure that proper assessment of patient posterior is performed
- **Combative patients:** Avoid methods that provoke increased spinal movement and/or combativeness.

#### Pediatric Patients and Car Seats

- **Infants restrained in a rear-facing car seat and children restrained in a car seat (with a high back – convertible or booster)** may receive SMR and be extricated in the car seat, the child may remain in the seat if the SMR is secure and his/her condition allows (no signs of respiratory distress or shock).
- **Children restrained in booster seat (without a back)** need to be extricated and receive standard SMR procedures.

#### Helmet Removal

Safe and proper removal of the helmet should be done following the steps outlined in an approved trauma curriculum.

Indications for football helmet removal:

- When a patient is wearing a helmet and not shoulder pads
- In the presence of head and/or facial trauma, and removal of the face piece is not sufficient
- Patients requiring advanced airway management when removal of the facemask is not sufficient
- When the helmet is loose on the patient's head
- In the presence of cardiopulmonary arrest (the shoulder pads must also be removed)

When helmet and shoulder pads are both on the spine is kept in neutral alignment. If the patient is wearing only a helmet or shoulder pads, neutral alignment must be maintained. Either remove the other piece of equipment or pad under the missing piece. *All other helmets must be removed in order to maintain spinal alignment.*

## MISCELLANEOUS

SOP # 609

### Stretcher Transport

#### **EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC**

Patients with the following conditions should be transported by stretcher or stair chair. Other patients may be transported ambulatory unless their condition warrants stretcher use.

1. Pregnant greater than 20 weeks.
2. Possible cardiac chest pain.
3. Shortness of breath.
4. Asthma.
5. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).
6. Stroke.
7. Patients requiring spinal protection.
8. Penetrating trauma to the torso, neck, or head.
9. Lower extremity, pelvis trauma.
10. Low back trauma.
11. Unconscious, unresponsive patients.
12. Seizures within the past hour or actively seizing.
13. Generalized weakness.
14. Patients unable to ambulate, secondary to pain or weakness.
15. Altered level of consciousness, except psychiatric patients.
16. Behavioral Emergency patients requiring restraint.

## MISCELLANEOUS

SOP # 610

Terminally Ill Patients

**EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC**

### Standing Order:

1. Maintain a calm environment and avoid performing measures beyond basic life support.
2. Elicit as much information from persons present who are familiar with the patient's condition as possible.
3. Obtain and document the name and phone number of the patient's physician if possible.
4. Maintain BLS procedures and contact Medical Control as soon as possible. Provide full information on the patient's present condition, history, and the name and telephone number of the patient's physician.
5. Medical Control will direct management of the call.
6. Acceptable DNR/POST forms (**original or copy**):
  - a. State approved forms.
  - b. Signed order in patient's medical records: nursing home, hospice, or home care.

**Note:** If DNR/POST form is used to withhold or terminate resuscitation efforts, a copy must be attached to the PCR.

# PEDIATRIC CARDIAC EMERGENCY

## SOP # 613 Neonatal Resuscitation

### Signs and Symptoms

Newborn with respiratory or circulatory distress.

### Notes

Pulse oximetry readings may be inaccurate within the first 10 minutes of life. Readings below 65% at birth are abnormal, and saturation should trend toward 95% at ten minutes of life. Use other methods of oxygenation assessment.

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Dry and place in face up head down position.
2. Keep infant level with mother until cord is clamped.
3. Suction mouth, then nose, if obvious obstruction to spontaneous breathing or requiring positive pressure ventilation.
4. Respirations:
  - a. If spontaneous:
    - i. Wait 1 – 2 minutes, then complete clamping cord and cut between clamps
    - ii. Cover infant head
    - iii. Wrap and keep infant warm
    - iv. Provide oxygen
    - v. Transport without delay
  - b. If no respirations:

Stimulate respirations: rub back, snap bottom of feet gently, if no change or respirations become depressed (< 20 bpm)

    - i. Re-suction mouth, then nose
    - ii. Ventilate with BVM at 30 /min, oxygen as appropriate
    - iii. Wait 1 – 2 minutes, then clamp cord and cut between clamps
    - iv. Transport immediately
5. Pulse: If pulse rate is less than 60 perform CPR at a rate of 120 compressions /min, continue chest compressions and transport.
6. Pulse oximetry.
7. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

### EMT STOP HERE

8. INT or IV NS, if hypotensive bolus 20 cc/kg.
9. If pulse rate is > 60 keep warm, ventilate with BVM if necessary, transport.

### AEMT STOP HERE

10. The dose of EPINEPHrine 1:10,000 (now 1 mg/mL) is **0.01 mg/kg IV** given q 3-5 minutes and repeat until heart rate is above 60/minute. Refer to the length-based tape to confirm dosage.

### PARAMEDIC STOP



## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EMERGENCIES

### SOP # 701      Agitated or Combative Patient

#### Signs and Symptoms:

An individual who displays excessive verbal or motor activity such as physical or verbal abuse, threatening gestures or language, physical destructiveness, and/or excessive verbalizations of distress.

#### Notes:

- Providers should always be considerate of their own safety. Never underestimate the potential for violence or turn your back on a potentially violent patient.
- Enough providers should be on the scene to adequately handle the situation. Secure the scene and use universal precautions.
- Utilize additional personnel and Police.
- Use least restrictive method of restraint.

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Assess ABCs.
2. Obtain vital signs, pulse oximetry and temperature if possible.
3. Establish IV access with 0.9% NS.
4. Monitor, 12 Lead EKG and transmission if applicable.

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**STOP HERE**

5. If mental health crisis, consider contacting Mental Health Response.
6. Consider sedation of the patient as necessary by administering Versed via MAD 2-5 mg at a time up to 10 mg total or 0.1 mg/kg to a maximum of 10 mg.
7. **Utilize Patient Restraint Medication Flow Chart as needed.**
8. If patient has been TASERED, had extensive muscle activity, or has elevated skin temperature, initiate 500 ml fluid bolus of cool 0.9% normal saline over 20 minutes with 25 mEq Sodium Bicarbonate in IV bag.
9. Use restraints if the patient is perceived to be a threat to themselves or others.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

# **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EMERGENCIES**

## **SOP #702**

### **Purpose:**

To establish criteria for EMS assessment, triage and treatment of patients with potential behavioral/mental health emergencies and direct transport to Behavioral Health.

### **Definition:**

Behavioral health encompasses behavioral factors in chronic illness care, care of physical symptoms associated with stress rather than diseases, and health behaviors, as well as mental health and substance abuse conditions and diagnoses.

### **Appropriate patients for protocol:**

Voluntary patient or patient on police or mental health hold.

Primary 911 call or police request.

Age between 18-70 years.

Mental health complaint (depression, psychosis, suicide or homicidal ideation), substance abuse or behavioral disorder with no acute medical or traumatic condition requiring treatment.

No evidence of trauma other than minor abrasions.

Able to perform activities of daily living (ambulate, bathe, toileting, eat and drink) independently.

If BG is obtained, between 60 and 300 mg/dl.

### **Exclusion:**

Possible drug overdose or acute intoxication significantly impairing ability to ambulate or perform activities of daily living.

Acute medical or traumatic condition including altered level of consciousness, chest or abdominal pain, significant bleeding, respiratory distress, or other acute illness or injury.

Patients with abnormal physical findings or vital signs out of range:

HR 60-130.

O<sub>2</sub> sat > 90%.

Systolic BP 90-200 mmHg.

Diastolic BP <110 mmHg.

Temperature between 96.0 F and 100.4 F (38 C) if taken.

Patients who require chemical restraint

Signs/symptoms of acute drug/alcohol withdrawal (tachycardia, hypertension, tremor, visual hallucinations).

Central or peripheral IV lines.

Gastric or nasogastric tube feedings.

Pregnancy greater than 20 weeks.

Patients that require oxygen therapy.

Patients requiring dialysis therapy.

Any patient who demonstrates restlessness, agitation, confusion, or potentially violent behavior regardless of underlying diagnosis. Clinicians will assess the patient and take appropriate measures to sedate and restrain the patient prior to and during transport to ensure a safe and secure environment.

## SOP # 702      BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EMERGENCIES

### TREATMENT PATHWAY

Assess mental, emotional, and physical status thoroughly. Anticipate changes in attitude and behavior of patient.

If Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) is on scene, EMS assessment and intervention should not be delayed, however, police or the CIT may need to diffuse the situation in order to allow for EMS to safely assess the patient. EMS crews should get an initial report from the officer before approaching the patient. If EMS is first on scene, give an initial report to officer.

Approach the patient in a calm, slow, reassuring and honest manner. Multiple people attempting to intervene may increase the patient's confusion and agitation.

Protect the patient, bystanders and rescuers from injury. Consider restraint and follow **Patient Restraint** protocol, if indicated.

Obtain history, physical and mental status examination. Changes in behavior may have a physiologic or pharmacologic explanation. Attend to any medical conditions per EMS protocol and then determine if patient is eligible for transport to Crisis Center.

All patients will be assessed and evaluated by EMS regardless of transport status. Ensure that patient is not carrying weapons or other items which may be used as such (e.g., ballpoint pens).

If potential for agitation, make attempt to secure IV access and EKG Monitor.

## AEMT STOP HERE

Medicate confused/combatative patients as needed per Agitated Patient Protocol.

## PARAMEDIC STOP

### Notes:

- Remember that agitation may signal a physiologic deterioration of the patient and accompany hypoxia, hypoglycemia, cerebral edema, etc.
- If behavior compatible with safe transport cannot be achieved or predictably maintained, other transport modes MUST be considered.

## BEHAVIORIAL HEALTH EMERGENCIES

### SOP # 703      Delirium with HyperAgitation

#### Signs and Symptoms

**Delirium with HyperAgitation:** "a state of extreme mental and physiological excitement," characterized by exceptional agitation and hyperactivity, overheating, excessive tearing of the eyes, hostility, superhuman strength, aggression, acute paranoia, and "endurance without apparent fatigue." Individuals displaying this behavior may have been TASERED or restrained by law enforcement prior to EMS arrival

#### Notes

Using the acronym PRIORITY, EMS should look for the following:

- P – Psychological issues
- R – Recent drug/alcohol use
- I – Incoherent thought processes
- O – Off (clothes) and sweating
- R – Resistant to presence/dialog
- I – Inanimate objects/shiny/glass – violent toward
- T – Tough, unstoppable, superhuman strength
- Y – Yelling

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Assess ABCs.
2. Obtain vital signs, EKG, pulse oximetry and temperature if possible.
3. Establish IV access with 0.9% NS.

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**STOP HERE**

4. Sedate the patient as necessary by administering Versed via MAD 2-5 mg at a time up to 10mg total or 0.1 mg/kg to a maximum of 10 mg.

**Utilize Patient Restraint Medication Flow Chart as needed.**

5. If patient has been TASERED, had extensive muscle activity, or has elevated skin temperature initiate 500 ml fluid bolus of cold 0.9% normal saline over 20 minutes with 25 mEq Sodium Bicarbonate in IV bag.
6. Use restraints if the patient is perceived to be a threat to themselves or others

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

# BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EMERGENCIES

## SOP # 704      Physical Restraint

### EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC

The following steps should be taken and documented in determining the need for physical restraints:

1. **Assessment of mental status** - Observe for uncontrolled agitation, combativeness, threats of violence to self or others, disorientation, altered mental status impeding medically necessary interventions, or pulling at necessary medical interventions (e.g., oxygen, IV lines, endotracheal tubes).
2. **Alternatives to physical restraint**- Reassurance, support of concerned parties (family, friends, coworkers, etc.), reorientation, diversionary activity, explanation of illness, injury, and medically necessary interventions.
3. **Justification for physical restraint**- Failure of alternatives to physical restraint, reduce likelihood of patient harm to self, reduce likelihood of patient harm to others, enable medically necessary interventions per EMS protocols.
4. **Inform patient and concerned parties of physical restraint use.**

#### Apply physical restraints

Restraints are to be soft and are not to impede airway patency, respiratory mechanics, or circulation. Patients will not be restrained prone unless an impaled object or airway patency necessitates such positioning. Restraints will be applied in an effective yet compassionate manner. Every effort should be made to avoid injury to the patient during application of physical restraints.

Humane restraints that reduce potential for patient injury from the restraints are those made from roll gauze, soft leather, and those designed as single-patient use, disposable foam with cloth ties. Restraints are to be non-locking unless applied by law enforcement officers in appropriate circumstances and able to be released rapidly if patient condition mandates.

During treatment and transport of a patient in law enforcement-instituted restraints (including handcuffs), EMS professionals should monitor for and advocate for change in restraints that compromise airway patency, respiratory mechanics, or circulation. Patients will not be transported with wrists cuffed to ankles either directly or indirectly (also referred to as "hog-tying"). These positions have been shown to impair respiratory mechanics and pose significant obstacles to definitive airway management if required enroute. During transport of patients in law enforcement-instituted locking restraints, a law enforcement officer should either accompany the patient in the ambulance or provide the treating EMS professionals means to unlock the restraints. This policy allows rapid restraint release should the patient deteriorate to a condition requiring restraint release to properly treat.

Patients restrained using this protocol should generally be restrained to a backboard. This facilitates patient transfer in the emergency department and in the case of airway secretions or vomiting, enables rapid positioning of the patient to reduce aspiration. Patients will not be transported “sandwiched” between two backboards; this positioning impedes patient care and increases risk of aspiration.

Once physical restraints are applied, they will be left in place until the patient is transferred to emergency department personnel. This policy prevents recurrent harm to self, harm to others, and disruption of intact medical devices and treatment. Despite assurance from the patient that they will comply with treatment, restraints are to be left in place unless a direct order from OLMC is given to release the physical restraints. Such an order must be clearly documented on the patient care form.

Apply a surgical mask, oxygen mask at 10 LPM to patients who are spitting at providers after mechanical or pharmacologic interventions have been performed.

#### Handcuffs:

Law Enforcement may handcuff the patient at their own discretion. If handcuffs cannot be removed, a law enforcement officer MUST accompany ambulance staff during transport. If a law enforcement officer cannot be present during transport, a handcuff key must be immediately accessible to facilitate removal of handcuffs during an emergency. If a law enforcement officer cannot be present during transport, they must follow the ambulance at a close distance and be available immediately via radio communication.

## Patient Restraint Medication Flow Chart

### PARAMEDIC ONLY

#### If Immediate Threat to Safety

Midazolam 2.5-5 mg IV/IO or 5-10 mg IM/IN (Ativan and Diazepam are alternatives)

AND/OR

Haldol 5-10 mg IV/IO (Droperidol and Ketamine alternatives)

#### NO immediate Threat to Safety

##### If Alcohol/Drugs:

Midazolam 2.5-5 mg IV/IO or 5-10 mg IM/IN (Ativan and Diazepam are alternatives)

AND/OR

Haldol 5-10 mg IV/IO (Droperidol and Ketamine are alternatives)

Droperidol 5mg IM or slow IV push, For >65 years old, give 2.5mg

Ketamine 0.2-0.75mg/kg IV or 2-4 mg/kg IM

Repeat in 10 minutes if response inadequate.

##### If Psychiatric:

Haldol 5-10 mg IV/IO (Droperidol and Ketamine are alternatives)

AND/OR

Midazolam 2.5-5 mg IV/IO or 5-10 mg IM/IN (Ativan and Diazepam are alternatives)

Repeat in 10 minutes if response inadequate.

Interfacility Transfers: Request Sedation orders from Transferring Physician if IFT or Medical Control prior to transport. If unavailable, follow protocol above.

## Pharmacological Restraint Protocol

Evaluate the personnel needed to safely restrain the patient.

If patient is agitated, attempt to determine cause of agitation (i.e., drug or alcohol intoxication or withdrawal, medical or psychiatric problem) and consider oral benzodiazepine or oral antipsychotic especially if interfacility transfer.

If patient is an immediate threat to responders, bystanders or patient: Administer midazolam (2.5-5 mg IV, IO or 5-10 mg IM/IN) PLUS Droperidol or haloperidol. Titrate midazolam 2.5-5 mg IV, IO or 5 mg IM/IN as needed every 5-10 minutes to control agitation.

**Cause unknown or likely psychiatric:** Administer Droperidol (5mg IM or Slow IV) or haloperidol (5-10 mg IV, IO, IM to a MAX dose of 10 mg). If initial dose of droperidol/haloperidol has no effect after 10 minutes, repeat droperidol/haloperidol (MAX dose of haloperidol is 10 mg IV, IO, IM). If 10 minutes after administration patient remains agitated, administer midazolam (2.5 mg IV/IO or 5mg IM/IN). May repeat once.

**Cause likely drug ingestion (especially stimulants), withdrawal or postictal state:** Administer midazolam (2.5-5 mg IV/IO or 5-10 mg IM/IN). If initial 2.5 mg IV or 5 mg IM/IN dose has no effect after 10 minutes, give an additional dose. (MAX dose is 5 mg IV/IO or 10 mg IM/IN). Consider and treat hypoxia, head injury or hypoglycemia.

If 10 minutes after administration of the second dose, the patient remains combative, administer either droperidol or haloperidol as described above. Assess vital signs within the first 5 minutes, if possible and thereafter as appropriate (at least every 10 minutes and before additional medication).

After administration of droperidol/haloperidol, consider diphenhydramine 25 mg IV or IM if the patient shows signs of acute dystonic reaction. May repeat once.

Monitor EKG, obtain 12-lead and start IV, if possible.

**PARAMEDIC STOP**



# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

## SOP # 801 Ammonia

Ammonia is a colorless, water-soluble alkaline gas that is most commonly used as a cleaning agent, fertilizer, and industrial refrigerant. The life threat of ammonia exposure is from pulmonary edema and hypotension.

### PARAMEDIC ONLY

#### DECON:

Airway protection via SCBA and chemical protective clothing may be required of the rescuer and should be performed only by properly trained personnel. The patient should be removed from the contaminated area. Remove and bag their clothing and any jewelry. Brush away any dry particles and blot excess liquids. Wash patient with a mild soap and warm water.

#### Assessment:

The following are not all inclusive and may not be present in all patients but include the most common signs and symptoms.

#### Cardiovascular:

1. Ventricular Arrhythmias
2. Hypotension

#### Respiratory:

1. Laryngeal Edema
2. Pulmonary Edema
3. Bronchospasm
4. Stridor
5. Cough
6. Dyspnea

#### CNS:

1. Lethargy
2. Coma

#### Gastrointestinal:

1. GI Bleed

#### Eye:

1. Chemical Conjunctivitis

#### Skin:

1. Burns
2. Frostbite

#### Treatment-Standing Order:

1. 100% oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for pt. condition
2. Pulse Oximetry
3. Cardiac Monitor
4. IV NS
5. Treat underlying signs and symptoms per ALS SOP's
6. Tetracaine, 2 drops each affected eye, for eye exposure
7. Flush eyes for 15 min with sterile water or saline

# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

## SOP # 802 Chlorine

The primary health concern with exposure to Chlorine is irritation of the respiratory system. Although it is unlikely, severe respiratory distress and pulmonary edema may occur with prolonged exposure or exposure to high quantities of chlorine. Also, Chlorine gas is highly corrosive when it contacts moist tissues such as the eyes, nose mouth, and respiratory system.

### PARAMEDIC ONLY

#### DECON:

There is a risk of secondary exposure to EMS personnel from off-gassing of the affected person, especially if their clothing has been soaked with a liquid chlorine product. All persons exposed to Chlorine gas should have their clothing and jewelry removed and bagged. They should then be washed with a mild soap and water. If the exposure has occurred inside of a structure or an area with limited ventilation, the appropriate personnel should remove the victim from the area while wearing full PPE and SCBA.

Assessment: Signs and symptoms will vary according to the amount of Chlorine, route, and length of exposure:

#### Respiratory:

1. Nasal and throat irritation
2. Respiratory distress
3. Upper airway obstruction notes by cyanosis, wheezing, rales
4. Pulmonary edema

#### Cardiovascular:

1. Tachycardia
2. Hypertension followed by hypotension

#### Eyes:

1. Burning pain
2. Ocular spasms
3. Redness and Tearing
4. Corneal burns

#### Skin:

1. Burning pain
2. Inflammation
3. Blisters
4. Frostbite (if liquefied Chlorine below -30 degrees F)

#### Treatment – Standing Order

1. 100% oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for pt. condition.
2. Administer sterile water via nebulizer.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. Consider the need for BVM, intubation or CPAP.
5. Treat bronchospasms with Albuterol, 2.5mg in 3cc NS.
6. Cardiac Monitor.
7. Large bore IV of NS.

8. Tetracaine ophthalmic solution, 2 drops in each affected eye.
9. Treat respiratory, cardiovascular and other signs and symptoms as appropriate per SOP's.

#### **Treatment-Protocol**

1. If burning persists, titrate half strength adult sodium bicarbonate (3.75% or 4.2%) and administer 5 cc via the nebulizer. This is made by diluting 2.5-3 cc of adult strength sodium bicarbonate in 2.5 cc sterile water.
2. This is the only time a chemical will be neutralized in or on the body by field medical personnel.
3. 3ml Sodium Bicarb in 2ml NS nebulized for severe respiratory distress. **DO NOT MIX WITH BRONCHODILATOR.**

# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

## SOP # 803 Cyanide

Cyanide may be found as a pale blue liquid, white solid crystal or colorless gas. It is used in many industrial settings such as paper manufacturing, blueprinting, engraving and metal treatment. Cyanide is also used as a fumigant and is a byproduct of combustion of synthetic materials. This is one of the fastest acting poisons and is taken into the body through all routes. It has a bitter almond smell to those who can smell it, but the olfactory response fades quickly. Cyanide prevents the uptake of oxygen into the blood stream and further halts cellular respiration, thus causing chemical asphyxiation. Pulse-oximetry will indicate FALSELY high, because the cyanide binding to the hemoglobin.

### PARAMEDIC ONLY

#### DECON:

Airway protection via SCBA and chemical protective clothing may be required of the rescuer and should be performed only by properly trained personnel. The patient should be removed from the contaminated area. Remove and bag their clothing and any jewelry. Brush away any dry particles and blot excess liquids. Wash patient with a mild soap and warm water.

#### Assessment:

The following are not all inclusive and may not be present in all patients but include the most common signs and symptoms.

