



# Centura Agencies El Paso/Teller Counties Prehospital Practice Guidelines

## ***APPLIES TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES:***

- Aramark/ Pike's Peak EMTs-Hurtado
- Asteri EMS-Hurtado
- Black Forest Fire Rescue Protection District-Hurtado
- Cascade Volunteer Fire Department-Hurtado
- City of Fountain Fire Department-Hakkarinen
- Colorado Bureau of Land Management EMTs-Hurtado
- Colorado Centre Metropolitan District-Hakkarinen
- Colorado College EMS Squad-Hurtado
- Colorado Springs Utilities Wildland Team-Hurtado
- Donald Wescott Fire Protection District-Hurtado
- Edison Volunteer Fire Department-Hakkarinen
- El Paso County Search and Rescue/Wildland-Hurtado

- Falcon Fire Protection District-Hurtado
- Four Mile Fire Protection District-Hurtado
- NE Teller County Fire Department-Hurtado
- Palmer Lake Fire Department-Hurtado
- SW HWY 115 Fire Protection District-Hakkarinen
- Teller County Search and Rescue-Hurtado
- Teller County Sheriff's Office SWAT-Hurtado
- Tri Lakes-Monument Fire Department-Hurtado

**UPDATED 08/01/2022**

**THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

# Table of Contents

## Section A: General Guidelines

Introduction.....	A001
Patient Determination .....	A002
Patient Consent .....	A003
Patient Refusal.....	A004
General Assessment and Care .....	A005
General Pediatric Overview .....	A006
Patient Destination - General & Trauma.....	A007
Death in the Field.....	A008
Mandatory Reporting .....	A009
Waivers .....	A010
Advanced Directives .....	A011
Interfacility Transport .....	A012

## Section B: Procedures

Airway Management .....	B001
Airway Procedures.....	B002
Cardiac-Related Procedures .....	B003
Law Enforcement Blood Draw .....	B004
Miscellaneous Procedures .....	B005
Monitoring Devices.....	B006
Vascular Access.....	B007
Nausea/Vomiting .....	B008
Pain Management.....	B009
Spinal Motion Restriction (SMR).....	B010
Taser Probe Removal .....	B011
Wound Care Procedures.....	B012

## Section C: Respiratory Emergencies

Standard Dyspnea Care.....	C001
Wheezes/Rhonchi.....	C002
Stridor/FBAO.....	C003
Rales .....	C004

## Section D: Cardiac Emergencies

Acute Coronary Syndrome.....	D001
Bradydysrhythmias .....	D002
Tachydysrhythmia.....	D003
Hyperkalemia .....	D004
Cardiac Arrest Medical .....	D005
Cardiac Arrest Respiratory.....	D006
ROSC .....	D007
Neonatal Resuscitation.....	D008
VAD.....	D009

## Section E: Medical Emergencies

Allergy/Anaphylaxis .....	E001
Behavioral Emergency/ETOH/Restraints .....	E002
Diabetic Emergency .....	E003
Epistaxis .....	E004
OB/Gyn Emergency.....	E005
OB/Complicated Delivery.....	E006
Poisoning/Overdose .....	E007
Seizures.....	E008
Sepsis/Infection .....	E009
Stroke.....	E010
COVID-19 Screening.....	E011



# Table of Contents

## Section F: Traumatic Emergencies

General Trauma Care .....	F001
Burn Injuries.....	F002
Button Battery Ingestion.....	F003
Chest, Abdomen, and Pelvic Injuries.....	F004
Crush Injuries .....	F005
Extremity/Amputation Injuries.....	F006
Face, Neck, and Spine Injuries.....	F007
Hemorrhagic Shock.....	F008
Submersion Injuries .....	F009
Traumatic Brain Injuries.....	F010
Traumatic Cardiac Arrest .....	F011

## Section G: Environmental Emergencies

Bites and Stings.....	G001
Cold Emergencies.....	G002
Heat Emergencies .....	G003
High Altitude Emergencies.....	G004

## Section H: Medications

<b>Medication Overview.....</b>	<b>H000</b>
Acetaminophen.....	H001
Adenosine .....	H002
Albuterol .....	H003
Ancef (Cefazolin) .....	H004
Amiodarone .....	H005
Aspirin.....	H006
Atropine.....	H007
Atrovent (Ipratropium) .....	H008
Calcium .....	H009
Dexamethasone (Decadron) .....	H010
Dextrose.....	H011
Diazepam (Valium).....	H012
Diltiazem (Cardizem).....	H013
Diphenhydramine (Benadryl).....	H014
Droperidol (Inapsine).....	H015
Epinephrine 1:1000.....	H016
Epinephrine 1: 10,000 .....	H016
Fentanyl (Sublimaze).....	H017
Glucagon.....	H018
Haloperidol (Haldol).....	H019
Honey.....	H020
Hydromorphone (Dilaudid).....	H021
Hydroxocobalamin (cynokit).....	H022
Ibuprofen .....	H023
IV Fluids.....	H024
Ketamine for Pain Management.....	H025
Ketorlac (Toradol) .....	H026
Lidocaine.....	H027
Lorazepam (Ativan).....	H028
Magnesium Sulfate .....	H029
Methylprednisolone (Solu-Medrol) .....	H030
Midazolam (Versed).....	H031
Morphine .....	H032
Naloxone (Narcan) .....	H033
Neo Synephrine (Phenylephrine).....	H034
Nitroglycerin .....	H035

Olanzapine (Zyprexa) .....	H036
Ondansetron (Zofran) .....	H037
Oral Glucose.....	H038
Oxygen .....	H039
Racemic Epinephrine .....	H040
Sodium Bicarbonate.....	H041
Topical Ophthalmic Anesthetic.....	H042
Tranexamic Acid (TXA) .....	H043
Vaccinations.....	H044