#### Cardiovascular:

1. Bradycardia
2. Hypertension which may be followed by hypotension
3. Palpitations
4. Ventricular arrhythmias
5. Cardiac arrest

#### Respiratory:

1. Respiratory rate and depth increase initially
2. Respirations may become slow and labored as poisoning progresses
3. Pulmonary edema
4. Respiratory arrest

#### CNS:

1. Weakness
2. Headache
3. Confusion
4. Lethargy
5. Seizure
6. Coma

#### Gastrointestinal:

1. Nausea and vomiting
2. Excessive salivation

#### Eye:

1. Redness
2. Edema
3. Dilated pupils

Skin:

1. Inflammation
2. Ulcers
3. Cyanosis may or may not be present

**For exposure by means other than smoke inhalation:**

**Treatment-Standing Order:**

1. 100% Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for pt. condition.
2. Cardiac Monitor.
3. IV N.S.
4. Administer Cyanokit, 5g, IV over 15 min.

**For exposure by smoke inhalation:**

**Treatment-Standing Order:**

Mild Exposure (CAO, no serious signs or symptoms):

1. 100% Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for pt. condition.
2. IV N.S.
3. Cardiac Monitor.

Moderate to Severe exposure (ALOC, Severe Resp. or cardiac symptoms, coma):

1. 100% Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for pt. condition.
  2. IV N.S.
  3. Cardiac Monitor.
  4. The starting dose of Cyanokit for adults is 5 g, (two 2.5 g vials) administered by IV infusion over 15 minutes.
  5. Depending upon the severity of the poisoning and the clinical response, a second dose of 5 g may be administered by IV infusion for a total dose of 10 g.
- The rate of infusion for the second 5 g dose may range from 15 minutes (for patients in extremis) to 2 hours based on patient condition.
  - There are a number of drugs and blood products that are incompatible with Cyanokit, thus Cyanokit may require a separate intravenous line for administration.

### **Warnings and Precautions**

- Use caution in the management of patients with known anaphylactic reactions to hydroxocobalamin or cyanocobalamin. Consideration should be given to the use of alternative therapies, if available.
- Allergic reactions may include anaphylaxis, chest tightness, edema, urticaria, pruritus, dyspnea, and rash.
- Blood pressure increase: Substantial increases in blood pressure may occur following Cyanokit therapy.

### **Adverse Reactions**

- Most common adverse reactions (>5%) include transient chromaturia, erythema, rash, increased blood pressure, nausea, headache, and injection site react

# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

## SOP # 804 Heavy Metals

“Heavy Metals” is a loosely defined term used to include elements that exhibit metallic properties. Although there are many elements that can be defined as “heavy metals”, these SOPs are intended to apply specifically to arsenic, mercury, lead and copper. You should provide supportive care and contact medical control if you encounter poisoning from any other metallic compound.

### PARAMEDIC ONLY

#### DECON:

If the exposure has occurred inside of a structure or an area with limited ventilation, the appropriate personnel should remove the victim from the area while wearing full PPE and SCBA. Remove the patients’ clothing and jewelry and place them in a bag. The patient should be washed with a mild soap and warm water.

#### Assessment:

The following are not all inclusive and may not be present in all patients but include the most common signs and symptoms.

#### Cardiovascular:

1. Tachycardia
2. Weak pulse
3. Hypotension
4. Ventricular arrhythmias
5. Prolonged QT segment and T wave changes (Arsenic)

#### Respiratory:

1. Cough
2. Acute bronchitis
3. Tachypnea
4. Dyspnea
5. Apnea
6. Chest Pain
7. Pulmonary edema

#### CNS:

1. Headache
2. Fatigue
3. Vertigo
4. Syncope
5. Anxiety
6. Seizure
7. Coma

#### Gastrointestinal:

1. Abdominal pain
2. Nausea
3. Vomiting
4. Cramps
5. Bloody diarrhea

Eyes:

1. Chemical conjunctivitis
2. Ocular edema

Skin:

1. Irritated, red
2. Pale, cool, clammy (Copper)
3. Cyanotic, cold (Arsenic)

**Treatment – Standing Order:**

1. 100% oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for pt. condition.
2. Pulse oximetry.
3. Large bore IV NS.
4. Cardiac Monitor.
5. Treat shock and arrhythmias per SOP's.
6. Continuous flush of affected eyes with NS.
7. Give 4 – 8 oz. of water for ingestion.

**Treatment – Protocol:**

1. If patient is unstable, administer Dimercaprol (BAL), 3mg/kg deep IM.

# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

## SOP # 805 Hydrogen Fluoride

Hydrogen fluoride is a colorless, fuming liquid or gas with a strong, irritating odor. Hydrogen Fluoride is used as a cracking catalyst in oil refineries, and for etching glass and enamel, removing rust, and cleaning brass and crystal. The primary life threat from Hydrogen Fluoride and Hydrofluoric Acid is from severe burns and pulmonary edema.

### PARAMEDIC ONLY

#### DECON:

Airway protection via SCBA and chemical protective clothing may be required of the rescuer and should be performed only by properly trained personnel. The patient should be removed from the contaminated area. Remove and bag their clothing and any jewelry. Brush away any dry particles and blot excess liquids. Wash patient with a mild soap and warm water.

#### Assessment:

The following are not all inclusive and may not be present in all patients but include the most common signs and symptoms.

#### Cardiovascular:

1. Tachycardia
2. Weak Pulse
3. Arrhythmias
4. Hypotension

#### Respiratory:

1. Acute Bronchitis
2. Dyspnea
3. Pulmonary Edema

#### CNS:

1. Headache
2. Lethargy
3. Altered LOC

#### Gastrointestinal:

1. Nausea
2. Vomiting
3. Burns to the mouth and oropharynx

#### Eye:

1. Intense Pain
2. Chemical Conjunctivitis

#### Skin:

1. Severe Pain
2. Burns may or may not be visible
3. White areas of discoloration may be present



**Treatment-Standing Order**

1. 100% Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate to pt. condition.
2. Pulse Oximetry.
3. I.V. NS in unexposed extremity if possible.
4. Cardiac Monitor – Watch for signs of hypocalcemia (prolonged QT interval).
5. Inhalation: Administer nebulized Calcium Gluconate, 2.5ml in 10cc NS if pt. is displaying signs and symptoms of inhalation (sore throat, coughing, bronchospasm).
6. Skin Exposure: make a mixture of 2.5g Calcium Gluconate and 100ml of water-soluble lubricant (KY Jelly) and massage onto affected area.
7. Ingestion: If pt. is conscious and gag reflex is present, administer 2-4 glasses of water.
8. DO NOT induce emesis.
9. Eye Exposure: Irrigate with 1% aqueous solution of Calcium Gluconate (50ml of 10% Calcium Gluconate in 450 ml of NS).

# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

## SOP # 806      Hydrogen Sulfide

Hydrogen Sulfide is a colorless, flammable, highly toxic gas that is used in gas and crude oil operations. It is also a naturally occurring by-product of decaying organic matter (AKA sewer gas) and has the odor of rotten eggs to those who can smell it and be aware that the olfactory nerve may become fatigued and less responsive with exposure! It is heavier than air. This also is a chemical asphyxiant that interferes with cellular respiration. This is taken into the body through all routes.

### PARAMEDIC ONLY

#### DECON:

Airway protection via SCBA and chemical protective clothing may be required of the rescuer and should be performed only by properly trained personnel. The patient should be removed from the contaminated area. Remove and bag their clothing and any jewelry. Brush away any dry particles and blot excess liquids. Wash patient with a mild soap and warm water.

#### Assessment:

The following are not all inclusive and may not be present in all patients but include the most common signs and symptoms.

#### Cardiovascular:

1. Tachycardia or Bradycardia
2. Arrhythmias
3. Circulatory Collapse

#### Respiratory:

1. Cough
2. Dyspnea
3. Tachypnea
4. Acute Bronchitis
5. Pulmonary Edema

#### CNS:

1. Headache
2. Confusion
3. Dizziness
4. Altered LOC
5. Seizure
6. Coma

#### Gastrointestinal:

1. Nausea
2. Vomiting
3. Profuse Salivation

#### Eye:

1. Chemical Conjunctivitis
2. Lacrimation
3. Photophobia

**Skin:**

1. Irritation
2. Local Pain
3. Excessive Sweating
4. Cyanosis

**Treatment-Standing Order:**

1. 100% Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for pt. condition.
2. Do Not induce vomiting.
3. Pulse Oximetry.
4. Cardiac Monitor.
5. IV NS.
6. Flush eyes with copious amounts of water for eye exposure.
7. Tetracaine, 2 drops each eye after flushing for eye exposure.
8. Follow Seizure protocol if seizures are present.

**Treatment-Protocol:**

1. Administer Amyl Nitrite, 1 ampule every 5- 10 minutes.
2. Administer Sodium Nitrite, 300mg I.V. over 5 minutes (Flush I.V. line after administration).

# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

## SOP # 807 Methyl Bromide

Methyl Bromide is a colorless liquid or gas that is used as an insecticide and as a fumigant for grain elevators and greenhouses. It is also used in refrigerants and solvents. Methyl Bromide is a neurotoxin that can cause severe respiratory irritation, pulmonary edema, and respiratory failure as well as seizures, coma and death.

### PARAMEDIC ONLY

#### DECON:

Airway protection via SCBA and chemical protective clothing may be required of the rescuer and should be performed only by properly trained personnel. The patient should be removed from the contaminated area. Remove and bag their clothing and any jewelry. Brush away any dry particles and blot excess liquids. Wash patient with a mild soap and warm water.

#### Assessment:

The following are not all inclusive and may not be present in all patients but include the most common signs and symptoms.

#### Cardiovascular:

1. Arrhythmias
2. Circulatory Collapse

#### Respiratory:

1. Throat Irritation
2. Tightness of the chest
3. Dyspnea
4. Tachypnea
5. Bronchospasm
6. Pulmonary Edema

#### CNS: (Symptoms may be delayed)

1. Headache
2. Weakness
3. Confusion
4. Dizziness
5. Slurred Speech
6. Seizures
7. Coma

#### Gastrointestinal:

1. Nausea
2. Vomiting
3. Abdominal Pain

#### Eye:

1. Chemical Conjunctivitis
2. Blurred Vision

Skin:

1. Chemical Burns
2. Cyanosis
3. Pain

**Treatment- Standing Orders**

1. 100% Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for pt. condition.
2. Pulse Oximetry.
3. Cardiac Monitor.
4. I.V. NS.
5. Irrigate eyes with sterile water or NS for 5 minutes, remove contact lenses, and apply 2 drops of Tetracaine in each affected eye if exposure to eyes has occurred.

There is no antidote for Methyl Bromide poisoning. EMS personnel should provide supportive measures for underlying signs and symptoms according to ALS SOP's and contact medical control for further guidance.

# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

## SOP # 808 Nitrogen Oxides

Nitrogen Oxides are a mixture of gases that are composed of nitrogen and oxygen that are most commonly released into the air by vehicle motor exhaust, burning coal, oil, and natural gas. People are most often exposed to excessive nitrogen oxides levels by close proximity to combustion sources. These chemicals are also commonly found in fertilizers, paints, inks, and dyes and changes the hemoglobin into methemoglobin, which is non-oxygen carrying compound and leads to chemical asphyxiation.

### PARAMEDIC ONLY

#### DECON:

Airway protection via SCBA and chemical protective clothing may be required of the rescuer and should be performed only by properly trained personnel. The patient should be removed from the contaminated area. Remove and bag their clothing and any jewelry. Brush away any dry particles and blot excess liquids. Wash patient with a mild soap and warm water.

#### Assessment:

The following are not all inclusive and may not be present in all patients but include the most common signs and symptoms.

#### Cardiovascular:

1. Rapid, Weak Pulse
2. Hypotension

#### Respiratory:

1. Dyspnea
2. Bronchospasm
3. Pulmonary Edema
4. Glottic Edema

#### CNS:

1. Fatigue
2. Altered LOC

#### Gastrointestinal:

1. Nausea
2. Vomiting
3. Abdominal Pain

#### Eye:

1. Chemical Conjunctivitis

#### Skin:

1. Irritation
2. Pallor
3. Cyanosis
4. Burns if exposed to liquefied NOx

**Presentation:**

Cyanosis, unresponsive to oxygenation, headache, nausea, vomiting, tachycardia, arrhythmias, syncope, dyspnea, seizures, coma.

**Treatment-Standing Order**

1. 100% Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for pt. condition.
2. Pulse Oximetry.
3. Cardiac Monitor.
4. I.V. NS.
5. Treat underlying signs and symptoms per ALS SOP's.
6. Administer Methylene Blue, 1-2mg/kg IV over 10 min. if pt. has severe hypoxia and cyanosis that does not respond to other treatments.

# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

## SOP # 809 Organophosphates

Organophosphates are among the most poisonous compounds that are used for pest control. They may be found as liquids, dusts, wettable powders, concentrates and aerosols. These are taken into the body through all routes. Some of the highly toxic organophosphates are tetraethyl pyrophosphate, fensulfothion, mevinphos, ethyl parathion, sulfotep, cyanofenphos, and methyl parathion. Some moderately toxic organophosphates are leptophos, ethion, chlorpyrifos, diazinon, malathion, and seven.

### PARAMEDIC ONLY

#### DECON:

Airway protection via SCBA and chemical protective clothing may be required of the rescuer and should be performed only by properly trained personnel. The patient should be removed from the contaminated area. Remove and bag their clothing and any jewelry. Brush away any dry particles and blot excess liquids. Wash patient with a mild soap and warm water.

#### Assessment:

The following are not all inclusive and may not be present in all patients but include the most common signs and symptoms.

#### Cardiovascular:

1. Bradycardia (Tachycardia is possible)
2. Ventricular Arrhythmias
3. A-V Blocks
4. Hypotension

#### Respiratory:

1. Bronchoconstriction
2. Profuse Pulmonary Secretions
3. Acute Pulmonary Edema (Severe Exposure)
4. Respiratory Failure (Severe Exposure)

#### CNS:

1. Anxiety
2. Headache
3. Dizziness
4. Weakness
5. Disorientation
6. Slurred Speech
7. Seizure (Severe Exposure)
8. Coma (Severe Exposure)

#### Gastrointestinal:

1. Nausea
2. Vomiting
3. Abdominal Cramps
4. Defecation

#### Eye:

1. Lacrimation
2. Blurred Vision
3. Miosis

#### Skin:

1. Pale
2. Cyanotic
3. Diaphoresis



**Minor Exposure:** Shortness of breath, chest pain, headache, nausea, watering eyes, throat and nose, blurred vision slightly diaphoretic and slight in coordination, or no presentation.

**Moderate Exposure:** Headache, nausea, vomiting, and sludge syndrome, very diaphoretic, incoordination, blurred vision, wheezing focal motor seizures, and tachycardia.

**Severe Exposure:** Sludge syndrome, diaphoretic, pulmonary edema, bradycardia, seizures, coma, and paralysis.

### **Treatment-Standing Order**

#### Mild Exposure

1. Treat underlying signs and symptoms per ALS SOP's.

#### Moderate Exposure

1. Administer (1) Mark 1 Kit and re-evaluate after 5-10 min. Additional doses of Atropine may be needed (Monitor for arrhythmias). If no improvement, administer a second Mark 1 kit.
2. 100% Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for pt. condition.
3. Pulse oximetry.
4. Cardiac Monitor.
5. IV NS.

#### Severe Exposure

1. Administer (3) Mark 1 Kits.
2. If seizing, follow seizure protocol.
3. 100% Oxygen and airway maintenance appropriate for pt. condition.
4. Pulse Oximetry.
5. I.V. N.S.
6. Cardiac Monitor.

#### Note:

IV atropine with hypoxic patients may cause ventricular fibrillation. Atropine should be stopped when the patient "dries up" or symptoms stop. Atropine may be given as a nebulizer treatment if severe wheezing occurs.

#### **Age Related Protocol- Treatment of Severe Presentation:**

##### Atropine:

Infant IM	0.5mg
Infant IV	0.02mg/kg
Child 2-10 IM	1.0mg
Adolescent IM, IV	2.0mg
Elderly IM	1.0mg

##### 2-PAMCL:

Infant to 70kg IV	20–50 mg/kg/dose ( <b>max. dose:</b> 2000 mg) ×1
IM <40kg	15 mg/kg/dose ×1 IM. May repeat Q15 min PRN to a <b>maximum total dose</b> of 45 mg/kg.
IM ≥40 kg	600 mg ×1 IM. May repeat Q15 min PRN up to a <b>maximum total dose</b> of 1800 mg.

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

### SOP # 810 Crush Syndrome

A crush injury results from muscle cell disruption due to compression. Compartment syndrome is crush injury caused by swelling of tissue inside the confining fibrous sheath of muscle compartments. Compartment syndrome symptoms include pain, paresthesia, pallor, poikilothermy, and pulselessness. Crush syndrome is the systemic manifestations of muscle crush injury and cell death. This occurs when the crushed muscle is released from compression. Crush injury syndrome should be suspected in patients with an extensive area of involvement of large muscle groups such as legs, buttocks, entire upper extremity and pectoral areas. The syndrome can begin within an hour if severe compressive forces are involved constricting the venous return. Time of onset is directly related to muscle mass involved versus force applied.

Medical treatment should be on a case-by-case basis looking at the history, muscle groups involved, and the time and pressure involved.

## PARAMEDIC ONLY

### Procedure:

1. Scene safety.
2. Primary patient assessment. Placement of appropriate hemodynamic monitoring equipment. If oxygen saturations are greater than 93% on room air, the use of high flow oxygen is discouraged due to free oxygen radical exchange. Caution should be used when introducing high flow oxygen into a confined environment. Risk/benefit analysis should be done with the rescue officer, safety officer and the incident commander prior to use.
3. Spinal immobilization as dictated by patient access/confinement.
4. Maintain patient in a dry, normothermic state. Hypothermia may cause a rapid deterioration in physiologic status as well as rapid utilization of glucose stores resulting in hypoglycemia. Hypoglycemia should be treated with administration of dextrose by the most appropriate route (IV, PO, NGT/OGT) as dictated by patient situation.
5. Intravenous access with large bore catheters, minimum of two sites.
6. Administration of normal saline 1000-2000 ml bolus (20 ml/kg) initially and then 1000 ml/hr. The aggressive administration of volume prior to extrication is important to minimize the potential for obstruction of the renal tubules with myoglobin. Lactated Ringer's should not be used due to its potassium content.
7. Administer Sodium bicarbonate 50 mEq IVP (**pediatric 1meq/kg**). A Sodium bicarbonate infusion of 150 mEq /1000ml D5W should be initiated. The total IVF rate (NS+D5W) should total 1000ml/hr (**pediatric 5ml/kg/hr.**). The IV fluid rate should be guided by urine output. Sodium bicarbonate should not be mixed in normal saline due to sodium overload. Alkalization prevents precipitation of myoglobin in the renal tubules which causes acute tubular necrosis and acute renal failure. Myoglobin precipitates in an acidic environment. Myoglobinuria is noted when the urine is tea colored.
8. Analgesia and sedation should be administered per hemodynamic profile. This is also beneficial in facilitating ongoing rescue operations.
9. Prior to extricating the patient with moderate symptoms of crush injury from a confined space, the following medications should be administered:
  - a. 50% Dextrose 25 grams IVP (**pediatric 0.5 grams/kg**)
  - b. Regular insulin 10 units IVP (**pediatric 0.2 units/kg**)
10. Administer Albuterol up to 5 mg via nebulizer. Albuterol lowers serum potassium by driving it back into the cells.
11. Life threatening arrhythmias can occur following release of compressive force.

12. EKG changes due to hyperkalemia are listed below from elevated to high potassium levels:

- a. Tall, peaked T waves
- b. Prolonged PR interval
- c. Small P wave, ST depression
- d. A V block, Bundle Branch Block
- e. Wide QRS with no P wave \*
- f. Ventricular Fibrillation \*

\*Life threatening arrhythmias such as wide QRS and ventricular fibrillation require immediate treatment with Calcium Chloride 1 gram IVP (***pediatric dose 20mg/kg***).

13. Consider the following in situations with prolonged entrapment:

- a. The addition of Mannitol 1 gram/kg to the intravenous bag, Mannitol is thought to be useful in promoting diuresis of the circulating volume to reduce urine acidity.
- b. The use of the ISTAT blood analyzer which can be obtained from the Urban Search and Rescue Team.
- c. Field amputation kit available on site at rescue, this can be obtained with a physician from the local trauma center or the Urban Search and Rescue team.

## Additional Optional Procedures and Medications

Protocols in this section may be implemented on an individual basis after approval by EMS Medical Director and EMS leadership.

# PARAMEDIC

### Lidocaine substitution for Amiodarone

Standing order for the use of Lidocaine when Amiodarone is not available.

Lidocaine 2% will be used for treating ventricular arrhythmias.

Dosing:

#### Adult

##### Cardiac Arrest from VT/VF:

Initial dose 1 to 1.5 mg/kg IV/IO

Repeat 0.5 to 0.75 mg/kg every 15 minutes with maximum total dose of 3mg/kg.

##### Perfusing Arrhythmia:

For stable VT, wide-complex tachycardia of uncertain type and significantly symptomatic ectopy:

Initial Dose 1 to 1.5 mg/kg IV/IO

May give additional 0.5 to 0.75 mg/kg every 15 minutes with maximum total dose of 3mg/kg for persistently symptomatic arrhythmia.

#### Pediatric Dosing

Initial *peds* dose is 0.5mg/kg-1mg/kg, followed by a repeat dose in 15 minutes. Repeat dose is appropriate in perfusing arrhythmias only if the arrhythmia persists and is resulting in symptoms.

# PARAMEDIC

Standing order for the use of Valium or Ativan when Versed is not available.

Dosing:

## Adult

- Diazepam (Valium) SLOW IVP/IO 2-5 mg or Midazolam (Versed) 2-5 mg IV/IO/IM may repeat if seizure continues.
- LORazepam 1-2 mg IV, every 5 minutes, or 2-4 mg IM, every 10 minutes (maximum dose 8 mg).

## Pediatric

- Diazepam (Valium) 0.1 mg/kg or Midazolam (Versed) 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO
- Midazolam (Versed) IM 0.2 mg/kg IM (max single dose 6 mg) Repeat once if seizure activity persists after 10 minutes. Contact MEDICAL CONTROL if seizure activity persists after repeat dose.
- Midazolam (Versed) IN 0.3 mg/kg IN (max single dose 10 mg) with maximum total dose of 0.4 mg/kg.
- LORazepam (peds 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO, max single dose 4 mg, may repeat in 5 minutes if seizure activity continues; not to exceed 0.2 mg/kg total (maximum of 8 mg)
- If seizures persist for 4 minutes repeat medication once.

## Additional Medications

### Zofran ODT (Ondansetron):

**Indication:** Nausea and vomiting.

Adult Dose: 4-8 mg orally disintegrating tablet (ODT) as needed, not to exceed 24 mg in 24 hours.

**Administration:** Administer orally disintegrating tablet (ODT) by placing it on the patient's tongue, where it will dissolve without water. Ensure the patient does not swallow for 30 seconds to allow absorption.

### Ibuprofen:

**Indication:** Pain and fever.

Adult Dose: 400-800 mg orally every 6-8 hours, not to exceed 3200 mg in 24 hours.

Pediatric Dose 100 mg/5 ml ( $\geq 6$  months old): 5-10 mg/kg orally every 6-8 hours, not to exceed 40 mg/kg in 24 hours.

**Administration:** Administer orally with water. Use weight-based dosing for pediatric patients.

Weight (lb)	Age (yr)	Dose (mL)
Under 24 lbs	Under 2 years	2.5
24-35	2-3 years	5 ml
36-47	4-5 years	7.5 ml
48-59	6-8 years	10 ml
60-71	9-10 years	12.5 ml
72-95	11 years	15 ml

### Acetaminophen:

**Indication:** Pain and fever.

Adult Dose: 325-1000 mg orally every 4-6 hours, not to exceed 4000 mg in 24 hours.

Pediatric Dose ( $\geq 3$  months old): 10-15 mg/kg orally every 4-6 hours, not to exceed 75 mg/kg in 24 hours.

**Administration:** Administer orally with water. Use weight-based dosing for pediatric patients.

Weight (lb)	Age (yr)	Dose (mL)
Under 24 lbs	Under 2 years	2.5
24-35	2-3 years	5 ml
36-47	4-5 years	7.5 ml
48-59	6-8 years	10 ml
60-71	9-10 years	12.5 ml
72-95	11 years	15 ml

# PARAMEDIC

## Toradol:

**Indications:** Moderate to severe pain.

Adult Dose: 10-30 mg intramuscularly (IM) or intravenously (IV) every 6 hours, not to exceed 120 mg in 24 hours.

Pediatric Dose: **Not recommended** for use in pediatric patients.

**Administration:** Administer intramuscularly (IM) or intravenously (IV) for rapid pain relief. Use caution in patients with renal impairment or gastrointestinal bleeding.

## Notes:

Paramedics are authorized to administer the above medications only to patients meeting the specified indications and within the established dosage guidelines. Prior to medication administration, paramedics must assess the patient's medical history, allergies, current medications, and vital signs to ensure safety and appropriateness of treatment.

Documentation of medication administration, including indication, dosage, route, patient response, and any adverse reactions, must be accurately recorded in the patient care report.

## TXA

Intravenous TXA for hemorrhagic shock, including postpartum hemorrhage and trauma patients within 3 hours of bleeding onset.

Adult dose:

Two gram bolus in 100 mL of normal saline over 10 minutes (slow intravenous push). To avoid hypotension, administer at a rate not to exceed 100 mg per minute.

Pediatric Dose:

Weight-based, an initial dose of 20 mg/kg intravenous bolus over 10 minutes.

## Contraindications

- Hypersensitivity to TXA.
- Consider if appropriate if
  - Coronary or vascular stent placed within the past 6 months.
  - DVT, PE, MI or ischemic stroke within the past 6 months
  - Subarachnoid hemorrhage.
  - Retinal vein or artery occlusion.

# PARAMEDIC

## Cyanide Exposure Supplement Protocol for use of Cyanokit® (Hydroxocobalamin)

### NOTE:

This protocol is a supplement to CBRNE Protocol for Cyanide Exposure and is intended exclusively for use by Paramedics. This protocol provides direction for use of Cyanokit® (hydroxocobalamin), when available, as an alternative antidote to sodium nitrite and sodium thiosulfate.

### Indications:

The Cyanokit® is indicated for the treatment of known or suspected cyanide poisoning. If clinical suspicion of cyanide poisoning is high, Cyanokit® should be administered without delay. Patients experiencing serious symptoms from smoke inhalation, particularly when in a confined space exposure (inside a house fire,) frequently have cyanide exposure with or without carbon monoxide exposure and should be considered for the Cyanokit®.

Continue all non-pharmacologic treatment called for under the Cyanide Exposure Protocol.

The Cyanokit® is packaged in two ways:

- A two vial kit with 2.5g of hydroxocobalamin each in powder form which must be reconstituted with 100mL of normal saline each, rotated or tipped for 30 seconds each (not shaken) and then administered through its own IV line (not used with any other medications) over 7.5 minutes each.
- A one vial kit with 5g of hydroxocobalamin powder which must be reconstituted with 200mL of normal saline, be rotated or tipped for 60 seconds (not shaken) and administered through its own IV line (not used with any other medication) over 15 minutes.

The starting dose of hydroxocobalamin for adults is 5g (i.e., two 2.5g vials OR one 5gvial) administered as an intravenous (IV) infusion over 15 minutes. See charts below for pediatric dosing.

**Two Vial Kit (2.5g/100mL):**

AGE GROUP	AMOUNT	DOSAGE
Infant/Toddler (0-2 years)	¼ bottle	0.625g
Preschool (3-5 years)	½ bottle	1.25g
Grade School (6-13 years)	1 bottle	2.5g
Adult ≥ 14 years	2 bottles (entire kit)	5g

**One Vial Kit (5g/200mL):**

AGE GROUP	AMOUNT	DOSAGE
Infant/Toddler (0-2 years)	⅛ bottle	0.625g
Preschool (3-5 years)	¼ bottle	1.25g
Grade School (6-13 years)	½ bottle	2.5g
Adult ≥ 14 years	1 bottle (entire kit)	5g

Each vial of hydroxocobalamin for injection is to be reconstituted with diluent (not provided with Cyanokit®) using the supplied sterile transfer spike.

The recommended diluent is 0.9% Sodium Chloride injection (0.9% NaCl). Alternate solutions for dilution if NaCl not available: Lactated Ringers or 5% Dextrose injection (D5W). The line on each vial label represents the volume of diluent. Following the addition of diluent to the lyophilized powder, each vial should be repeatedly inverted or rocked, not shaken, for at least 30 seconds for the 2.5g bottles prior to infusion, 60 seconds for the 5g bottles.

Hydroxocobalamin solutions should be visually inspected for particulate matter and color prior to administration.



If the reconstituted solution is not dark red or if particulate matter is seen after the solution has been appropriately mixed, the solution should not be administered to the patient and should be discarded.

There are several drugs and blood products that are incompatible with Cyanokit®, thus Cyanokit® requires a separate intravenous line for administration.

Depending upon the severity of the poisoning and the clinical response, a second dose of 5g may be administered by IV infusion for a total dose of 10g in adults. The rate of infusion for the second dose may range from 15 minutes (for patients in extremis) to two hours, as clinically indicated. Contact medical control for second dose instructions for pediatric patients.

Contraindications: None

#### SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FOR SMOKE INHALATION:

Many, but not all, smoke inhalation victims will have cyanide poisoning and may present with burns, trauma, and exposure to other toxic substances making a diagnosis of cyanide poisoning particularly difficult. Prior to administration of Cyanokit®, smoke inhalation victims should be assessed for the following:

- Exposure to fire or smoke in an enclosed area

- Presence of soot around the mouth, nose or oropharynx

- Altered mental status

The Cyanokit® should be considered for all serious smoke inhalation victims (including cardiac arrest).

\*NOTE: A single medical control order in a mass casualty incident may be applied to all symptomatic patients. This medication is not required to be carried on EMS vehicles and may be available through special response units.

# PARAMEDIC

## Optional Medications for AGITATED / VIOLENT PATIENT

### DROPERIDOL (Inapsine)

#### **ACTION: Hypnotic, sedative, anti-emetic**

- Droperidol is an antidopaminergic medication used as an anti-psychotic and anti-emetic. It also has mild alpha receptor blockade.

#### **INDICATIONS:**

- Agitated patient who may be a danger to self or others
- Anti-emetic in a patient with active or intractable nausea/vomiting.

#### **CONTRAINDICATIONS:**

- Hypersensitivity
- Patients with known long QT syndrome (>440 males or >450 females)
- Pregnancy (category C drug)

#### **POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS:**

- Drowsiness and sedation
- Hypotension and tachycardia. Treat with a fluid bolus.
- Prolongation of QT interval
- Extrapyramidal side effects (e.g. dystonic reactions, akathisia or restlessness, neuroleptic malignant syndrome). Treat with Benadryl.

#### **ADULT DOSE/ROUTE:**

- Agitation
  - 5mg IM or slow IV push
  - For >65 years old, give 2.5mg
- Nausea/vomiting
  - 0.625-2.5mg IM or slow IV push

#### **PEDIATRIC DOSE/ROUTE:**

- Not approved for less than 2 years of age.
- Nausea/vomiting
  - Age 2-12 years. 0.015-0.1mg/kg (max 5mg)

#### **NOTES:**

- Use a reduced dose in patients >65 years old
- In 2001 the FDA placed a black box warning on Droperidol for prolonged QT. However, multiple studies have not shown a true increase in adverse effects or cardiac arrhythmias.

## Haldol (Haloperidol)

**Action:** Haloperidol is a butyrophenone antipsychotic medication. Haloperidol produces a dopaminergic blockade, a mild alpha-adrenergic blockade and causes peripheral vasodilation. Its major actions are sedation and tranquilization.

**Onset** Onset: Within 10 minutes after IM administration. Peak effect within 30 minutes **Duration:** 2-4 hours (may be longer in some individuals)

**Indications:** Sedation of a severely agitated combative patient

**Contraindications:** Suspected myocardial infarction, Hypotension, Respiratory or CNS depression, Pregnancy, Children < 8 years old

**Precautions:** Butyrophenones may cause hypotension, tachycardia, and prolongation of the QT interval. Use with caution in severe cardiovascular disease. Cardiac monitor and establish an IV as soon as possible with all administrations. Some patients may experience unpleasant sensations manifested as restlessness, hyperactivity, or anxiety following Butyrophenone administration. Rare instances of neuroleptic malignant syndrome (very high fever, muscular rigidity) have been known to occur after the use of haloperidol.

### Dosage and Administration Severe Agitation

Adults and Pediatrics > 13 years old

Haloperidol – 5mg IM

Adults > 65 Haloperidol – 2.5mg IM

Consider Medical Control for additional doses (consider if no effects within 10 minutes)

### Special Considerations

Extra-pyramidal reactions have been noted hours to days after treatment, usually presenting as spasm of the muscles of the tongue, face, neck, and back. This may be treated with diphenhydramine. Hypotension and tachycardia secondary to Butyrophenone are usually self-limiting and should be treated with IV fluid bolus. Use reduced dose in patients age ≥ 65.

Haloperidol should be utilized if droperidol is unavailable. Droperidol is the preferred first line agent for patients with severe agitation.

# PARAMEDIC

## Additional Procedures for Refractory VFib/Vtach

Defined as persistent V-Fib/V-Tach with no transient interruption of V-Fib/V-Tach 3 defibrillations

If ALL 3 of the below treatments have failed to convert the refractory V-Fib/V-Tach:

- 3 or more standard defibrillations have been delivered

- Correctable causes (e.g., H's & T's) have been addressed

- 450mg of AMIODARONE has been administered

- Defibrillation Pads have been reoriented anterior/posterior (may use second set of pads)

Consider **DOUBLE SEQUENTIAL DEFIBRILLATION:**

Apply an additional set of external defibrillations pads anterior/lateral OR anterior/posterior depending on where the initial pads were placed

Verify both monitors/defibrillators are attached and confirm V-Fib/V-Tach rhythm on both monitors

Charge both monitors to the maximum energy setting and ensure all team members are clear of the patient

Defibrillate by pressing both shock buttons sequentially.

Repeat every 2 minutes until termination of Refractory V-Fib/V-Tach

## Atrial Fibrillation with Rapid Ventricular Response Irregular Narrow Complex Tachycardia (Stable)

Adult patients with symptomatic atrial fibrillation or flutter with a HR  $\geq$  100 beats per minute and a SBP  $\geq$  100 mmHg

1. Initial IV diltiazem bolus over 2 minutes of 0.25 mg/kg (maximum 20 mg)
2. Second dose of 0.35 mg/kg (maximum 25 mg) if the initial response is inadequate after 15 minutes

Note: For patients older than 65 years old, recommend maximum initial dose of diltiazem 10 mg IV and a maximum second dose of 20 mg

## **Patient Refusal/Declination of Care/Transport**

### Standing Orders:

1. Utilize the mini-mental status exam on any patient where you have concerns regarding the decision-making capacity of the patient.
2. Confirm and document the impact of intoxicating substance or injury.
3. Confirm patient is of legal age of majority, or emancipated minor.
4. Document mechanism of injury or circumstances of illness.
5. Document pertinent past history.
6. Perform at least two sets of vital signs (one on arrival and one before leaving) and problem directed exam, document if unable to obtain vital signs.

### **The following are considered to lack the capacity for decision-making regarding transport:**

- Patients with impaired judgment and decreased mental status (Utilize the mini-mental status exam to determine, document).
- Minors (less than 18 years of age unless they are emancipated by the courts).
- All minors must have refusal from parent or guardian, not older sibling or other relative.
- Do not release minors on the scene without parent/guardian consent.

### **Reasons for Non-Transport:**

- Minor illness or injury and acceptable alternative transportation available.

### **No patient found on scene:**

- Patient Care Report is to be completed in detail as to why no patient was found (i.e., no person found on scene, person located with no complaint of injury/illness and denies needing medical assistance).

The above refusal protocol was written with the intent that a paramedic on a unit cannot take a refusal from a patient that does not have decision making capacity. Always involve law enforcement/EMS supervisor. Paramedics do not have the authority to force a patient to go to the hospital. Law enforcement only has the authority to take someone against their will. The police must place the person in custody for this to happen.

### **Refusal Procedures: (All patients can refuse)**

1. Explain all risks of refusal to patient.
2. With patient's permission, explain to family/friends on scene.
3. Contact on duty Supervisor.
4. Contact Law Enforcement and have them make the scene. Explain your concerns to the police officer of the patient's refusal. The police have the final say on the transport decision.
5. If the patient still refuses and the police do not place the patient in custody document all the following.
  - a. All the findings for why the patient needs to be transported.
  - b. The Supervisor was contacted about this call.
  - c. The name and badge number of the police officer on the scene.
6. Have the patient sign the refusal.
7. Thoroughly document all events that occurred on the scene.

## PROCEDURE

### Blood Collection in Patients with Time Critical Illness

#### PARAMEDIC ONLY

#### Purpose:

To expedite the care of patients, especially those with time critical illnesses, EMS will attempt to obtain blood samples on these patients prior to arrival at the hospital. Each kit should contain tubes, labeling information, and other necessary equipment.

#### Indications:

Patients exhibiting signs and symptoms of time critical illnesses including Sepsis, ACS/STEMI, and stroke. Consider obtaining blood samples on any patient in which an IV is started in the field.

#### Procedure:

1. Obtain blood via straight stick or through IV catheter. Note that the straight stick method is preferable due to hemolysis concerns.
2. Tubes should be drawn in this order:
  - a. 1 blue top tube
  - b. 1 red top tube
  - c. 1 light green top tube
  - d. 1 dark green top tube
  - e. 1 purple top tube
3. Label all tubes with the following information:
  - a. Patient's last name, first name, middle initial
  - b. Patient's date of birth (DOB)
  - c. Date and time of stick
  - d. Initials of paramedic performing blood draw
  - e. EMS unit identification (i.e., U-21, etc.)
  - f. ePCR #
4. Place all tubes in zip lock lab bag.
5. Ensure bag always stays with patient until delivered directly to nurse in ER when giving report.
6. Document that blood was delivered and obtain replacement blood draw kit from vending machine prior to return to service.

## Order of Draw for Multiple Tube Collections

CLSI recommended Order of Draw

### Blood Collection Tubes (plastic)

Tube Color	Collection Tube	Mix by Inverting
	<b>*TO FILL LINE*</b> <b>Must Be collected before other tubes</b> <b>PT, INR, PTT</b> <b>D-Dimer</b> <b>Fibrinogen</b>	<b>3 to 4 times</b>
	<b>CMP</b> <b>Enzymes</b> <b>SPT</b>	<b>8 to 10 times</b>
	<b>Cardiac Enzymes</b> <b>Troponin</b>	<b>8 to 10 times</b>
	<b>CBC</b> <b>HgB</b> <b>HcT</b> <b>Hgb A1C</b> <b>ESR</b>	<b>8 to 10 times</b>

### Tips for Successful Venipuncture:

- Keep angle of insertion 30 degrees or less, or as low as possible
- Do not leave the tourniquet on for longer than one minute prior to venipuncture to avoid altering results
- Instruct patient to clench and hold their fist instead of pumping it, which falsely elevates some blood levels
- Avoid side-to-side needle manipulation, especially in the area of the basilica vein where nerves and the brachial artery can be injured
- Hold pressure and observe for bleeding and hematoma formation prior to bandaging
- Invert each tube as indicated by above color chart

### **Processing of Tubes**

#### **Why:**

- Most tubes contain an additive or Clot activator that needs to be mixed with the blood sample.
- Tubes with anticoagulants such as EDTA need to be mixed to ensure the specimen does not clot.

#### **How:**

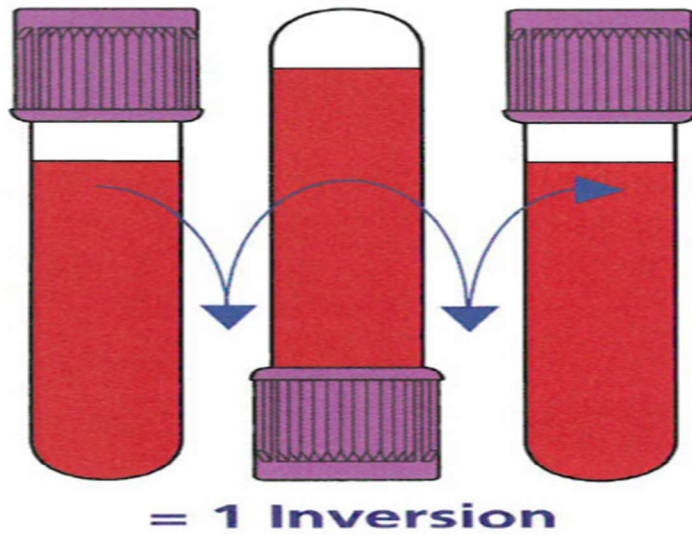
- Holding tube upright, gently invert 180° and back.
- Repeat movement as prescribed for each tube.

#### **When:**

- Immediately after drawing.

**Consequences if not mixed:**

- Tubes with anticoagulants will clot.
- Specimen will often need to be redrawn.





# PROCEDURE

## Capnography

### EMT, AEMT, PARAMEDIC

#### Indications:

- Capnography shall be used as soon as possible in conjunction with any airway management adjunct, including endotracheal, Blind Insertion Airway Device (BIAD), or BVM.
- Capnography is recommended to be used on all patients treated with CPAP, Magnesium, and/or EPINEPHrine for respiratory distress.

#### Procedure:

1. Attach Capnography sensor to the BIAD, endotracheal tube, or oxygen delivery device.
2. Note CO<sub>2</sub> level and wave form changes. These will be documented on each respiratory failure, cardiac arrest, or respiratory distress patient.
3. Capnography shall remain in place with the airway and be monitored throughout the prehospital care and transport.
4. **Any loss of CO<sub>2</sub> detection or waveform indicates an airway problem or dislodgement and should be documented once assessed and corrected.**
5. Capnography should be monitored as procedures are performed to verify or correct the airway problem.
6. Document the procedure and results on/with the Patient Care Report.
7. In all patients with a pulse, an ETCO<sub>2</sub> > 20 mmHg is anticipated. In the post resuscitation patient, no effort should be made to lower ETCO<sub>2</sub> by modification of the ventilator rate. Further, in post-resuscitation patients without evidence of ongoing severe bronchospasm, ventilator rate should never be < 6 breaths per minute.
8. In the pulseless patient, an ETCO<sub>2</sub> waveform with an ETCO<sub>2</sub> value > 10 mmHg may be utilized to confirm the adequacy of an airway to include BVM and advanced devices when SpO<sub>2</sub> will not register.

## PROCEDURE

### Chest Decompression

#### PARAMEDIC ONLY

1. Cleanse skin on affected side using aseptic technique.
2. Using a 14 or 16 gauge 3.5" angiocath, insert between the 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> mid-clavicular or 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> mid-axillary spaces.
3. Advance needle until "pop" is felt while the needle is entering the pleural space.
4. Advance catheter until hub contacts skin.
5. Cover catheter hub with Chest Seal (ensure one-way valve effect).
6. Reassess patient for breath-sound changes.
7. If signs of tension reoccur check chest seal, consider repeating chest decompression per above steps.
8. Contact Medical Control.
9. Transport.

**Use the same procedure for pediatric patients: Use 18- or 20- gauge angiocath.**

## PROCEDURE

### Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)

## EMT, AEMT, PARAMEDIC

Continuous Positive Airway Pressure has been shown to rapidly improve vital signs, gas exchange, reduce the work of breathing, decrease the sense of dyspnea, and decrease the need for endotracheal intubation in patients who suffer from shortness of breath from asthma, COPD, pulmonary edema, CO poisoning, Near Drowning, CHF, and pneumonia. In patients with CHF, CPAP improves hemodynamics by reducing left ventricular preload and afterload.

#### Indications:

Any patient who is respiratory distress for reasons other than trauma or pneumothorax, and;

- Is awake and able to follow commands.
- Is over 12 years old and the CPAP mask fits appropriately.
- Has the ability to maintain an open airway.
- Has a systolic blood pressure above 90 mmHg.
- Uses accessory muscles during respirations.
- Shows signs and symptoms consistent with asthma, COPD, pulmonary edema, CHF or pneumonia.

**AND** who exhibit **two or more** of the following:

- A respiratory rate greater than 25 breaths per minute
- Pulse Oximetry of less than 94% at any time
- Use of accessory muscles during respirations

#### Contraindications:

- Patient is in respiratory arrest/apneic.
- Patient is suspected of having a pneumothorax or has suffered trauma to the chest.
- Patient has a tracheostomy.
- Patient is actively vomiting or has upper GI bleeding.
- Patient has decreased cardiac output, obtundation and questionable ability to protect airway (e.g., Stroke, etc.), penetrating chest trauma, gastric distention, severe facial injury, uncontrolled vomiting, and hypotension secondary to hypovolemia.

#### Precautions:

Use care if patient:

- Has impaired mental status and is not able to cooperate with the procedure.
- Has failed at non-invasive ventilation.
- Has active upper GI bleeding or history.
- Complains of nausea or vomiting.
- Has inadequate respiratory effort.
- Has excessive secretions.
- Has a facial deformity that prevents the use of CPAP.

#### Procedure:

Explain the procedure to the patient:

1. Connect Oxygen tubing nipple to gas source.
2. Place the face mask securely to the patient's face using head harness.
3. With nebulizer in the OFF position slowly increase gas flow to 6 or 8 LPM. Check face mask fit to patient and device connections for leaks.
4. Adjust the flow meter until desired pressure is obtained. **Maximum benefit is usually achieved at about 5.0 mm H<sub>2</sub>O. Higher pressures result in more side effects with minimal improvements in benefits.**
5. Do not exceed 33 LPM.

6. Patient SaO<sub>2</sub> should be monitored using a pulse oximeter.
7. To activate nebulizer, rotate knob to the ON position.
8. If necessary, readjust flow meter to obtain desired CPAP pressure. Up to 25 LPM may be required.
9. Consider Ondansetron (Zofran) 2 – 4 mg IV (**peds 0.15 mg/kg IV**).

#### Measuring Pressure:

- Pressure relief limits maximum CPAP pressure to 25 cm H<sub>2</sub>O @ 25 LPM.
- Do not exceed pressure limit of manometer (25 cm H<sub>2</sub>O).
- Manometer accuracy  $\pm 3$  cm H<sub>2</sub>O up to 15 cm H<sub>2</sub>O and  $\pm 5$  cm H<sub>2</sub>O over 15 cm H<sub>2</sub>O.

#### Specifications:

Sample guidelines for preparing Rx Dosing;

Flow meter setting L/min.	14 - 15								23 - 24							
CPAP Pressure cm H <sub>2</sub> O	4 - 5								9 - 10							
Output	12 mL/hour								16 mL/hour							
Rx (mg/hr)	5		10		15		20		5		10		15		20	
Treatment Duration (hours)	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	1.5	1	1.5	1	1.5	1	1.5
Medication @5mg/mL (mL)	1	2	2	4	3	6	4	8	1	1.5	2	3	3	4.5	4	6
Saline (mL)	11	22	10	20	9	18	8	16	15	22	14	21	13	20	12	18

#### Notes:

- In the event of undesirable flow from oxygen source, simply remove the device and place on supplemental oxygen.
- Always verify delivered CPAP pressure on a manometer.
- Activation or deactivation of nebulizer may affect the delivered CPAP pressure. Always verify delivered CPAP pressure with a monometer.
- Flow meters capable of delivering up to 25 LPM may be required to operate both CPAP and Nebulizer simultaneously.
- Use of nebulizer other than the one provided may affect performance.
- Do not remove CPAP until hospital therapy is ready to be placed on the patient.
- Watch the patient for gastric distention that can result in vomiting.
- Procedure may be performed on patients with a Do Not Resuscitate order.
- Due to the changes in preload and afterload of the heart during CPAP therapy, a complete set of vital signs must be obtained every 5 minutes.

## PROCEDURE

### Delayed Off Loading of Patients in the ED

EMS is currently facing an increasing frequency of patient turnover being delayed in the Emergency Department due to delays in acknowledgment, assessment, and placement in the ED. These delays negatively impact the ability of EMS to maintain response capability and provide emergency responses in a timely manner. This protocol provides a method to off-load patients and return to service in a timely manner.

## PARAMEDIC ONLY

Eligible patients (patients must meet **ALL** the following criteria):

- Greater than 18 years old (or with Guardian consent).
- Stable vital signs.
- IV access should be removed **or** Nurse approval to remain in place if patient will be in waiting room.

#### Procedure:

- Ambulance arrives in ED and notifies ED nursing staff of patient.
- If the ED Nursing Staff has not accepted report and made efforts to offload the patient from the EMS stretcher within 30 minutes of arrival, contact an EMS Supervisor.
- EMS Supervisor again requests ED Nursing staff to offload the EMS stretcher. If no progress is made within 15 minutes of the Supervisor's engagement; and the patient meets all the criteria above, perform the following:
  - Ensure the patient's condition is unchanged and is stable by obtaining another set of VS before offloading.
  - Move the patient to the triage waiting area or cot, chair, etc. in the treatment area.
  - Document all contacts with ED personnel, and record names of and times.
  - Complete an abbreviated, handwritten EMS run report to include patient demographics, complaint, vital signs and pertinent history and ensure its delivery to triage, admissions and/or nursing. EMS is responsible for ensuring the hospital is aware of patient's presence in the ED or waiting room.
  - Complete and post standard EPCR run report.
  - Return to service.

EMS Supervisory personnel have the authority to come to the ED and offload a patient in the emergency department to a cot, chair, or ED stretcher/bed as needed (regardless of meds or procedures done).

Offload may occur when EMS resources are insufficient to meet current needs.

## **PROCEDURE**

### **Endotracheal Tube Introducer (Bougie)**

## **PARAMEDIC ONLY**

#### **Indications:**

- Patients meet clinical indications for oral intubation (appropriate to use with any attempt).

#### **Contraindications:**

- Introducer larger than ET tube internal diameter.

#### **Procedure:**

1. Prepare, position, and oxygenate the patient with 100% Oxygen.
2. Select proper ET tube without stylet, test cuff and prepare suction.
3. Lubricate the distal end and cuff of the endotracheal tube and the distal ½ of the endotracheal tube introducer (Bougie). Failure to lubricate the Bougie and the ET tube may result in being unable to pass the ET Tube.
4. Using laryngoscopic techniques, visualize the vocal cords if possible, using Sellick maneuver/BURP as needed.
5. Introduce the Bougie with curved tip anteriorly and visualize the tip passing the vocal cords or above the arytenoids if the cords cannot be visualized.
6. Once inserted, gently advance the Bougie until you meet resistance or “hold-up” (if you do not meet resistance, you have a probable esophageal intubation and insertion should be reattempted or the failed airway protocol implemented as indicated).
7. Withdraw the Bougie only to a depth sufficient to allow loading of the ET tube while maintaining proximal control of the Bougie.
8. Gently advance the Bougie and loaded ET tube until you have hold-up again, thereby assuring tracheal placement and minimizing the risk of accidental displacement of the Bougie.
9. While maintaining a firm grasp on the proximal Bougie, introduce the ET tube over the Bougie passing the tube to its appropriate depth.
10. If you are unable to advance the ET tube into the trachea and the Bougie and ET tube are adequately lubricated, withdraw the ET tube slightly and rotate the ET tube 90° COUNTERCLOCKWISE to turn the bevel of the ET tube posteriorly. If this technique fails to facilitate passing of the ET tube you may attempt direct laryngoscopy while advancing the ET tube (this will require an assistant to maintain the position of the Bougie and, if so desired, advance the ET tube).
11. Once the ET tube is correctly placed, hold the ET tube securely and remove the Bougie.
12. Confirm tracheal placement, inflate the cuff with 3 – 10 cc of air, auscultate for equal breath sounds and reposition accordingly.
13. When final positioning is determined, secure the ET tube, reassess breath sounds, apply Capnography, and record and monitor readings to assure continued tracheal intubation.

## PROCEDURE

### External Transcutaneous Cardiac Pacing

#### PARAMEDIC ONLY

Non-invasive cardiac pacing, also referred to as external or transcutaneous pacing, involves the temporary application of externally applied electrodes to deliver an adjustable electrical impulse directly across an intact chest wall for the purpose of rhythmically stimulating the myocardium to increase the mechanical heart rate.

#### Indications:

- Treatment of hemodynamically compromised patients in setting where cardiac output is compromised due either to the complete failure of cardiac rhythm or to an insufficient rate of the patient's intrinsic pacemaker.
- Bradycardia with a systolic BP < 80 mmHg with shock-like signs or symptoms.
- Patients who experience provider witnessed cardiopulmonary arrest and who present with asystole, or patients whose EKG converts to asystole while the EKG is being monitored.
- Prompt application of the transcutaneous cardiac pacemaker is appropriate prior to the administration of EPINEPHrine and Atropine when a patient converts to asystole as a primary rhythm during EKG monitoring by a paramedic.
- Pediatric patients (40 kg or less) with profound symptomatic bradycardia unresponsive to optimal airway management, oxygenation, EPINEPHrine, and Atropine.

**Note:** On-line Medical consultation is required for pacing pediatric patients.

#### Contraindications:

- Non-witnessed cardiopulmonary arrest with asystole.
- Patient not meeting blood pressure criteria.

#### Technique:

- Place pads in the Anterior/Posterior position.
- Start at a pacemaker heart rate of 70 beats per minute and the milliamperes (m.a.) as low as possible.
- Gradually increase m.a. until palpable pulse confirmed capture or 200 m.a.

#### Potential Adverse Effects/Complications:

Patients may experience mild to moderate discomfort. If patient is conscious and has adequate blood pressure, consider:

- Pain medications per pain management protocol **and/or**
- Diazepam 2.5 – 10 mg Slow IV/IO **or**
- Versed 2 – 4 mg IV/IO

Musculoskeletal twitching in upper torso may occur during pacing.

#### Precautions:

When properly applied, chest compressions can be performed directly over the insulated electrodes while the pacer is operating.

**DO NOT USE EXTERNAL PACING ON A HYPOTHERMIC PATIENT.**

## PROCEDURE

### Fever / Infection Control

#### Indications:

Age	Last Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen
Duration of fever	Warm
Severity of fever	Flushed
Past medical history	Sweaty
Medications	Chills/Rigors
Immunocompromised (Transplant, HIV, Diabetes, Cancer)	Myalgias, Cough, Chest Pain, Headache, Dysuria, Abdominal Pain, Mental Status Changes, Rash
Environmental Exposure	

**EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC**

#### Procedure:

1. Use contact, droplet and airborne PPE precautions.
2. Using your IV standing order, start a normal saline bolus.
3. For a temperature greater than 100.4°F (38°C) if available administer Ibuprofen 600 mg PO (**peds >6 months 10 mg/kg PO, max dose 600 mg**) or Acetaminophen 1000 mg PO (**peds >3 months 15 mg/kg PO, max dose 650 mg**) May assist with patient medications.
4. Notify destination or contact Medical Control.



## PROCEDURE

### Hemorrhage Control Clamp

**EMT      AEMT      PARAMEDIC**

#### Indications:

Provides temporary control of severe bleeding in the scalp, extremities, axilla, and inguinal areas.

#### Contraindications:

Not for use where skin approximation cannot be obtained (i.e., large skin defects under high tension).

#### Warnings and Precautions:

- This device is intended for temporary use only; not to exceed 24 hours.
- Patients must be seen by medical personnel for device removal and surgical wound repair.
- Use device as directed to avoid needle stick injury.
- Do not use where delicate structures are within 10 mm of the skin surface (ex. Orbits of the eye).
- This device will not control hemorrhage in non-compressible sites, such as the abdominal and/or chest cavities.
- Ensure proper PPE is utilized to protect against possible splashing of blood during application.
- The device is designed for single use. Do not use if sterility seal on package has been broken or otherwise damaged.
- Dispose of the device as you would other sharps.
- For extreme extremity injuries not amenable to clamp application, consider tourniquet application per protocol.

#### Procedure: *(if patient is conscious, explain procedure)*

- Apply appropriate PPE.
- Open sterile package by pulling forward on outer tabs.
- Remove device from package by lifting up. Take care not to close device until it has been applied to the wound.
  - If the device has been accidentally closed, push the side buttons inward with one hand and pull the device open using the device arms.
- Locate wound edges.
- Align the device parallel to the length of the wound edge. Position the needles approx. 1-2 cm from the wound edge on either side. For very large wounds the device can be applied to one side, then pulled to the other side, or the tissue can be approximated by hand and the device applied.
- Press the arms of the device together to close the device. The device's safety seal will break with pressure.
- Ensure the entire wound is sealed and bleeding stops, using a gauze pad to wipe the area to verify no leaking of blood from the wound. More than one device may be required for large wounds.
- If bleeding continues:
  - Ensure the device is in the correct position, close the device more firmly by applying further pressure to the arms of the device.
  - If wound is too large, apply additional devices to the open section.
  - If device is applied incorrectly or not positioned properly, remove the device according to the instructions and reapply.
- Consider Pain Management protocol

**Removal:**

*Unless you need to reposition the device, all removal should be done in a medical facility prepared to manage the wound.*

- Hold the device by the gripping bars, press the device further closed to release the lock.
- While maintaining pressure on the arms, press both release buttons with your other hand.
- While pressing the release buttons, pull one of the gripping bars open and rotate the needles from the wound, one side at a time.
- Pick up the device ONLY by the buttons to prevent accidental contact with the needles.
- Dispose of the device in accordance with local guidelines for sharps.

**Notes:**

If desired, wound packing and/or the use of a hemostatic agent may be applied. The hemostatic agent does not need to be removed prior to application of the clamp.

## PROCEDURE

### Induced Hypothermia Following ROSC

The goal is to begin cooling the patient who meets criteria as soon as possible. You may initiate resuscitation with cold saline as your IVF of choice if the patient appears to be a candidate for IH. Therefore, if you have cold saline available when the first IV is started, begin cold fluids immediately. If IV access is already established, change to cold saline when ROSC is achieved. If ROSC is not achieved, proceed as you would with any nonresponsive cardiac arrest, and document that cold saline was initiated. This will assist the medical examiner in determining times of death. Complete the remainder of the protocol.

## PARAMEDIC ONLY

### Criteria for Induced Hypothermia:

- Age greater than 18 years old.
- Any cardiac arrest with resuscitation efforts.
- **Return Of Spontaneous Circulation** (regardless of blood pressure) following cardiac arrest (all non-traumatic causes).
- Patient remains comatose (GCS < 8 and/or no purposeful responses to pain).
- Intubated or needs airway management (i-gel airway is acceptable) ETCO<sub>2</sub> > 20 mmHg.
- Systolic blood pressure can be maintained at 90 mmHg spontaneously or with fluids and pressors.

### Patient Exclusion Criteria:

- Pregnant female with obviously gravid uterus.
- Systolic blood pressure cannot be maintained at 90 mmHg or greater spontaneously or with fluids and pressors.
- Coagulopathy or thrombocytopenia.

### Procedure

1. Patient meets criteria for Induced Hypothermia?
  - a. If no, proceed to post-resuscitation protocol
    - i. If yes, is the ET tube placed?
    - ii. If no, proceed with intubation, i-Gel Airway is acceptable
    - iii. Once airway is controlled, follow remaining steps:
2. Perform neuro exam to confirm meets criteria.
3. Expose patient – apply ice packs to axilla, neck, and groin.
4. Administer cold saline bolus 30 mL/kg to max of 2 liters.
5. Consider sedation per protocol, if needed to control agitation or shivering.
6. If necessary, administer EPINEPHrine 2-10 mcg/min. for MAP 90-100.

### Notes:

- If patient meets other criteria for induced hypothermia and is not intubated, then intubate according to protocol before inducing cooling. If unable to intubate, use of i-gel Airway is acceptable.
- When exposing patient for purpose of cooling, undergarments may remain in place. Be mindful of your environment and take steps to preserve the patient's modesty.
- Do not delay transport for the purpose of cooling.
- Reassess airway frequently and with every patient move.
- Patients develop metabolic alkalosis with cooling. Do not hyperventilate.
- Transport patient to hypothermia capable center.

# PROCEDURE

## Indwelling IV Port Access

### PARAMEDIC ONLY

#### Indications:

- Intravenous fluid or medications **emergently** needed AND:
- Peripheral IV cannot be established AND:
- Patient exhibits one or more of the following:
  - Presence of indwelling port
  - Altered mental status (GCS of 8 or less)
  - Respiratory compromise (SaO<sub>2</sub> of 80% or less following appropriate oxygen therapy, and/or respiratory rate < 10 or > 40 /min.)
- Hemodynamically unstable

#### Contraindications:

- Infection at insertion site
- Significant edema
- Excessive tissue at insertion site
- Inability to locate landmarks

#### Considerations:

- Port-a-Cath access in the field should only be utilized in **EMERGENCY** situations
- Access should only be attempted under sterile conditions by those who have documented competency
- You may utilize the patient's supplies if necessary and appropriate
- **DO NOT FORCE FLUSH INDWELLING CATHETERS**

#### Procedure for accessing the Implanting Port:

1. Assemble supplies:
  - a. 10 cc NS syringe
  - b. Chloraprep
  - c. Masks
  - d. Sterile gloves
  - e. Huber needle with attached extension tubing
  - f. Transpore tape
  - g. IV NS set-up
2. Cleanse hands.
3. Peel open one corner of the Huber needle package only; Extend end of extension tubing only out of the opening.
4. Attach 10 cc NS syringe to the extension tube.
5. Prime tubing and needle with NS.
6. Place Huber needle package on a secure flat surface and peel back package open. **DO NOT touch Huber needle until sterile gloves are on.**
7. Caregiver applies mask; the patient has the option of putting on a mask or turning their head away from the port area.
8. Put on sterile gloves.
9. Use repeated back and forth strokes of the applicator for approximately 30 seconds. Allow the area to air dry for 30 seconds. Do not blot or wipe away.

10. Pick up Huber needle with NS syringe attached; touch only the Huber needle as this is sterile and the syringe is not.
11. Grip Huber needle securely; remove clear protective sheath from the needle.
12. Locate and stabilize the port site with your thumb and index finger, creating a “v” shape.
13. Access the port by inserting the Huber needle at a 90° angle into the reservoir.
14. Once accessed, the needle must not be twisted; excessive twisting will cut the septum and create a drug leakage path.
15. Insert gently. Flush the port with 2 – 5 cc NS and then attempt to aspirate a blood return; this confirms proper placement; if the port is difficult to flush **DO NOT FORCE FLUSH**.
16. Slowly inject the remaining 10 cc NS; observe for resistance, swelling or discomfort; if present, assess needle placement; if still present, remove the Huber and re-access.
17. Remove empty NS syringe and attach IV solution tubing and initiate flow.
18. Hold slight pressure with 2 x 2 until bleeding, if any, stops; there should never be excessive bleeding.

**Dressing the port site:**

1. Assemble supplies;
  - a. CVC dressing kit
  - b. Flat clean work surface
2. Open the package of 2 x 2s if extra padding is needed.
3. Place one 2 x 2 under the needle to provide padding on the skin if Huber is not flush with chest.
4. Tear a piece of tape approximately 3” long; split tape lengthwise; tape over Huber needle in a “x” format.
5. Cover site with Transpore tape.
6. Secure the extra tubing with tape to prevent catching on clothes.

## PROCEDURE

### Intranasal Medication

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

Medication administration in a certain subgroup of patients can be a very difficult endeavor. For example, an actively seizing or medically restrained patient may make attempting to establish an IV almost impossible which can delay effective drug administration. Moreover, the Paramedic or other member of the medical team may be more likely to suffer a needle stick injury while caring for these patients.

In order to improve prehospital care and to reduce the risks of accidental needle stick, the use of the Mucosal Atomizer Device (MAD) is authorized in certain patients. The MAD allows certain IV medications to be administered into the nose. The device creates a medication mist which lands on the mucosal surfaces and is absorbed directly into the bloodstream.

#### Indications:

An emergent need for medication administration and IV access is unobtainable or presents high risk of needle stick injury due to patient condition:

- Seizures / Behavior control: Midazolam (Versed) may be given intranasally until IV access is available.
- Altered Mental Status from Suspected Narcotic Overdose: Naloxone (Narcan) may be given intranasally until IV access is available.
- Symptomatic Hypoglycemia (blood sugar less than 80 mg/dl): Glucagon may be given until IV access is available.
- Pediatric Pain Control: FentaNYL for orthopedic injuries (2 micrograms per kilogram; max single dose of 50 micrograms).

Medications administered via the IN route require a higher concentration of drug in a smaller volume of fluid than typically used in the IV route. In general, no more than 1 milliliter of volume can be administered during a single administration event.

#### Contraindications:

- Bleeding from the nose or excessive nasal discharge.
- Mucosal destruction.

#### Technique:

1. Draw proper dosage (see below).
2. Expel air from syringe.
3. Attach the MAD device via Luer Lock device.
4. *Briskly* compress the syringe plunger.

#### Complications:

- Gently pushing the plunger will not result in atomization.
- Fluid may escape from the nares.
- Intranasal dosing is less effective than IV dosing (slower onset, incomplete absorption).
- Current patient use of nasal vasoconstrictors (neosynephrine/cocaine) will significantly reduce the effectiveness of IN medications. Absorption is delayed, peak drug level is reduced, and time of drug onset is delayed.

## Midazolam (Versed)

### Precautions:

Midazolam may cause hypoventilation and potential respiratory depression/arrest. Have equipment and help readily available to manage the airway when administering this medication.

If hypotension develops after the administration of Midazolam, administer a 20 mL/kg bolus of normal saline.

Patient Age (years)	Weight (kg)	IN Midazolam volume in mL (assuming 5 mg/mL concentration) Midazolam volume dose (mg)
Neonate	3	0.18 mL - 0.9 mg
<1	6	0.36 mL - 1.8 mg
1	10	0.6 mL - 3.0 mg
2	14	0.84 mL - 4.2 mg
3	16	0.96 mL - 4.8 mg
4	18	1.12 mL - 5.4 mg
5	20	1.2 mL - 6 mg
6	22	1.3 mL - 6.6 mg
7	24	1.4 mL - 7.2 mg
8	26	1.6 mL - 7.8 mg
9	28	1.7 mL - 8.4 mg
10	30	1.8 mL - 9 mg
11	32	1.9 mL - 9.6 mg
12	34	2 mL – 10 mg
Small Teenager	40	2 mL – 10 mg
Adult or Full-grown teenager	50 or more	2 mL – 10 mg

## Naloxone

### Adult

- Naloxone 0.4 mg every 5 minutes until the respiratory rate improves and the patient can maintain a pulse oximetry reading of 96% OR until 2 mg has been given.
- Split dose equally between each nostril.

### Pediatric:

1. **Naloxone 0.1 mg/kg (max single dose 0.4 mg) until the respiratory rate improves and the patient can maintain a pulse oximetry reading of 96% OR until 2 mg has been given**
2. **Split dose evenly between each nostril**

## Glucagon

- Intranasal lyophilized Glucagon (Baqimi) may be given to hypoglycemic adults in the same dose as IM or IV routes.
- The dose should be split evenly between each nostril.

## Fentanyl

- Dosing is 2 mcg/kg, split evenly between nostrils.

## PROCEDURE

### Intraosseous Access

## AEMT PARAMEDIC

#### Indications:

1. Intravenous fluid or medications needed AND;
2. Peripheral IV cannot be established AND the patient exhibits one or more of the following:
  - a. Altered mental status (GCS of 8 or less).
  - b. Respiratory compromise SaO<sub>2</sub> of 80% or less following appropriate oxygen therapy, and/or respiratory rate < 10 or > 40/min.
  - c. Hemodynamically unstable (Systolic BP < 90).
3. IV access is preferred; however, IO may be considered prior to peripheral IV attempts in the following situations:
  - a. Cardiac arrest (Medical or Trauma).
  - b. Profound hypovolemia with altered mental status.

#### Contraindications:

1. Fracture of the tibia or femur (for tibia insertion) – consider alternate tibia.
2. Fracture of the humerus (for humeral head insertion) – consider alternate humerus.
3. Previous orthopedic procedures (ex: IO within previous 24 hrs., knee replacement, shoulder replacement).
4. Infection at insertion site.
5. Significant edema.
6. Excessive tissue at insertion site.
7. Inability to locate landmarks.

#### Considerations:

1. Flow rates: due to the anatomy of the IO space you will note flow rates to be slower than those achieved with IV access.
  - a. Ensure the administration of the 10 ml rapid bolus with syringe
  - b. Use a pressure bag or pump for fluid challenge
2. Pain: Insertion of the IO device in conscious patients causes mild to moderate discomfort and is usually no more painful than a large bore IV. However, fluid infusion into the IO space is very painful and the following measures should be taken for conscious patients:
  - a. Prior to IO bolus or flush on a conscious adult patient, SLOWLY administer 20 – 50 mg of 2% Lidocaine
  - b. **Prior to IO bolus or flush on a conscious pediatric patient, SLOWLY administer 0.5 mg/kg 2% Lidocaine**

#### Primary Insertion Site (Trauma): Tibial Plateau

If IO access is warranted the tibia shall be the insertion site of choice if possible.

**Note:** In the cardiac arrest patient, the Humeral Head should be the **primary insertion site**.

#### Primary Insertion Site (Cardiac Arrest/Medical): Humeral Head (adult patients only)

If IO access is not available via the tibia insertion site due to contraindications or inability to access the site due to patient entrapment and vascular access is imperative, the IO may be placed in the humeral head.

#### Notes:

- In the cardiac arrest patient, the Humeral Head should be the **primary insertion site**.
- DO NOT attempt insertion medial to the Intertubercular Groove or the Lesser Tubercle.



### *Pediatric Patient:*

- *Defined as a patient weight 3 – 39 kg.*
- *The pediatric needle set (15 mm) shall be used for pediatric patients.*
- *Use the length-based assessment tape to determine pediatric weight.*
- *The only approved site for pediatric IO insertion is the tibia.*

### **Standing Order:**

The Intraosseous device may be used if the indications are met and no contraindications exist.

### **Precautions:**

- The IO is not intended for prophylactic use.
- The IO infusion system requires specific training prior to use.
- Proper identification of the insertion site is crucial.

### **Landmarks: Tibial Plateau**

There are three important anatomical landmarks – the patella, the tibial tuberosity (if present) and the Flat aspect of the medial tibia.

- **Important: the tibial tuberosity is often difficult or impossible to palpate on very young patients!**  
The traditional approach for IO insertions in small patients – where the tibial tuberosity cannot be palpated – is to identify the insertion site – **“two finger widths below the patella and then medial along the flat aspect of the tibia.”**
- The traditional approach to IO insertion is slightly larger patients where the tuberosity can be appreciated – generally suggests **“One finger width distal to the tibial tuberosity along the flat aspect of the medial tibia.”**
- The IO should be inserted two finger widths below the patella (kneecap) and one finger medial (toward the inside) to the tibial tuberosity.
- **For the morbidly obese patient:**
  - Consider rotating the foot to the mid-line position (foot straight up and down)
  - With the knee slightly flexed, lift the foot off of the surface allowing the lower leg to “hang” dependent
  - This maneuver may improve your ability to visualize and access the tibial insertion site
  - Please use the Bariatric Needle Set in these patients

### **Landmarks: Humeral Head**

- Place the patient in a supine position.
- Expose the shoulder and place the patient’s arm against the patient’s body.
- Rest the elbow on the stretcher with the forearm on the abdomen. Palpate and identify the mid shaft humerus and continue palpating toward the humeral head.
- As you near the shoulder you will note a small protrusion. This is the base of the greater tubercle insertion site.
- With the opposite hand “pinch” the anterior and inferior aspects of the humeral head confirming the identification of the greater tubercle. This will ensure you have identified the midline of the humerus itself.
- The insertion site is approximately two finger widths inferior to the coracoid process and the acromion.

### **Landmarks: Medial Malleolus**

- The insertion site is two finger widths proximal to the Medial Malleolus and positioned midline on the medial shaft.

**Procedure:**

Inserting the IO;

1. Determine that the IO is indicated.
2. Ensure that no contraindications are present.
3. Locate the proper insertion site.
4. Clean the insertion site with alcohol.
5. Prepare the IO.
6. Stabilize the leg (or arm).
7. Position the IO at the insertion site with the needle at a 90° angle to the surface of the bone.
8. Activate the device to set needle through the skin. Apply firm steady pressure on the driver and power through the cortex of the bone. Stop when the needle flange touches the skin, or a sudden resistance is felt. This indicates entry into the bone marrow cavity.
9. Grasp the hub firmly with one hand and remove the driver from the needle set.
10. While continuing to hold the hub firmly, rotate the stylet counterclockwise and remove it from the needle set. Dispose of the stylet properly in a sharps container.
11. Confirm proper placement of the IO catheter tip:
  - a. The catheter stands straight up at a 90° angle and is firmly seated in the tibia
  - b. Blood is sometime visible at the tip of the stylet
  - c. Aspiration of a small amount of marrow with a syringe
12. Attach a primed extension set to the hub and flush the IO space with 10 cc of Normal Saline. **NO FLUSH – NO FLOW**
13. If the patient is conscious, administer Lidocaine 2% 20-50 mg slowly **PRIOR** to the initial bolus (**peds 0.5 mg/kg**).
14. Initiate the infusion per standing orders. Use of a pressure infuser or blood pressure cuff is recommended to maintain adequate flow rates.
15. Apply the wrist band and a dressing.
16. For the NIO be sure to unlock it by rotating the cap 90 degrees in either direction.
17. Place the palm of your dominant hand over the cap. Press the device against the patient's skin and maintain pressure. While pressing down on the device, pull the trigger wings upward. This action will activate the device.
18. Gently pull the NIO up in a rotational motion while holding the base of the needle stabilizer against the insertion site.
19. Continue holding the needle stabilizer in place and pull up the stylet (twisting may be necessary).

## PROCEDURE

### LUCAS CPR Device

## EMT AEMT PARAMEDIC

#### Inclusion Criteria:

- The device must be present on scene within 8 minutes of the initiation of CPR
- The patient must not meet any of the exclusion criteria

#### Exclusion Criteria:

- Body habitus too large for the device
- Children less than 42 kg/ 90 lbs. or any individual which when fitted with the device the suction cup does not make firm contact with the chest wall
- Down time suspected to be greater than or equal to 15 minutes without CPR
- Confirmed down time without CPR > 10 minutes

If the above inclusion criteria are met, none of the exclusion criteria are present, and the LUCAS device is available, the following steps will be taken to implement its use:

1. CPR will be performed manually for at least 2 minutes and the patient will be ventilated with a BVM/ oral airway during this time.
2. After 2 minutes, the defibrillation/ monitor pads will be applied to the patient. At this time, the LUCAS device will also be applied to the patient.
3. Defibrillation performed if indicated.
4. CPR resumed using the LUCAS device. Avoid CPR pauses greater than 20 seconds when placing the device.
5. Obtain airway (adequate ventilation with OPA/NPA/BVM, i-gel Airway or ETT).
6. IV/IO access.
7. Initiation of ACLS medications.
8. Allow at least 90 seconds of CPR after any medications given before pausing to check rhythm.
9. If pulse confirmed, prepare for immediate transport. The LUCAS device may be turned off but must be left on the patient during the transport to the hospital.
10. If the patient goes back into cardiac arrest, immediate resumption of LUCAS CPR will be performed and ACLS will continue.
11. Detailed documentation with times of all initiation and termination of use of LUCAS device must be kept for statistical and feedback purposes.
12. Consider ketamine if sedation is necessary during high quality CPR.

**NOTE: Placement and initiation of the device cannot exceed 20 seconds. Longer pauses result in a significant decrease in likelihood of a successful resuscitation.**

**NOTE: The LUCAS device may be used in cases of Traumatic Cardiac arrest.**

## PROCEDURE

### EMS Standardized Adult Medical Radio Report

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

#### To Receiving Facility:

- This is EMS unit X, need to give report on a Priority X Medical patient.

#### EMS Report:

1. This is EMS unit X with a X minute ETA to your facility with a Priority X Medical.
2. We have a XX year-old male/female s/p {brief explanation of events leading to 911 call}.
3. Patient is currently GCS \_\_\_\_\_. Physical exam findings include....
4. Current vital signs are
  - Pulse
  - BP
  - Respiratory rate
  - SpO<sub>2</sub>
  - Blood glucose level
5. Interventions performed include
  - IV
  - Medications given
  - 12 Lead Interpretation
  - Oxygen given
  - Etc.
6. Repeat ETA is \_\_\_\_\_, Do you require any further?

#### PRIORITY 1

- Unstable vital signs for age (hypotension, extreme tachycardia, tachypnea, etc.)
- GCS <13 with normal or unknown baseline
- Chest Pain with STEMI on 12-Lead (Go to PCI-capable facility)
- Cardiac Arrest (go to PCI capable facility)
- Acute SVT or other potentially unstable arrhythmias (v-tach with a pulse, a-fib with RVR, etc.)
- Respiratory failure or intubated patient (requiring CPAP/BVM/ventilator to support respirations)
- Septic appearing patient with poor perfusion (ETC<sub>2</sub> < 25, altered mental status, hypotension)
- Stroke-like symptoms w/ last known normal of >5 hours (go to comprehensive stroke center)
- Stroke-like symptoms with last known normal of < 5 hours (go to primary stroke center)

#### PRIORITY 2

- Abdominal pain with signs of compromise (guarding, rebound, distention, tachycardia)
- Acute chest pain with risk factors, or EKG changes (WITHOUT STEMI)
- Respiratory distress requiring oxygen via simple mask or non-rebreather to maintain SpO<sub>2</sub> >94%
- Acute GI bleed
- Pregnancy complications > 20 weeks (active labor, uncontrolled bleeding, preeclampsia)
- Combative patient

#### PRIORITY 3

- Medical patients not meeting above criteria

## PROCEDURE

### EMS Standardized Pediatric Trauma Radio Report

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

#### To Receiving Facility:

- This is EMS unit X, need to give report to Hospital on a Priority X Trauma patient.

#### EMS Report:

1. This is EMS unit X with a X minute ETA to your facility with a Priority X Trauma.
2. We have a XX year-old (< 2 years, please give months) male/female s/p {brief mechanism explanation}. Broselow color is XXX.
3. Patient is currently GCS \_\_\_\_\_. Injuries found include....
4. Current vital signs are
  - Pulse
  - BP
  - Respiratory rate
  - SpO<sub>2</sub>
5. Interventions performed include
  - IV
  - Tourniquet
  - Needle Decompression
  - Splinting
  - Spinal Motion restriction
  - Etc.
6. Repeat ETA is \_\_\_\_\_, Do you require any further?

#### PEDIATRIC PRIORITY 1 TRAUMA:

- Trauma stat
- GCS <8
- Trauma arrest/CPR
- Ventilation/airway compromise/intubated
- Shock requiring ongoing fluid resuscitation (age specific hypotension)
- Hemodynamic instability assoc. WITH neurological injury
- Open Fx with Hemodynamic instability
- Open book pelvic fracture with hemodynamically instability
- Pulseless extremity
- Proximal amputation
- Spinal cord injury with paralysis
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns >30%BSA
- Penetrating head, neck, chest, torso injury

**PEDIATRIC PRIORITY 2 TRAUMA:**

- GCS 9-12
- Shock that stabilized with IVF
- Open or multiple fractures of extremities
- Pneumothorax
- Suspected intra-abdominal injury with hemodynamic effects
- Complex pelvic fractures
- Suspected cervical or thoracic spine injuries
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and/or 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns 15-30% TBSA
- Penetrating wound to 2 or more extremities
- Ejection from vehicle
- Death of another occupant in same vehicle
- Struck, dragged or runover by a vehicle
- MVC with high speed impact or rollover
- Fall >20ft
- ATV/Motocross/Dirt bike with injury association

**PEDIATRIC PRIORITY 3 TRAUMA:**

- Trauma patients not meeting above criteria

## PROCEDURE

### EMS Standardized Adult Trauma Radio Report

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

#### To Receiving Facility:

- This is EMS unit X, need to give report on a Priority X Trauma patient.

#### EMS Report:

7. This is EMS unit X with a X minute ETA to your facility with a Priority X Trauma.
8. We have a XX year-old male/female s/p {brief mechanism explanation}.
9. Patient is currently GCS \_\_\_\_\_. Injuries found include....
10. Current vital signs are
  - Pulse
  - BP
  - Respiratory rate
  - SpO<sub>2</sub>
11. Interventions performed include
  - IV
  - Tourniquet
  - Needle Decompression
  - Splinting
  - Spinal Motion restriction
  - Etc.
12. Repeat ETA is \_\_\_\_\_, Do you require any further?

#### PRIORITY 1

- Traumatic arrest
- HR > 130 (>110 for age >= 65)
- HR < 50
- Systolic < 90 (<100 for age>=65)
- GCS < 13
- Impending airway failure/intubation
- Penetrating trauma to torso, abdomen, head, or neck
- Amputation proximal to knee or elbow
- Use of a tourniquet or loss of distal pulses
- Receiving blood
- Spinal cord disruption/neurological findings
- Hip dislocation

#### PRIORITY 2

- Open fracture or multiple fractures
- Pregnancy > 20 weeks
- Femur fracture
- Trauma while on known anticoagulation

#### PRIORITY 3

- Trauma patients not meeting above criteria

## PROCEDURE

### RESQPOD Circulatory Enhancer

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

ResQPOD impedance threshold device prevents unnecessary air from entering the chest during the decompression phase of CPR. When air is slowed while flowing into the lungs as the chest wall recoils, the vacuum (negative pressure) in the thorax pulls more blood back to the heart, resulting in:

- Doubling of blood flow to the heart.
- 50% increase in blood flow to the brain.
- Doubling of systolic blood pressure.

The device should be used for all patients receiving CPR whenever ET, Blind Airway Insertion Device (i-Gel), or BVM is used.

#### **Indications:**

Cardiopulmonary arrest ages 8 and up.

#### **Contraindications:**

Patients with spontaneous respirations.

Cardiopulmonary arrest associated with trauma.

#### **Procedure**

Confirm the absence of pulse and begin CPR immediately. Assure that the chest wall recoils completely after each compression. Endotracheal intubation is the preferred method of managing the airway when using ResQPOD.

1. Using ResQPOD on a facemask:
  - a. Connect ResQPOD to the facemask.
  - b. Connect ventilation source (BVM) to the top of the ResQPOD. If utilizing a mask without a bag, connect to mouthpiece.
  - c. Establish and maintain a tight face seal with mask throughout chest compressions.
  - d. Do not use the ResQPOD's timing lights utilizing a facemask for ventilation.
  - e. Perform ACLS interventions as appropriate.
  - f. Prepare for endotracheal intubation.
2. Using ResQPOD on an Endotracheal Tube or I-Gel:
  - a. Place Endotracheal Tube or i-Gel and confirm placement, secure the tube.
  - b. Move the ResQPOD from the facemask to the advanced airway and turn on the timing lights by removing the clear tab, ventilate asynchronously over 1 second when the light flashes (10/min).
  - c. Continue CPR with minimal interruptions.
  - d. Perform ACLS interventions as appropriate.
  - e. If a pulse is obtained, remove the ResQPOD and assist ventilations as needed.

#### **Notes:**

- Always place waveform Capnography between ResQPOD and ventilation sources.
- Do not interrupt CPR unless absolutely necessary.
- If pulse returns, discontinue CPR and ResQPOD. If patient rearrests, resume CPR with ResQPOD.
- Do not delay compressions if ResQPOD is not readily available.



## PROCEDURE

### Tourniquet

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

#### Indications:

- Life threatening arterial hemorrhage.
- **Serious or life-threatening** extremity hemorrhage and tactical considerations prevent the use of standard hemorrhage control techniques.

#### Contraindications:

Non-extremity hemorrhage.

Proximal extremity location where tourniquet application is not practical.

#### Procedure:

1. Place tourniquet proximal to wound.
2. Tighten per manufacturer instructions until hemorrhage stops and/or distal pulses in the affected extremity disappear.
3. Secure tourniquet per manufacturer instructions.
4. Note time of tourniquet application and communicate this to receiving care providers.
5. Dress wounds per standard wound care protocol.
6. If delayed or prolonged transport and tourniquet application time greater than 2 hours, contact Medical Control.
7. Include tourniquet use in your report to the trauma center as soon as practical.
8. Consider the need for pain management.

## PROCEDURE

### Vascular Access

Any patient having a condition that requires an IV or INT may receive it if the AEMT or Paramedic deems it necessary. Weigh the transport time against the time it would take to start an IV and make a good decision.

Trauma: Minimize on scene time. IVs are to be started while enroute to the hospital unless the patient is pinned in vehicle or a prolonged scene time is unavoidable. IV Lactated Ringers is for trauma patients. The rate is based on patient condition and shall be to maintain the patient's systolic blood pressure 80 – 100 mmHg.

Medical: INT or IV Normal Saline for chest pain, cardiac arrest or other medical conditions requiring possible IV access. If IV access is all that is needed, the INT is preferred

### Intravenous Fluid Administration

#### Treatment Pathway

1. The preferred site for an IV is the hand followed by the forearm and antecubital fossa and is dependent on the patient's condition and treatment modality.

### AEMT STOP HERE

2. In the event that an IV cannot be established, and the IV is considered critical for the care of the patient, other peripheral sites may be used (i.e.: external jugular, feet, legs).
3. External jugular veins should never be the first line attempted unless the patient has no limbs for the initial attempts. INTs **SHOULD NOT** be used in external jugular access.
4. The intraosseous site may be used in patients in whom IV access cannot be established within 2 attempts or 90 seconds **when IV access is critical** (refer to the EZ-IO or NIO procedure).

### PARAMEDIC STOP

## REFERENCE

### Consent Issues

#### EMT

#### AEMT

#### PARAMEDIC

Tennessee Law, under a legal doctrine known as “implied consent”, allows EMS Personnel to treat and transport minors when a parent or legal guardian is not available to provide consent IF a medical emergency exists. Simply stated, a court will imply that reasonable parents will want someone to help their child in their absence if the child develops an emergent medical condition. However, implied consent only becomes legally effective after a reasonable effort is made under the circumstances to contact a parent or legal guardian to obtain their consent to treat the minor.

In non-emergent situations, “mature” minors are generally presumed to be legally competent to give consent. Whether or not a minor is “mature” depends upon multiple factors articulated by the Tennessee Supreme Court. Since it would be difficult, if not impossible, for an EMT/AEMT/Paramedic to adequately assess the factors in the field, it is highly recommended that you obtain the consent of a parent or legal guardian before treating or transporting a non-emergent minor.

Obtaining the consent of a parent or legal guardian before treating or transporting a minor with either an emergent or non-emergent condition is not necessary when the minor is married or legally emancipated. Emancipated and legally married minors are generally deemed to be legally competent.

## REFERENCE

### Civilians Riding in Emergency Unit During Transports

#### EMT

#### AEMT

#### PARAMEDIC

Under normal conditions and non-emergency transport one civilian that is a relative or friend of the patient will be allowed to ride to the hospital with the patient. This designated person will ride in the cab with the Unit Operator. They will be assisted by Fire Department personnel into the cab and placed in a safety belt; this may be delayed until the Operator is positioned in their seat and ready to transport.

The Paramedic in charge of the Emergency Unit has the right to deny a civilian the ability to ride during transport for the following reasons:

- The person has been drinking and/or has the smell of alcohol on their person and is deemed to be a risk to the safety of the personnel.
- The person is rude, belligerent, and/or uncooperative.
- There is a safety issue with this person riding during transport.
- The person is under the age of 18.
- Public Health concerns/ orders.

During emergency transports it will be up to the Paramedic to determine what is in the best interest of the patient and safety of the civilian as well as the personnel. In the event of an elderly person that has no transportation to the hospital or the denial of a civilian riding to the hospital, contact your EMS Supervisor for notification and assistance.

#### Notes:

- Be customer service responsible **at all times**. We are public servants.
- When dealing with pediatric patients every effort should be made to allow the child's parent/guardian or family member that is of age to ride during transport. This person may be allowed to ride in the patient compartment if the Paramedic/EMT deems it is in the best interest of the patient.

## REFERENCE

### Life Vest

#### EMT

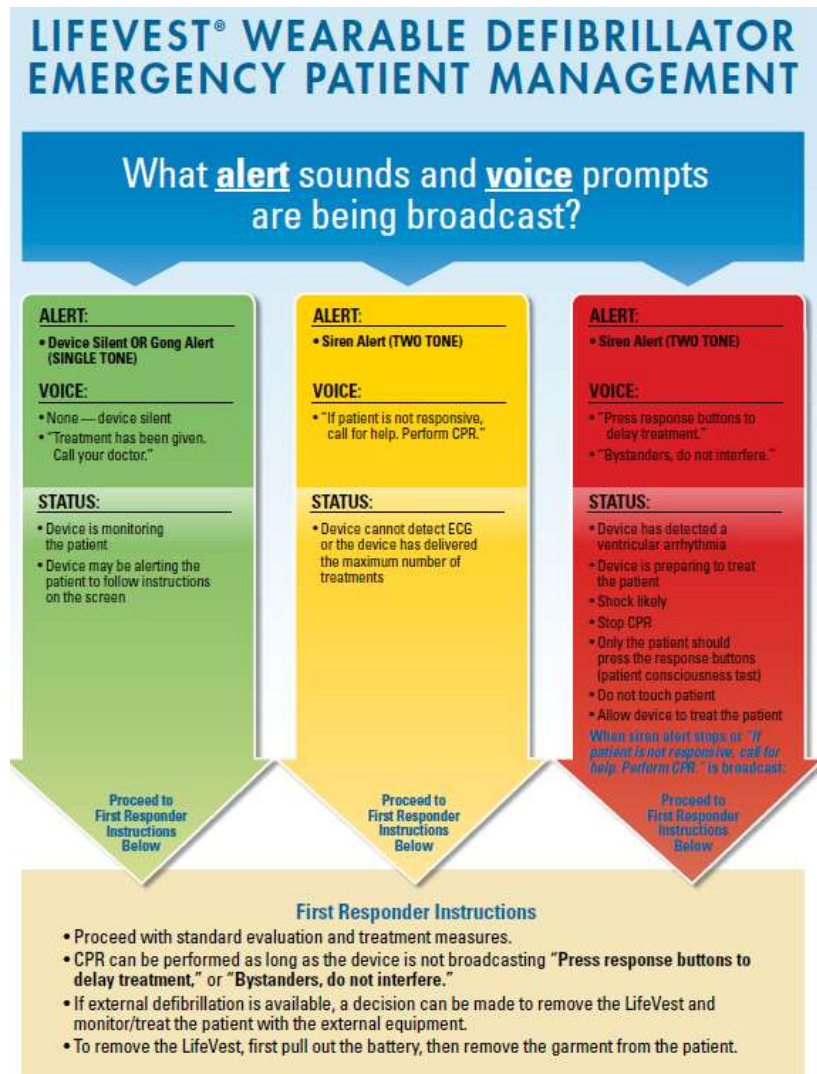
#### AEMT

#### PARAMEDIC

The LifeVest wearable defibrillator is a treatment option for sudden cardiac arrest that offers patients advanced protection and monitoring as well as improved quality of life. The LifeVest is the first wearable defibrillator. Unlike an implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD), the LifeVest is worn outside the body rather than implanted in the chest. This device continuously monitors the patient's heart with dry, non-adhesive sensing electrodes to detect life-threatening abnormal heart rhythms. If a life-threatening rhythm is detected, the device alerts the patient prior to delivering a treatment shock, and thus allows a conscious patient to delay the treatment shock. If the patient becomes unconscious, the device releases a Blue™ gel over the therapy electrodes and delivers an electrical shock to restore normal rhythm.

The LifeVest gives off alert sounds and voice prompts. Please see the information list at the end of this reference to familiarize yourself with the LifeVest and its alert sounds and voice prompts.

If you encounter a patient with the LifeVest, contact Medical Control at the receiving hospital as soon as possible.



## REFERENCE LVAD

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

An LVAD is a surgically implanted mechanical pump that is attached to the heart. An LVAD is different from an artificial heart in that it replaces the failing heart completely. An LVAD works with the heart to help it pump more blood with less work. It does this by continuously taking blood from the left ventricle and moving it to the aorta, which then delivers oxygen-rich blood throughout the body.











The LVAD has both internal and external components. The actual pump sits on or next to your heart's left ventricle with a tube attached that routes the blood to your aorta. A driveline cable extends from the pump, out through the skin, and connects the pump to a controller and power sources worn outside the body.


The driveline must be connected to the controller, and the controller must be connected to power at all times to keep the pump working properly. The pump is powered by batteries or electricity. Each device has a specific carrying case.

You should be contacted by the Alarm Office prior to making the scene and/or the information will appear on the MDT. But, since an LVAD patient can be mobile, they may not be at their place of residence. So, you may not always get prior information. Should you make an LVAD patient, please contact the Cardiopulmonary Transplant Unit at Baptist Memorial Hospital Memphis 901-226-2950 or 901-226-2000 (Ask for LVAD Coordinator) if you have any questions. Please know that the patient and their family are typically very familiar with the device and will have extensive training on it.














All LVAD patients should be transported to Baptist Memphis (Hospital #11) or designated local facility.

### LVAD ALARMS

Priority	System Controller Screen	Active Symbols	Alarm Means	To Resolve Alarm
A D V I S O R Y	Connect Power ⊖ :04	 OR 	One of the two power cables is disconnected.	1. Promptly connect the disconnected power cable to power source (functioning Mobile Power Unit or two fully-charged HeartMate® 1.4 Volt Lithium-Ion batteries). 2. If alarm persists, call your hospital contact immediately.
	Replace Power ⊖ :02 + Low Battery ⊖ :06		Low battery-power input is low, with less than 15 min remaining.	1. Promptly connect to a working or different power source (Mobile Power Unit or two fully-charged 1.4 Volt HeartMate Lithium-Ion batteries). 2. If alarm persists, call your hospital contact immediately.
	Call Hospital Contact Controller Fault		System Controller Hardware Fault	Call your hospital contact as soon as possible for diagnosis and instructions.
	Call Hospital Contact Comm Fault		Communication Fault (Comm Fault)	Call your hospital contact as soon as possible for diagnosis and instructions.
	Call Hospital Contact Backup Battery Fault		System Controller Backup Battery Fault	Call your hospital contact as soon as possible for diagnosis and instructions.
	Call Hospital Contact Backup Battery Fault + 		System Controller Backup Battery Not Installed	Call your hospital contact as soon as possible for diagnosis and instructions.
	Call Hospital Contact Driveline Power Fault		Driveline Power Fault	Call your hospital contact as soon as possible for diagnosis and instructions.
	Call Hospital Contact Driveline Comm Fault		Driveline Communication Fault (Driveline Comm Fault)	Call your hospital contact as soon as possible for diagnosis and instructions.

**Important!** The Pump Running (  ) symbol is lit green when the pump is running.



Priority	System Controller Screen	Active Symbols	Alarm Means	To Resolve Alarm
H A Z A R D	<div>Call Hospital Contact</div> <div>Ⓢ :07</div> <div>+</div> <div>Low Flow</div> <div>Ⓢ :03</div>	 <div>+</div> 	<b>Pump is off. The Pump Running symbol is black.</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Immediately connect to a working power source (Mobile Power Unit™ or two HeartMate® 14 Volt Lithium-Ion batteries).</li> <li>2. If connecting to power does not resolve the problem, press any button on the System Controller to attempt pump start and call your hospital contact immediately.</li> </ol>
	<div>Call Hospital Contact</div> <div>Ⓢ :07</div> <div>+</div> <div>Low Flow</div> <div>Ⓢ :03</div>	 <div>+</div> 	<b>Low flow, flow is less than 2.5 lpm</b>	Call your hospital contact immediately for diagnosis and instructions.
	<div>Connect Driveline</div> <div>Ⓢ :02</div>	 <div>+</div>  <div>+</div> 	<b>Driveline is disconnected. The Pump Running symbol is black.</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Immediately reconnect the Driveline to the System Controller and move the Driveline safety lock on the System Controller to the locked position. Also, check that the Modular In-Line connector is secure.</li> <li>2. If alarm persists after reconnecting the Driveline, press any button on the System Controller to potentially resolve.</li> <li>3. If the Driveline is connected and alarm persists, replace the System Controller with a configured backup System Controller.</li> <li>4. If alarm persists, call your hospital contact immediately.</li> </ol>
	<div>Connect Power Immediately</div> <div>Ⓢ :05</div> <div>+</div> <div>Backup Battery</div> <div>Ⓢ :01</div>	 <div>+</div>  <div>+</div> 	<b>Both power cables are disconnected.</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Immediately connect to a working power source (Mobile Power Unit or two fully-charged HeartMate 14 Volt Lithium-Ion batteries).</li> <li>2. If alarm persists, call your hospital contact immediately.</li> </ol>
	<div>Call Hospital Contact</div> <div>Controller Fault</div>	 <div>+</div> 	<b>System Controller Hardware Fault (Microcontroller Failure)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No active symbols (constant audio tone).</li> <li>2. Call your hospital contact as soon as possible for diagnosis and instructions.</li> </ol>
	<div>Low Battery</div> <div>Ⓢ :06</div> <div>+</div> <div>Replace Power Immediately</div> <div>Ⓢ :02</div>		<b>Low Battery, Power input is extremely low with less than 5 min. remaining.</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Immediately connect to a working power source (Mobile Power Unit or two fully-charged HeartMate 14 Volt Lithium-Ion batteries).</li> <li>2. If alarm persists, call your hospital contact immediately.</li> </ol>

## REFERENCE

### MCI Plan Response Levels

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

Below are the MCI plan response levels. Each response plan is designated to be escalating in nature. However, if any incident requires more resources are required, a higher EMS Level response may be initially requested. That response would receive the total number of resources from EMS Level 1 response to the EMS level response requested.

If you have any questions refer to EMS MCI Response Plan.

#### **Requested by First Arriving Company:**

##### **Level 1**

5 Emergency Units  
1 EMS Lieutenant  
1 EMS Battalion Chief  
1 First Responder Engine Company  
1 First Responder Truck Company  
1 Battalion Chief

##### **Optional Responses**

2 Additional Emergency Units  
2 Additional Fire Companies  
2<sup>nd</sup> EMS Lieutenant  
Mass Casualty Task Force  
Additional Special Operations  
Rescue Unit  
Aeromedical

#### **Requested by IC after consultation with Medical Branch Director:**

##### **Level 2**

5 Additional Emergency Units  
Deputy Chief of EMS  
Deputy Chief of Emergency Operations  
Division Chief of EMS  
2<sup>nd</sup> EMS Lieutenant  
Additional Battalion Chief  
1 Division Chief  
Mass Casualty Task Force  
Air Mask Services  
OSHA Safety Officer  
Media Affairs  
Incident Support Team

##### **Optional Responses**

2 Additional Emergency Units  
2 Additional Fire Companies  
Additional Mass Casualty Unit Buses  
Any specialized equipment

#### **Requested by IC after consultation with Medical Branch Director:**

##### **Level 3**

5 Additional Emergency Units  
Director of Fire Services  
Deputy Director of Fire Services  
All Deputy Chiefs  
All Division Chiefs  
Medical Director  
EMS Battalion Chiefs  
All EMS Lieutenants  
1 Additional ALS Fire Company

##### **Optional Responses**

Additional Emergency Units  
Additional Fire Companies  
Additional Mass Casualty Unit(s)  
Additional MATA Buses  
OEM Resources as needed  
Additional Incident Management –  
All Teams

#### **Requested by IC on advice of Director of Fire Service or designee**

##### **Level 4**

#### **Requested by IC on advice of Director of Fire Services or designee**

##### **Level 5**



## REFERENCE

### Non-Viable Patients on Public Scenes

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

According to Tennessee state law, only a Medical Examiner (ME) can take charge of a deceased body from a crime scene or the Emergency Department. The Police Department will contact the ME, who will then make the scene (including traffic fatalities).

1. The body **WILL NOT** be touched (beyond what is necessary to determine lifelessness, if needed), no items shall be removed from the body or disturbed in any way until permission of the medical examiner's office is granted. This will generally be given by the medical legal investigator (also known as the ME investigator).
2. In the case of a traffic fatality – if there is any doubt as to whether the patient is viable, extricate the patient as per EMS protocol and follow any applicable ALS protocol(s).
3. If it is obvious and/or has been determined by a Firefighter Paramedic that an entrapped victim is non-viable, the ME's office requests that the body not be extricated until, at least, pictures of the scene have been taken by PD. At that point extrication of the victim can proceed and the body placed on the ground. After extrication, a barrier using nylon tape or rope and a drape secured to an object on scene should be used to obscure the body from public view and protect potential evidence.
4. It is imperative that EMS personnel on the scene communicate with the Incident Commander relative to patient viability in determining whether it is appropriate to extricate immediately or to wait.
5. The ME will arrange the transportation of the deceased individual(s) to the Regional Forensic Center (RFC). The Unit personnel will provide the completed hospital copy of the PCR to the RFC representative.
6. Transport products of conception or non-viable fetus with the mother.

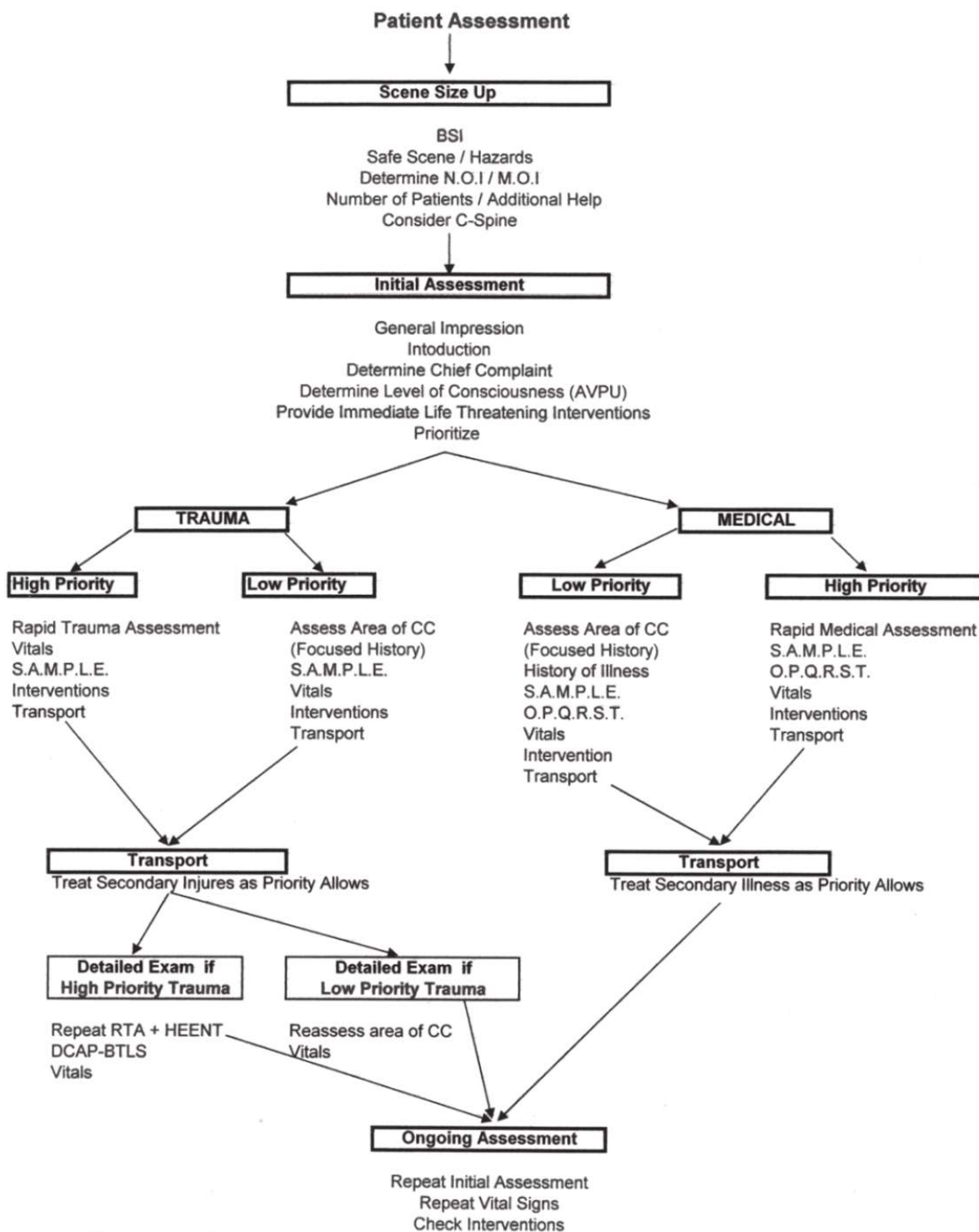
# REFERENCE

## Patient Assessment Flow Chart

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**



Added to BLS SOP's Sept 2005

## REFERENCE

### Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST)

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

#### Directions for Health Care Professionals

##### Completing POST

Must be completed by a health care professional based on patient preferences, patient best interest, and medical indications.

To be valid, POST must be signed by a physician or, at discharge or transfer from a hospital or long term care facility, by a nurse practitioner (NP), clinical nurse specialist (CNS), or physician assistant (PA). Verbal orders are acceptable with follow-up signature by physician in accordance with facility/community policy.

Photocopies/faxes of signed POST forms are legal and valid.

##### Using POST

Any incomplete section of POST implies full treatment for that section.

No defibrillator (including AEDs) should be used on a person who has chosen "Do Not Attempt Resuscitation".

Oral fluids and nutrition must always be offered if medically feasible.

When comfort cannot be achieved in the current setting, the person, including someone with "Comfort Measures Only", should be transferred to a setting able to provide comfort (e.g., treatment of a hip fracture).

IV medication to enhance comfort may be appropriate for a person who has chosen "Comfort Measures Only".

Treatment of dehydration is a measure which prolongs life. A person who desires IV fluids should indicate "Limited Interventions" or "Full Treatment".

A person with capacity, or the Health Care Agent or Surrogate of a person without capacity, can request alternative treatment.

##### Reviewing POST

This POST should be reviewed if:

- (1) The patient is transferred from one care setting or care level to another, or
- (2) There is a substantial change in the patient's health status, or
- (3) The patient's treatment preferences change.

Draw line through sections A through D and write "VOID" in large letters if POST is replaced or becomes invalid.

**COPY OF FORM SHALL ACCOMPANY PATIENT WHEN TRANSFERRED OR DISCHARGED.**

**A COPY OF THIS FORM SHALL ACCOMPANY PATIENT WHEN TRANSFERRED OR DISCHARGED**

**Tennessee Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST, sometime called "POLST")**

This is a Physician Order Sheet based on the medical conditions and wishes of the person identified at right ("patient"). Any section not completed indicates full treatment for that section. When need occurs, first follow these orders, then contact physician.

Patient's Last Name

First Name/Middle Initial

Date of Birth

**Section A**  
Check One Box Only

**CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR): Patient has no pulse and is not breathing.**

☐ Resuscitate (CPR)

☐ Do Not Attempt Resuscitation (DNR / no CPR) (Allow Natural Death)

When not in cardiopulmonary arrest, follow orders in B, C, and D.

**Section B**  
Check One Box Only

**MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS. Patient has pulse and/or is breathing.**

☐ **Comfort Measures.** Relieve pain and suffering through the use of medication by any route, positioning, wound care and other measures. Use oxygen, suction and manual treatment of airway obstruction as needed for comfort. **Do not transfer to hospital for life-sustaining treatment. Transfer only if comfort needs cannot be met in current location. Treatment Plan: Maximize comfort through symptom management.**

☐ **Limited Additional Interventions.** In addition to care described in Comfort Measures Only above, use medical treatment, antibiotics, IV fluids and cardiac monitoring as indicated. No intubation, advanced airway interventions, or mechanical ventilation. May consider less invasive airway support (e.g. CPAP, BiPAP). **Transfer to hospital if indicated. Generally avoid the intensive care unit. Treatment Plan: basic medical treatment.**

☐ **Full Treatment.** In addition to care described in Comfort Measures Only and Limited Additional Interventions above, use intubation, advanced airway interventions mechanical ventilation as indicated. **Transfer to hospital and/or intensive care unit if indicated. Treatment Plan: Full treatment including in the intensive care unit.**

Other Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section C**  
Check One

**ARTIFICIALLY ADMINISTERED NUTRITION. Oral fluids & nutrition must be offered if feasible.**

- ☐ No artificial nutrition by tube.  
☐ Defined trial period of artificial nutrition by tube.  
☐ Long-term artificial nutrition by tube.

Other Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section D**  
Must be Completed

Discussed with:

- ☐ Patient/Resident  
☐ Health care agent  
☐ Court-appointed guardian  
☐ Health care surrogate  
☐ Parent of minor  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_ (Specify)

The Basis for These Orders is: (Must be completed)

- ☐ Patient's preferences  
☐ Patient's best interest (patient lacks capacity or preferences unknown)  
☐ Medical indications  
☐ (Other) \_\_\_\_\_

Physician/NP/CNS/PA Name (Print)

Physician/NP/CNS/PA Signature

Date

MD/NP/CNS/PA Phone Number:

NP/CNS/PA (Signature at Discharge)

( )

**Signature of Patient, Parent of Minor, or Guardian/Health Care Representative**

Preferences have been expressed to a physician and /or health care professional. It can be reviewed and updated at any time if your preferences change. If you are unable to make your own health care decisions, the orders should reflect your preferences as best understood by your surrogate.

Name (Print)

Signature

Relationship (write "self" if patient)

Agent/Surrogate

Relationship

Phone Number ( )

Health Care Professional Preparing Form

Preparer Title

Phone Number ( )

Date Prepared

## REFERENCE

### Pulse Oximetry

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

#### Assessment:

Pulse oximetry is not without limits and must **NOT** be used to supersede other assessments.

The Firefighter EMT (or higher) shall treat the patient and **NOT** the pulse oximeter's display. The patient's other key signs and symptoms must be assessed and evaluated so that the oximeter's readings are interpreted within the context of the patient's overall condition.

The percentage of oxygen saturation measured by an oximeter only reflects the supplied pulmonary oxygenation and is not an indicator or measure of cellular oxygenation. Furthermore, it is useful both in the assessment of the patient and as an adjunct for evaluating the effectiveness of the airway management, ventilation, and oxygen enrichment provided.

Oxygen saturation pressure (SpO<sub>2</sub>) is a different measurement than the partial pressure of oxygen (PaO<sub>2</sub>) which is commonly measured by laboratory blood gas analysis.

Pulse oximetry should be deferred until more urgent assessment and care priorities have first been resolved. Pulse oximetry is a diagnostic tool that along with the patient's vital signs, chief complaint, mental status and other considerations, may assist us in determining the patient's respiratory status.

The pulse rate determined by the pulse oximeter is not an accurate indicator of the patient's pulse rate.

Falsely low readings may occur in the following:

- Patients with cold extremities or hypothermic patients
- Patients with hemoglobin abnormalities
- Patients without a pulse
- Hypovolemic patients
- Hypotensive patients

Falsely normal or high oxygen saturation readings may occur in the following patients:

- Anemic patients
- Carbon monoxide poisoning
- Cyanide toxicity which is being treated with the antidote
- Very bright lighting (direct sunlight or nearby strong lamp)

Other factors affecting accurate readings:

- Patient movement
- Action of vasopressor drug
- Peripheral vascular disease
- Elevated bilirubin levels
- Abnormal hemoglobin values
- IV diagnostic dye has been administered in the last 24 hours

## **Pulse Oximetry Values:**

Normal;

- 96 – 100%
- Treatment – Non-rebreather mask (12 – 15 LPM) or nasal cannula (4 – 6 LPM) if patient cannot tolerate a mask based on patient's chief complaint

Mild Hypoxia;

- 91 – 95%
- Immediate need to increase the  $\text{FiO}_2$
- Treatment – non-rebreather mask 12 – 15 LPM
- Consider use of CPAP if available

Moderate Hypoxia;

- 86 – 90%
- Immediate need to increase the  $\text{FiO}_2$
- Consider possible loss of airway patency
- Treatment – non-rebreather mask 12 – 15 LPM, consider airway adjunct and bag-valve-mask @ 15 LPM, on assist
- Consider use of CPAP if available

Severe Hypoxia;

- $\leq 85\%$
- Treatment – assist ventilations with adjunct and bag-valve-mask @ 15 LPM. Airway management as appropriate
- Consider use of CPAP if available



## REFERENCE

### Quality Improvement Documentation Criteria

Documentation on all patients must include the following and any other information pertinent to patient care:

**OPQRST** and **SAMPLE** are the acronyms for the United States DOT EMS and Paramedic patient assessment curriculum.

- O** – Circumstances surrounding the onset of complaint.
- P** – What provoked (or provokes) the complaint?
- Q** – Describe the quality (sharp, burning, stabbing, etc.) of the complaint?
- R** – Where does the pain radiate?
- S** – Describe the severity of the pain on a 1 – 10 scale 1(minimal) – 10 (maximum).
- T** – Time of onset.

- S** – Signs, symptoms, physical exam findings.
- A** – Allergies to medications or the environment.
- M** – Medications, prescription or over the counter.
- P** – Past medical history.
- L** – Last oral intake.
- E** – Event, what happened to the patient.

All patients encountered by EMS should have at least two sets of vital signs assessed and documented. The initial set of vitals will include blood pressure (systolic/diastolic), pulse rate, respiratory rate, pulse oximetry, blood glucose (if indicated), and the time they were assessed must be recorded.

- All medications taken by the patient should be listed in the report. If medications are taken to ER, document in narrative who the medications were left with.
- When documenting the presumed presence of alcohol that is based solely upon breath odor, do so in the following manner: "Patient's breath has the odor that is commonly associated with the consumption of alcohol."

#### Abdominal Pain/ Problems:

1. Location of pain
2. Distension
3. Tenderness / radiation
4. Nausea / vomiting / diarrhea
5. Urinary complaints
6. LMP if applicable
7. Vaginal bleeding / discharge if applicable
8. Treatment / reassessments
9. Report given and signature of RN

#### Airway Obstruction:

1. Can patient speak / forcibly cough
2. Is patient moving air
3. Inspiratory stridor
4. What caused obstruction
5. Duration of obstruction
6. Treatment / reassessments
7. Report given and signature of RN

**Alcohol Intoxication:**

1. Patient's breath has odor of ETOH
2. Patient admits to drinking (type, amount, time frame)
3. Speech (normal, slurred)
4. Gait (normal, unsteady)
5. Any obvious injuries noted
6. Blood glucose level
7. Level of consciousness
8. Treatment / reassessments
9. Report given and signature of RN

**Allergic Reaction:**

1. Cause of reaction
2. Dyspnea
3. Facial / airway edema
4. Chest pain
5. Rash / itching
6. Urticaria / hives
7. Treatment / reassessments
8. Report given and signature of RN

**Altered Mental Status:**

1. OPQRST, SAMPLE as appropriate
2. ETOH / Substance abuse
3. Any obvious injuries noted
4. Blood glucose level
5. Normal mental status
6. EKG and strip attached
7. Treatment / reassessments
8. Report given and signature of RN

**Animal Bite / Sting:**

1. Type of animal or insect
2. Location of bite(s) / sting(s)
3. Edema at site
4. Rabies / immunization status of animal if appropriate
5. Treatment / reassessments
6. Report given and signature of RN

**Assault / Fight:**

1. OPQRST, SAMPLE as appropriate
2. Method of assault
3. Any obvious injuries or pain
4. Loss of consciousness, for how long
5. Treatment / reassessments
6. Report given and signature of RN

**Atraumatic GI Bleed:**

1. Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation
2. Active bleeding
3. Bloody emesis / stool, for how long
4. Color of emesis / stool
5. Abdominal pain – location and quality
6. Treatment / reassessments
7. Report given and signature of RN



**Burn:**

1. Burn source (flame, chemical, electrical)
2. Environment (enclosed, outside)
3. Entrance / exit wounds if appropriate
4. Burn surface area and thickness
5. Facial, oral, nasal area singed
6. Chest pain / dyspnea
7. Consider cyanide antidote
8. Treatment / reassessments
9. Report given and signature of RN

**Cardiac Arrest:**

1. Events prior to onset
2. Description / location of patient on arrival
3. Estimated down time
4. Treatment / reassessments
5. Report given and signature of RN

**Chest Pain:**

1. OPQRST, Sample as appropriate
2. Factors relieving or increasing pain
3. Dyspnea, cough
4. Nausea, vomiting
5. Diaphoresis
6. Aspirin within past 12 hours
7. Treatments / reassessments
8. Report given and signature of RN

**CHF / Pulmonary Edema / SOB:**

1. Chest pain
2. Dyspnea
3. Nausea, vomiting
4. Diaphoresis
5. JVD / lower extremity edema
6. Treatment / reassessments
7. Report given and signature of RN

**Death:**

1. Last time patient seen or talked to
2. Position / location of body
3. Any movement of body made by EMS
4. Any injuries noted
5. Dependent lividity / rigor mortis
6. EKG strip in two leads attached
7. Released to

**Diabetic:**

1. OPQRST, SAMPLE as appropriate
2. Nausea / vomiting / recent illness
3. Pre/Post treatment of blood glucose level
4. Treatment / reassessments
5. Report given and signature of RN

**Hypertension:**

1. Chest pain / dyspnea
2. Nausea / vomiting
3. Headache / mental status
4. Neuro assessment
5. Treatments / reassessments
6. Report and signature of RN

**Hyper / Hypothermia:**

1. Approximate ambient air temperature
2. Estimate exposure time
3. Type of environment (inside, outside, wet)
4. Loss of consciousness
5. Fluid intake
6. Skin turgor / condition
7. ETOH / substance abuse
8. Treatments / reassessments
9. Report given and signature of RN

**Inhalation Injury (Toxic Gas/Smoke):**

1. Type of gas
2. Duration of exposure
3. Area of exposure (enclosed room)
4. Heated environment
5. Burns / singeing (oral, nasal, facial area)
6. Treatments / reassessments
7. Report given and signature of RN

**Poisoning / Drug Ingestion:**

1. Name of substance
2. Amount
3. Route of intake
4. How long ago
5. Vomiting since ingestion as appropriate
6. Intentional vs. unintentional
7. ETOH / substance use
8. Oral mucosa burns if appropriate
9. Treatments / reassessments
10. Report given and signature of RN

**Pregnancy / OB Delivery:**

Separate report required for mother and each delivery

**Non-Delivery:**

1. Abdominal pain, contractions (duration and frequency)
2. Gravida / para / abortion
3. Length of gestation / estimated due date
4. Edema (pedal) / BP / headache / visual disturbance
5. Vaginal bleeding / discharge – if yes, describe
6. Last time fetal movement
7. Treatments / reassessments

Report given and signature of R

**Delivery:**

1. Multiple fetuses
2. Mucous plug presented
3. Membranes ruptured – if yes, is amniotic fluid clear?
4. Crowning as appropriate

**Neonate:**

1. Time of birth
2. Thoroughly dried and warmed
3. Oral and nasal suctioning
4. Meconium present
5. APGAR at 1 and 5 minutes
6. General appearance
7. Treatments / reassessments
8. Report given and signature of RN

**Refusals:**

Documentation of:

1. Competency
2. MMSE
3. Lack of trauma
4. Situation
5. Ability to make good decisions
6. Safety of patient is assured by caretakers, family, etc.

**Seizures:**

1. OPQRST, SAMPLE as appropriate
2. Obvious injuries (mouth, head, tongue)
3. Duration and number of events
4. Incontinence
5. Level of consciousness (post-ictal)
6. Treatments / reassessments
7. Report given and signature of RN

**Stroke / CVA / TIA:**

1. OPQRST, SAMPLE as appropriate
2. Onset and duration of symptoms
3. Headache / Vision disturbances
4. Thrombolytic screening and stroke screen
5. Treatments / reassessments
6. Report given and signature of RN

**Syncope / Fainting / Weakness:**

1. OPQRST, SAMPLE as appropriate
2. Injuries, chest pain, dyspnea, nausea
3. Vertigo, postural, TILT changes
4. New or changed medications
5. Last meal
6. Blood glucose level
7. EKG
8. ETOH / Substance use
9. Treatments / reassessments
10. Report given and signature of RN

**Trauma:**

1. OPQRST, SAMPLE as appropriate
2. Description of event
3. Weapon (size, caliber, depth of penetration) if applicable
4. Description of damage, estimated speed, airbag deployment as applicable
5. Patient protection as applicable
6. Level of loss of consciousness
7. Obvious injuries and area of pain
8. Palpation / assessment of injured areas
9. Disability (PMS/SMC intact)
10. Consider use of tourniquet
11. Treatments / reassessments
12. Report given and signature of RN

## REFERENCE

### Sepsis Identification Tool

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

### Sepsis: Pre-Hospital Screening

<b>S.I.R.S</b> (Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome) <b>(2 or more)</b>	<b>Infection</b> (Source of Infection) <b>(1 or more)</b>	<b>Severe Sepsis</b> (Organ Dysfunction) <b>(1 or more)</b>
Resp: > 20  Heart Rate: > 90  Temp: > 38 (100.5) < 36 (96.5)  WBC: > 12,000 < 4,000 (If available from nursing home or other transferring facility)	Cough Painful urination Diagnosis of UTI Abscess Sign of skin infection Flu symptoms Recent chemotherapy Presence of vas cath Presence of urinary catheter Sick contacts (recent exposure)	Altered Mental Status  Systolic BP<90  Oxygen sat <92%  Signs of poor skin perfusion (i.e., poor cap refill, mottled skin, etc.)  Lactate Level > 2 (If available from nursing home or other transferring facility.)
<b>2 or more SIRS criteria + 1 or more sources of infection + and ETCO2 ≤ 25</b> <b>2.1 = CODE SEPSIS</b>		
<b>2 or more SIRS criteria + 1 or more possible sources of infection + 1 or more organ dysfunction criteria=</b> <b>2.1.1 = CODE SEVERE SEPSIS</b>		
In the event of a <b>CODE SEPSIS</b> OR <b>CODE SEVERE SEPSIS</b> , initiate the following Cardiac Monitor Oxygen to maintain ≥ 92% sat 2 large bore IVs draw labs  Notify receiving hospital and identify patient as “ <b>CODE SEPSIS OR CODE SEVERE SEPSIS</b> ”		

**REMEMBER...SEPSIS KILLS MORE THAN STROKE AND STEMI COMBINED!!!**

**The 6 hour window is closing!!!**

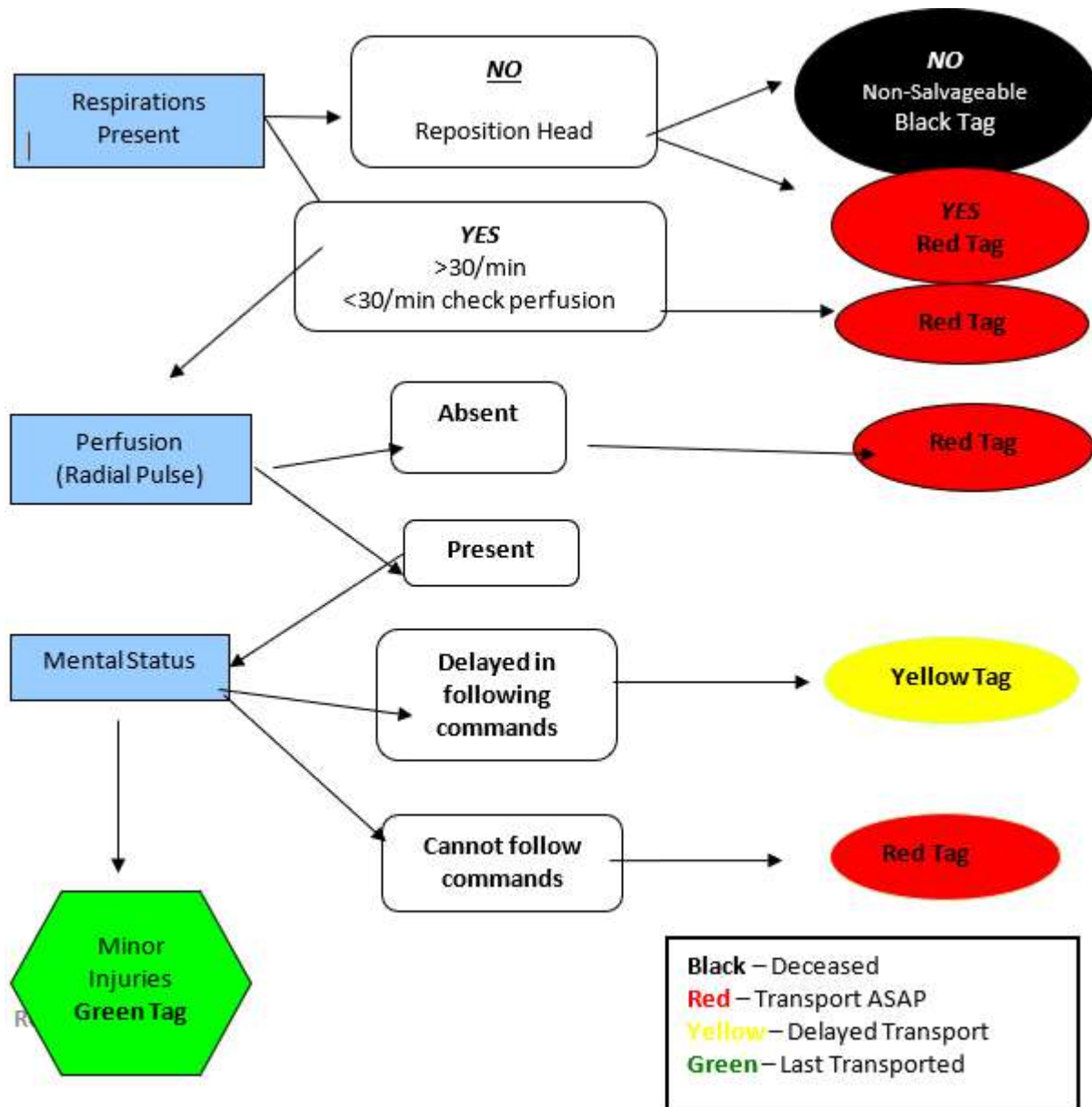
# REFERENCE

## S.T.A.R.T. Triage

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**



## REFERENCE

### Trauma Assessment / Destination Guidelines

#### EMT

#### AEMT

#### PARAMEDIC

- Perform primary and secondary survey
- Treat any life-threatening injuries / illness
- Obtain vital signs
- Determine mechanism of injury
- Obtain past medical history

#### Is transport to Trauma Center > 30 minutes

Yes	No
Initiate transport to closest appropriate facility Notify Medical Control of decision	<u>Transport to Level I Trauma Center if:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GCS is &lt; 13 and/or</li> <li>• Systolic BP is &lt; 90 mmHg</li> <li>• Respiratory rate &lt; 10 or &gt; 30</li> </ul>
Transport to trauma center may exceed 30 minutes If dictated by local Medical Control or Trauma Control	<u>Transport to Level I Trauma Center if:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Penetrating injury proximal to elbow or knee</li> <li>• Flail chest, penetrating chest, or abdominal injury</li> <li>• Combination trauma with burns of &gt; 15% BSA, or to face and/or airway</li> <li>• Limb paralysis</li> <li>• Amputation proximal to wrist or ankle</li> <li>• Patient ejection from vehicle</li> <li>• Death of passenger in the same vehicle</li> <li>• Extrication time &gt; 20 minutes with above trauma</li> </ul>
Medical Control will have final jurisdiction over destination, excluding: Any patient of legal majority (age 18 or over), the parent or legal guardian of a minor patient or an emancipated minor shall have the right to request transport to a specific facility with the county of origin.	<u>Contact Trauma Control to consider transport to Level I, II, III Trauma Center if:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High speed auto accident with suspected injury</li> <li>• Velocity change of &gt; 20 mph</li> <li>• Passenger compartment intrusion of &gt; 12"</li> <li>• Auto vs. pedestrian injury with &gt; 5 mph impact</li> <li>• Motorcycle accident &gt; 20 mph or with separation of rider and motorcycle</li> <li>• Bicycle accident with significant impact</li> </ul>
Transport of the patient to the requested destination shall not constitute neglect of duty imposed by law on all EMS personnel if the person making the decision has been informed that Tennessee has a trauma system, which would in their circumstance transport them to another facility.	<u>Contact Trauma Control to consider transport to Level I, II, III Trauma center if:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient age &gt; 55 years</li> <li>• Known cardiac, respiratory disease or psychosis on medication</li> <li>• Insulin dependent diabetic, cirrhosis, malignancy, obesity, or coagulopathy</li> </ul>
If the patient's condition deteriorates during transport, such that their life/health are considered in serious jeopardy if the requested/planned destination is pursued, <b>AND</b> if Medical Control deems transport to a higher level trauma center necessary, the patient may be transported to the appropriate facility	

## REFERENCE

### Trauma Treatment Priorities

#### EMT

#### AEMT

#### PARAMEDIC

1. If multiple patients initiate the S.T.A.R.T. and Multiple Casualty Incident System.
2. Oxygen 100% and airway maintenance appropriate for the patient's condition.
3. Treat for shock appropriate to the patient's condition.
4. Certain situations require rapid transport. Non-lifesaving procedures such as splinting and bandaging must not delay transport. Contact the responding emergency unit when any of the following exist:
  - Airway obstructions that cannot be quickly relieved by mechanical methods such as suction or jaw-thrust maneuver.
  - Traumatic cardiopulmonary arrest.
  - Large open chest wound (sucking chest wound).
  - Large flail chest.
  - Tension pneumothorax.
  - Major blunt chest trauma.
  - Shock.
  - Head injury with unconsciousness, unequal pupils, or decreasing level of consciousness.
  - Tender abdomen.
  - Unstable pelvis.
  - Bilateral femur fractures.



# REFERENCE Trauma Score

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

## Revised Trauma Score

<b>Respiratory Rate</b>	10 – 24/min.	4
	24 – 35/min.	3
	> 36/min.	2
	1 – 9/min.	1
	None	0
<b>Respiratory Expansion</b>	Normal	1
	Retractive	0
<b>Systolic Blood Pressure</b>	> 90 mmHg	4
	70 – 89 mmHg	3
	50 – 69 mmHg	2
	0 – 49 mmHg	1
	No Pulse	0
<b>Capillary Refill</b>	Normal	2
	Delayed	1
<b>Points to add to the RTS based on the GCS</b>		
14 – 15		5
11 – 13		4
8 – 12		3
5 – 7		2
3 – 4		1

**REFERENCE**  
**Glasgow Coma Scale**

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

Eye Opening	
Spontaneous	4
Opening to voice	3
Response to pain	2
None	1
Verbal	
Oriented	5
Verbal confused	4
Inappropriate words	3
Incomprehensible sounds	2
None	1
Motor	
Obeys commands	6
Localizes pain	5
Withdraws (pain)	4
Flexion	3
Extension	2
None	1

## REFERENCE

### Common Medical Abbreviations

**1°** - primary, first degree

**a** – before

**AED** – Automated External Defibrillator

**AOX3** – alert and oriented to person, place, and time

**Abd** – abdomen

**Ab** – abortion

**ac** – antecubital

**AF** – atrial fibrillation

**ARDS** – Adult Respiratory Distress Syndrome

**AT** – atrial tachycardia

**AV** – atrioventricular

**b.i.d.** – twice a day

**BSA** – body surface area

**BS** – blood sugar and/or breath sounds

**c** – with

**CC** or **C/C** – chief complaint

**CHF** – Congestive Heart Failure

**CNS** – Central Nervous System

**c/o** – complains of

**CO** – carbon monoxide

**CO2** – carbon dioxide

**D/C** – discontinue

**DM** – diabetes mellitus

**DTs** – delirium tremens

**DVT** – deep venous thrombosis

**Dx** – diagnosis

**EDC** – estimated date of confinement

**EKG** – Electrocardiogram

**EJ** – external jugular

**ENT** – ear, nose, and throat

**ETOH** – abbreviation of Ethanol (grain alcohol)

**FI** – fluid

**Fx** – fracture

**GB** – gall bladder

**g** or **gm** – gram

**gr.** – grain

**GSW** – gunshot wound

**gtt** – drop

**GU** – genitourinary

**GYN** – gynecologic

**h** or **hr** – hour

**H/A** – headache

**Hg** – mercury

**H&P** – history and physical

**Hx** – history

**ICP** – intracranial pressure

**JVD** – jugular venous distension

**KVO** – keep vein open

**LAC** – laceration

**LBBB** – left bundle branch block

**MAEW** – moves all extremities well

**NaCl** – sodium chloride

**NAD** – no apparent distress/ no acute distress

**NKA** – no known allergies

**NPO** – nothing by mouth

**OD** – overdose

**O.D.** – right eye

**O.S.** – left eye

**PERL** – pupils equal and reactive to light

**PID** – pelvic inflammatory disease

**p.o.** – by mouth

**PTA** – prior to arrival

**Pt** – patient

**q** – every

**qh** – every hour

**q.i.d.** – four times a day

**RBBB** – right bundle branch block

**R/O** – rule out

**ROM** – range of motion

**Rx** – prescription

**s** – without

**S/S** – signs and symptoms

**TIA** – transient ischemic attack

**t.i.d.** – three times a day

**Tx** – treatment

**V.S.** – vital signs

**y.o.** – years old

## REFERENCE

### Glucose Dosage

#### Notes

If a glucometer reading is less than 60 mg/dL and patient is asymptomatic, start an INT and administer oral glucose. If a glucometer reading is less than 60 mg/dL and patient is symptomatic, start an IV NS and administer dextrose. Reassess patient every 5 minutes, repeat PRN.

**Note:** Any administration of dextrose must be given through an IV line running normal saline and **NOT VIA AN INT**. Blood glucose should be rechecked after administration of dextrose or oral glucose. Normal blood glucose values for adults are 80 – 120 mg/dL.

Blood Glucose and Stroke Screening will be performed on all patients with altered mental status. Glucose should be titrated slowly in order to restore normal levels while avoiding large changes in serum glucose levels. Be aware that elevated glucose levels are detrimental in conditions such as stroke.

<b>Glucose (dextrose)</b>	D50 1-2 mL/kg D25 2-4 mL/kg D10 2-4 mL/kg	>8 years 6 months - 8 years Neonate - 6 months Max Rate 2 ml/kg/min.
If D25 or D10 are not available utilize a syringe of D50. To make D25 expel 25 mL of D50 and draw up 25 mL of NS. To make D10 expel 40 mL of D50 and draw up 40 mL of NS.		
<b>*Reminder:</b> Consider IO if other access unavailable and patient significantly symptomatic		

## REFERENCE

### Ketamine Dosage

#### Notes:

One of the effects of ketamine is hallucinations, and those occur within a certain dosage range. Surgical sedation dosage is 20 times higher than the dosage required to cause hallucinations, so as the drug is eliminated, patients may go through the hallucinogenic range. The dosage for pain control and hallucinations are very close together. This wearing off of ketamine is called an emergence reaction and may entail a variety of mood alteration, a floating sensation, hallucination, vivid dreams, and can be pleasant or unpleasant.

Not everyone experiences the emergence reaction, but it's more common in patients over 16, women, people who dream, those who receive large doses or rapid administration. This isn't usually an issue in the field, as the ketamine won't have worn off, and hallucinations can be managed in the ED. However, if management is required, administration of a benzodiazepine, such as midazolam, is appropriate.

Ketamine may also cause increased intraocular pressure, so use with caution in patients with glaucoma or acute globe injury. Administration of ketamine can cause nystagmus or double vision. Once patients have been sedated, they may have an eyes wide open, glazed expression.

Due to the catecholamine-induced sympathetic activity, ketamine can increase myocardial oxygen demand. Continuous monitoring of the cardiac system is required, and the drug is NOT recommended in patients with STEMI or other acute cardiovascular disease. Elevations of blood pressure, heart rate, or cardiac output that become symptomatic can be treated supportively.

Beware of laryngospasm, especially if drug administered quickly.

Ethanol also inhibits NMDA function, so use with caution in an intoxicated patient.

Continuous monitoring of the cardiac system is required.

Ketamine doesn't have a reversal agent. However, the effects that are most commonly seen in ketamine use can be managed supportively or end when the drug is eliminated from the system.

#### Pain Management

Indicated for an Adjunct for Musculoskeletal Pain. Not for Chest Pain, Headache, or penetrating eye trauma

Ketamine- 0.1-0.3 mg/kg IV PRN      May be given 0.25-0.5mg/kg IM/IN if no vascular access

Onset: 1-3 min Peak: 3-20 min

Duration: 15-30 min

Onset 15-20 minutes

#### Airway Management

Ketamine is the induction agent of choice with suspected bronchospasm or asthma.

Ketamine is also the sedation / analgesia agent of choice for patient compliance and comfortability with NIPPV therapy due to its ability to maintain airway reflexes.

#### Ketamine 1-2 mg/kg IVP

Consider Versed 1-2 mg IVP to ensure complete sedation.

### **Behavioral Control/Sedation/Agitation**

Ketamine- 1.5 – 2 mg/kg IV PRN

4mg/kg IM Dosing (initially preferred in acutely agitated patient)

May repeat prn

Onset: 1-3 min Peak: 3-20 min

Duration: ~15- min IV

### **Notes**

If efforts to control seizures with Versed is unsuccessful, consider **Ketamine 1 mg/kg IV/IM.**

## REFERENCE

### Opiate Reference

**Actions/Pharmacodynamics:** Stimulates central nervous system opiate receptors, producing systemic analgesia. On a milligram weight basis, fentanyl is 50-100 times more potent than morphine. Its duration of action is shorter than morphine or hydromorphone. An IV dose of 100 mcg of fentanyl is roughly equivalent to an IV dose of 10 mg of morphine. Fentanyl has fewer emetic effects than other narcotic analgesics.

**Contraindications:** Hypotension  
Respiratory Depression  
Minor Degrees of Pain  
Pain Assessed as Factitious

**Side Effects:** Hypotension, respiratory depression, euphoria, dizziness. Nausea and/or vomiting are rarely seen if administration is slow IVP.

**Pharmacokinetics:** Onset of action nearly immediate after IV administration. Peak effects occur within 3 – 5 minutes. Duration of effect is 30 - 60 minutes, with a half-life of 6 – 8 hours.

#### Notes

If hypotension develops after Opiate administration, give fluid bolus of 250 ml 0.9% NS or 20 ml/kg. Pediatric fluid bolus is 10 - 20 ml/kg 0.9% NS

If respiratory depression occurs after opiate administration, give Naloxone (Narcan) 0.4mg-2 mg IVP and consider intubation. **Pediatric Naloxone dosage is 0.1 mg/kg IVP.**

**Fentanyl-** 1 - 2 mcg/kg IV PRN. MAX Single Dose 200 mcg IV

- Onset: 1-3 min. Peak: 3-20 min.
- Duration: 15-30 min.
- Slow IV push, Repeat as needed, titrating for pain management
- Can be administered intranasally

**Morphine** 2 – 10 mg IV. 0.05 – 0.1 mg/kg IV PRN

- Slow IV push, Repeat as needed, titrating for pain management
- Zofran 4mg IV and may repeat as tolerated • Max total dose, 8 mg
- Onset: 1-3 min. Peak: 3-20 min.
- Duration: 15-30 min.

Doses are approximate	5-9 kg	10 kg	12 kg	15 kg	20 kg	30 kg	40 kg	50-74 kg	≥ 75 kg	Geriatric	
Fentanyl IV/IN/IO		10	12	15	20	30	40	50-75 mcg	75	25	1-2 mcg/kg
Morphine IV/IO		1 mg	1 mg	1.5 mg	2 mg	3 mg	4 mg	4 mg	4 mg	2 mg	0.05-0.1 mg/kg
Ondansetron IV/IO					3 mg	3 mg	4 mg	4 mg	4 mg	4 mg	0.15 mg/kg

If pain not controlled, Morphine and fentanyl dosing may be repeated once after ten minutes. Contraindicated in hemodynamically unstable patients.

## REFERENCE

### Pain Management Protocol

#### Notes

- Any non-intubated patient requiring pain management / sedation.
- Pain is a subjective symptom in which the patient exhibits a feeling of distress and discomfort.
- Manage pain appropriately.
- Titration over brief time periods is preferable.
- Remain alert to complications and side effects.
- Maintain adequate airway, breathing and circulation.
- Administer oxygen as indicated to maintain oxygen saturations greater than 93%.
- Monitor hemodynamics.
- Assess and document a patient's level of pain, upon initial patient contact, after any intervention that is performed to relieve pain, before transition of care, and as needed throughout care.

#### TREATMENT PATHWAY

1. Initiate IV Access.
2. Ensure adequate padding, splinting, etc. to reduce pain.

### AEMT STOP HERE

**Analgesia** (Consider one or a combination of the following depending on patient needs):

**Fentanyl** 1 - 2 mcg/kg IV PRN. MAX Single Dose 200 mcg IV

- Onset: 1-3 min. Peak: 3-20 min.
- Duration: 15-30 min.
- Slow IV push, Repeat as needed, titrating for pain management
- Can be administered intranasally

**Morphine** 2 – 10 mg IV. 0.05 – 0.1 mg/kg IV PRN

- Slow IV push, Repeat as needed, titrating for pain management
- Zofran 4mg IV, May repeat as tolerated. Max total dose, 8 mg
- Onset: 1-3 min Peak: 3-20 min
- Duration: 15-30 min.

**Ketamine** 0.1-0.3 mg/kg IV PRN May be given 0.25-0.5mg/kg IM/IN if no vascular access

- Onset: 1-3 min. Peak: 3-20 min.
- Duration: 15-30 min.

### PARAMEDIC STOP



## REFERENCE

### Post-Intubation Sedation

#### Indications:

To optimize the post-intubation treatment in terms of adequate pain management, sedation, and paralysis.

To differentiate the treatment of pain management and sedation in the intubated patient from the non-intubated patient.

#### Notes:

Intubated patients require aggressive pain management in the pre-hospital environment.

Consideration must be given to vital signs and non-verbal communication to adequately assess pain and anxiety in the intubated patient.

Be cautious that some agents may exacerbate hypotension where others mitigate the risk of hypotension.

## TREATMENT PATHWAY

Sedation Management Therapies: Note: the following medications are not in order of succession. Use clinical judgement to guide treatment pathway.

**Diazepam** 0.01 – 0.1 mg/kg IV every 5 minutes

- Onset: 1-3 min. Peak: 3-20 min.
- Duration: 15-30 min.

**Fentanyl** 1 – 2 mcg/kg IV PRN May repeat prn

- Onset: 1-3 min. Peak: 3-20 min.
- Duration: 15-30 min.

**Ketamine** 1-2 mg/kg IV Peak: 3-20 min.

- Slow IV push. May be given intramuscularly if no vascular access
- Repeat as needed, titrating for pain management / sedation effect
- Consider use of Ketamine with NPPAV ventilation, to treat anxiety related to the procedure.

**Versed** 2 – 5 mg IV

- Slow IV push. Repeat as needed, titrating to effect

**PARAMEDIC STOP**

## REFERENCE

### Medication Dosage

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

Generic Name	Trade Name	Adult Dosage	Pediatric Dosage
Acetaminophen	Tylenol	1000 mg PO	>3 months 15 mg/kg PO
Adenocard	Adenosine	12 mg rapid IVP with flush	1 <sup>st</sup> dose 0.1 mg/kg max dose 6 mg 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose .02 mg/kg max dose 12 mg
Albuterol Sulfate	Proventil, Ventolin, Albuterol Sulfate	Aerosol Nebulization: 2.5 mg in 3 mL NS q 5 min. if heart rate <150	Aerosol Nebulization: 2.5 mg in 3 mL NS q 5 min. if heart rate <200
Amiodarone	Cordarone	300 mg then 150 mg	5 mg/kg
Aspirin	Aspirin	162-324 mg chewed and then swallowed	No pediatric dosing
Atropine Sulfate	Atropine	0.5-1 mg IVP q 3-5 min. Max dose 0.04 mg/kg	0.02 mg/kg q 3-5 min. Max dose 0.04 mg/kg
Calcium Chloride		500 mg IVP	20 mg/kg
Dextrose 50%	D <sub>50</sub> , D <sub>50</sub> W	12.5-25 gram IVP	No pediatric dosing
Dextrose 25%	D <sub>25</sub> , D <sub>25</sub> W		2 mL/kg (D50 mixed 50/50 with Normal saline)
Dextrose 10%	D10, D10W	250 cc bag of D10	Up to 250 cc of D10
Diazepam	Valium	2-10 mg slow IVP, titrated to effect	0.1 mg/kg slow IVP, titrated to effect
DOPamine		2-20 mcg/kg/min.	2-20 mcg/kg/min.
Diphenhydramine	Benadryl	25-50 mg IM or slow IVP	1 mg/kg
EPINEPHrine	Adrenaline	Cardiac Arrest: 0.5-1 mg of 1:10,000 (now 0.1 mg/mL) solution IVP q 3-5 min.  Anaphylaxis: 0.3-0.5 mg of EPINEPHrine 1:1,000 (now 1 mg/mL) solution IM	Cardiac Arrest: 1:10,000 (now 0.1 mg/mL) 0.01 mg/kg IV/IO q 5 min. Anaphylaxis: EPINEPHrine 1:1,000 (now 1 mg/mL) 0.01 mg/kg IM, max dose 0.3 mg Croup: Nebulized EPINEPHrine 1:1,000 (now 1 mg/mL) diluted to 2.5-3 mL saline flush. May repeat up to 3 doses
FentaNYL	Sublimaze	1-2 mcg/kg 50-100 mcg	0.5-2 mcg/kg
Glucagon	Glucagen	1-2 mg IM	0.5 mg/dose IM/IV if <20 kg, or 1 mg/dose IM/IV if 20 kg or greater

Ibuprofen	Motrin	600 mg PO	<b><i>peds &gt;6 months 10 mg/kg PO</i></b>
Lidocaine	Xylocaine	IO Pain Control: 20-50 mg 1-1.5 mg/kg max dose 3 mg/kg	<b><i>IO Pain Control: 0.5 mg/kg 1.0 mg/kg</i></b>
Lidocaine Drip	Xylocaine	2-4 mg/min.	<b><i>20 to 50 mcg/kg</i></b>
Magnesium Sulfate		<u>Torsades only:</u> 1-2 gm IVP over two min. <u>Pre-eclampsia or Eclampsia:</u> 2-4 g slow IVP over 2 min./g Drip: 4 g in 250 mL D <sub>5</sub> W (16 mg/mL) run at 30-60 gtts/min.	<b><i>VF/VT: 50 mg/kg IV/IO, max dose 2 g, over 1-2 minutes</i></b>  <b><i>Torsades only: 50 mg/kg IV, max 2 g</i></b>
Methylprednisolone	Solu-Medrol	62.5 or 125 mg	<b><i>Contact Medical Control</i></b>
Midazolam	Versed	2-5 mg IV or IM	<b><i>0.1 mg/kg</i></b>
Morphine	Morphine Sulfate, MS Contin, MSIR	2-4 mg IVP – see standing orders for repeat doses	<b><i>Sedation/Pain Management 0.1 to 0.2 mg/kg</i></b>
Naloxone	Narcan	0.4-2 mg slow IVP	<b><i>0.1 mg/kg slow IVP</i></b>
Nitroglycerine		<u>Oral:</u> 0.4 mg SL or spray q 5 min. for pain <u>Transdermal:</u> 1" on chest wall <u>NTG Therapy:</u> 1 spray SL and apply 1" paste. Repeat SL spray once after 5 min. Continue therapy until pain is relieved or systolic BP <100 mmHg	
Nitrous Oxide	NitroNox	Patient self-administered gas	
Ondansetron	Zofran	2-4 mg IV; 4-8 mg ODT	<b><i>0.15 mg/kg IV</i></b>
Sodium Bicarbonate 4.2%			<1 mo, 1 mEq/kg IV/IO
Sodium Bicarbonate 8.4%		1 mEq/kg IV/IO followed by 0.5 mEq/kg q 10 min.	>1 mo, 1 mEq/kg IV/IO followed by 0.5 mEq/kg q 10 min.
Defibrillation		150 j Biphasic	<b><i>Begin at 2 j/kg</i></b>
Cardioversion		Refer to specific SOP	<b><i>0.5 j/kg to 2 j/kg</i></b>

## REFERENCE

### Drug Infusion Admix Dosage Guidelines

#### PARAMEDIC ONLY

##### Lidocaine:

2 grams medication/500 mL D<sub>5</sub>W = 4 mg/mL (always use 60 gtt. Set)

1 mg/min = 15 gtt/min

2 mg/min = 30 gtt/min

3 mg/min = 45 gtt/min

4 mg/min = 60 gtt/min

##### Magnesium Sulfate:

4 grams in 250 cc D<sub>5</sub>W (16 mg/ml) run at 30-60 gtt/min

##### DOPamine:

400 mg /250 mL D<sub>5</sub>W or 800 mg/500 mL D<sub>5</sub>W = 1600 mcg/mL (always use 60 gtt. Set)

##### 50 kg patient – 110 lbs.

2.5 mcg/kg/min = 5 gtt/min

5 mcg/kg/min = 12 gtt/min

10 mcg/kg/min = 19 gtt/min

20 mcg/kg/min = 38 gtt/min

##### 70 kg patient – 154 lbs.

2.5 mcg/kg/min = 7 gtt/min

5 mcg/kg/min = 13 gtt/min

10 mcg/kg/min = 27 gtt/min

20 mcg/kg/min = 53 gtt/min

##### 100 kg patient – 220 lbs.

2.5 mcg/kg/min = 10 gtt/min

5 mcg/kg/min = 19 gtt/min

10 mcg/kg/min = 38 gtt/min

20 mcg/kg/min = 75 gtt/min

##### **Ped dose 2-20 mcg/kg/min**

##### **EPINEPHrine**

2 mL (EPINEPHrine 1 mg/kg)/in 250 mL NS or D<sub>5</sub>W = 8 mcg/mL (always use 60 gtt. Set)

**Ped dose – 3.6 mL (EPINEPHrine 1 mg/kg)/in 100 mL NS or D<sub>5</sub>W =32 mcg/ml (always use 60 gtt. Set)**

## PEDIATRIC SHOCK / TRAUMA

### Pediatric Points to Remember

#### EMT

#### AEMT

#### PARAMEDIC

1. An infant is less than one year of age.
2. A child is from one to eight years of age.
3. Remember that few pediatric arrests are primary cardiac events. Most stem from respiratory (airway) problems, dehydration/metabolic, or hypothermia. Ensure that a child that arrests or is pending arrest is well oxygenated, well hydrated and warm.
4. Prognosis is extremely poor for a child that arrests.
5. Treat children aggressively before they arrest. Hypotension is a late sign.
6. **When in doubt contact Medical Control.**
7. The use of a length-based assessment tape is **required** for all pediatric patients as a guide for medications and equipment sizes.
8. Remember that with children the intraosseous drug route is quick to establish and may be easier than gaining IV access.
9. Children may be effectively ventilated using a BVM. This is the preferred method of ventilation in respiratory or cardiac arrest.

## PEDIATRIC REFERENCE

### Pediatric Trauma Score

**EMT****AEMT****PARAMEDIC**

(14 years of age and under)

Component	+ 2 points	+ 1 point	- 1 point
Size	Greater than 20 kg	10 – 20 kg	Less than 10 kg
Airway	Normal	Oral/Nasal airway	Unmaintainable/ intubated
Systolic BP	Greater than 90 mmHg	50 – 90 mmHg	Less than 50 mmHg
CNS	Awake	Obtunded/LOC	Coma
Open Wound	None	Minor	Major/penetrating
Skeletal	None	Closed fractures	Open/multiple fractures

Total point values from physical presentations or injury:  
Trauma Score \_\_\_\_\_ (Sum of points)

## PEDIATRIC REFERENCE

### Triage Decision Scheme

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

(14 years of age and under)

Pediatric Trauma Score of 8 or less: refer to destination determinates (see pediatric shock/trauma protocol).

YES	NO
Transport to Level I Pediatric Trauma Center. Advise Medical Control	Assess anatomy of injury
Penetrating injury proximal to elbow and knee including head and neck	
Flail chest	
Traumatic Respiratory Arrest	
Pelvic fracture with shock	
Amputation proximal to wrist and ankle	
Combination trauma with burns of 15% BSA, or to the face or airway	
2 or more proximal long bone fractures	
Limb paralysis	
Contact Medical control for consideration of transfer to Level I or Level II pediatric trauma center. If Medical Control is unavailable, then transport to highest level trauma center.	Assess anatomy of injury
Evidence of high impact	Re-evaluate with Medical Control
Death of vehicle occupant (particularly if unrestrained)	
Fall greater than 20 feet	
Velocity change greater than 20 mph	
Passenger intrusion greater than 12 inches	
Pedestrian impact (significant) 5 – 20 + mph	
Motorcycle accident greater than 20 MPH or with separation of rider and bike	
Bicycle accident with significant impact	

## PEDIATRIC REFERENCE

### Age, Weight, and Vital Signs Chart

**EMT****AEMT****PARAMEDIC**

Age	Weight (kg)	Normal Diastolic BP	Normal Systolic BP	Heart Rate Per Minute	Respiratory Rate Per Minute
Birth	3.5	56 – 70	66 – 90	110 – 160	30 – 60
6 mons	7.0	56 – 70	70 – 104	100 – 140	30 – 50
1 year	10.0	56 – 76	80 – 104	100 – 140	24 – 34
2 years	13.0	56 – 76	80 – 104	90 – 110	20 – 30
3 years	15.0	56 – 76	80 – 104	90 – 110	20 – 30
4 years	17.0	56 – 76	90 – 110	80 – 110	20 – 30
5 years	19.0	56 – 76	90 – 110	80 – 110	20 – 30
6 years	23.0	56 – 76	90 – 110	70 – 100	16 – 30
7 years	25.0	56 – 76	90 – 110	70 – 100	16 – 30
8 years	28.0	60 – 76	90 – 110	70 – 100	16 – 30
9-10 years	30.0	64 – 76	90 – 114	70 – 90	10 – 20
11-12 years	37.0	64 – 80	90 – 120	70 – 90	10 – 20
13-15 years	50.0	64 – 80	110 – 124	60 – 80	10 – 20
16-18 years	65.0	64 – 90	110 – 134	60 – 80	10 – 20

Size ETT =  $\frac{16 + (\text{age in years})}{4}$



## PEDIATRIC REFERENCE

### Age and Weight Related Pediatric Equipment Guidelines

**EMT**

**AEMT**

**PARAMEDIC**

	Premature 3 kg	Newborn 3.5 kg	6 Months 7 kg	1 – 2 years 10 – 12 kg	5 years 16 – 18 kg	8 – 10 years 25 – 36 kg
<b>C – Collars</b>			Small	Small	Small	Medium
<b>Oxygen Masks</b>	Premature or Newborn	Newborn	Pediatric	Pediatric	Pediatric	Adult
<b>BVM</b>	Infant	Infant	Pediatric	Pediatric	Pediatric	Pediatric or Adult
<b>Laryngoscopes</b>	0	1	1	1	2	2 – 3
<b>ET Tubes</b>	2.5 – 3.0	3.0 – 3.5	3.5 – 4.5	4.0 – 4.5	5.0 – 5.5	5.5 – 6.5
<b>Suction Catheters</b>	6 – 8 Fr	8 Fr	8 – 10 Fr	10 Fr	14 Fr	14 Fr
<b>Oral Airways</b>	Infant	Infant or Small	Small	Small	Medium	Medium or Large
<b>IV Equipment</b>	22 – 24 angio	22 – 24 angio	22 – 24 angio	20 – 22 angio	20 – 22 angio	20 – 22 angio
<b>BP Cuffs</b>	Newborn	Newborn	Infant or Child	Child	Child	Child or Adult

## Authorization for Standing Orders

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Standing Orders and Protocols (revision project completed July, 2024) are hereby adopted. They are to be initiated by EMS personnel within their scope of practice of licensure whenever a patient presents with injury or illness covered by the protocols. Where indicated to contact Medical Control, the EMS provider should receive voice orders from Medical Control before proceeding. Other orders may be obtained from Medical Control when the situation is not covered by the protocols or as becomes necessary as deemed by the Paramedic/EMT.

Effective Date of these SOPs: 08/01/2024

“Signature on File”

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Joe Holley, MD FACEP FAEMS  
Medical Director

08/01/2024

Date