### Section I: Special Situations

Approved Abbreviations .....	I001
Quick Reference Guide .....	I002
Appendix .....	I003
PULSARA Tip Sheet .....	I004

### Section 2: Dr. Hakkarinen

Dr. Hakkarinen Appendix .....	J000
MAAM.....	J001
Etomidate .....	J002
Ketamine MAAM.....	J003
Ketamine Pain .....	J004
Nitroglycerin Infusion .....	J005
Rocuronium .....	J006
Succinylcholine .....	J007
Vecuronium .....	J008

**THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

# Introduction

## Introduction

Colorado EMS Providers working in the prehospital setting are expected to know and adhere to the scope of practice established in Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

### [6 CCR 1015-3 CHAPTER TWO - RULES PERTAINING TO EMS PRACTICE AND MEDICAL DIRECTOR OVERSIGHT.](#)

The Chapter Two rules are used by the **Region IV Medical Director's Committee** to establish the medical guidelines prehospital providers are expected to follow when operating in the prehospital environment. These guidelines are also used to ensure that all personnel falling under medical directors within Region IV receive similar training in, and are competent to perform, the skills and medical acts contained within.

- a) Understanding communication challenges faced by many of southern Colorado's EMS providers, individual medical directors may establish the circumstances and methods by which an EMS provider obtains authorization to perform any medical act and/ or skill while rendering direct patient care.
- b) Where evidence-based practice is available, the Region IV Medical Directors Committee diligently evaluates the research available and drafts guidelines that will assist EMS providers in **delivering the best possible patient care with the best possible patient outcomes**. Where evidence is lacking, the Committee has relied on best practices, expert advice, and consensus to guide the development of a guideline or procedure.
- c) While every attempt has been made to standardize the guidelines and the medical acts and skills contained within this document, individual medical directors may create guidelines that reflect their beliefs, the capabilities of their EMS providers, and/or the needs of the community being served. **It is imperative that EMS providers working in multiple systems, for multiple agencies, and/or under multiple medical directors know and adhere to the guidelines specifically approved by each agency's medical director.**
- d) Where these Guidelines and agency Standard Operating Policies (SOPs) are in conflict (especially regarding the rendering of medical treatment and care), the guidelines contained in this document are considered the approved Region IV standard of care and are always to be followed. Agency-specific medical guidelines living outside of this document are not the approved standard of care and are not endorsed by any El Paso County Medical Director.

No guideline can account for the wide variety of clinical scenarios encountered by EMS providers. From time to time, it is expected that circumstances will arise that are not covered within these guidelines. In such instances, providers should function within their scope of practice and use all available resources (including On-Line Medical Consultation) to ensure the best outcome, supported by clear, detailed documentation of their clinical reasoning and judgment.

The content of these guidelines is to be reviewed on an annual basis, however, updates necessary to reflect advances in patient care, provider skills and training, legislative changes, and/or changes within the community at-large will be rolled out on an "as-needed" basis.

## Reviewed by:

These guidelines have been reviewed by the Penrose EMS Institute Educators and Staff.

## Approved by:

These Agency-specific Guidelines have been approved by the Penrose EMS Institute Medical Direction Team, which includes David Hakkarinen, MD, FACEP, Tim Hurtado, DO, FACEP, Stein Bronsky, MD, and Casey Lyons, DO, well as physician members of the Region IV Medical Directors Committee.

## Special Thanks:

The Penrose EMS Institute Medical Direction Team would like to thank all those involved in carefully reviewing and recommending edits contained in these revised Guidelines.

Any project this complex and detailed is prone to errors. Please review these guidelines carefully and route any potential errors, unclear directions, or suggestions for improvement to your agency's EMS Officer, your agency's Medical Director or Penrose EMS Institute Educator assigned to assist your agency's Medical Director.

# Introduction

## Guideline Keys

For guidelines using an algorithm format, acts allowed for each provider certification level are identified by borders around the appropriate instruction boxes using the following color key:

EMR (*)	EMT	EMT-IV	AEMT	Intermediate	Paramedic	Waivered
---------	-----	--------	------	--------------	-----------	----------

(\*) All EMR providers must be certified through the National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) at the EMR level and registered with the State of Colorado EMTS Office, in order to perform the acts allowed listed under EMR instruction boxes.

Individual medication and procedure guidelines include a color-coded box at the top, indicating whether a specific provider level can administer the medication, if the medication can be administered as a standing order (SO), requires base contact for a verbal order (VO), and requirements for any repeat doses. Anywhere there is a “NO” it is not allowed.

Provider Level	First Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	VO	VO
AEMT	VO	VO
Intermediate	SO/YES	SO/YES
Paramedic	SO/YES	SO/YES

Medications or procedures that are only allowed to be performed by agencies with a current State-approved Waiver to the Acts Allowed are clearly marked and indicated with asterisks\*\*\*and outlined or written in **BROWN**.

Medications and procedures will be **CAPITALIZED**, *italicized*, underlined, and written in **BLUE** to signify a cross reference point.

Teaching points deemed sufficiently important to be included in algorithm-based guidelines are in grey-filled boxes, i.e.:

Guideline Key:	
< means LESS THAN	> means GREATER THAN or MORE THAN
≤ means EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN	≥ means EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN

### Pediatric Guidelines

For the purposes of these guidelines, pediatric patients are defined either by an individual guideline until the patient’s weight-based calculations equal the adult dose. For detailed information, see [GENERAL PEDIATRIC OVERVIEW](#). Pediatric-specific information within a guideline will be noted by **PURPLE TEXT**.

### Guideline Education and Training

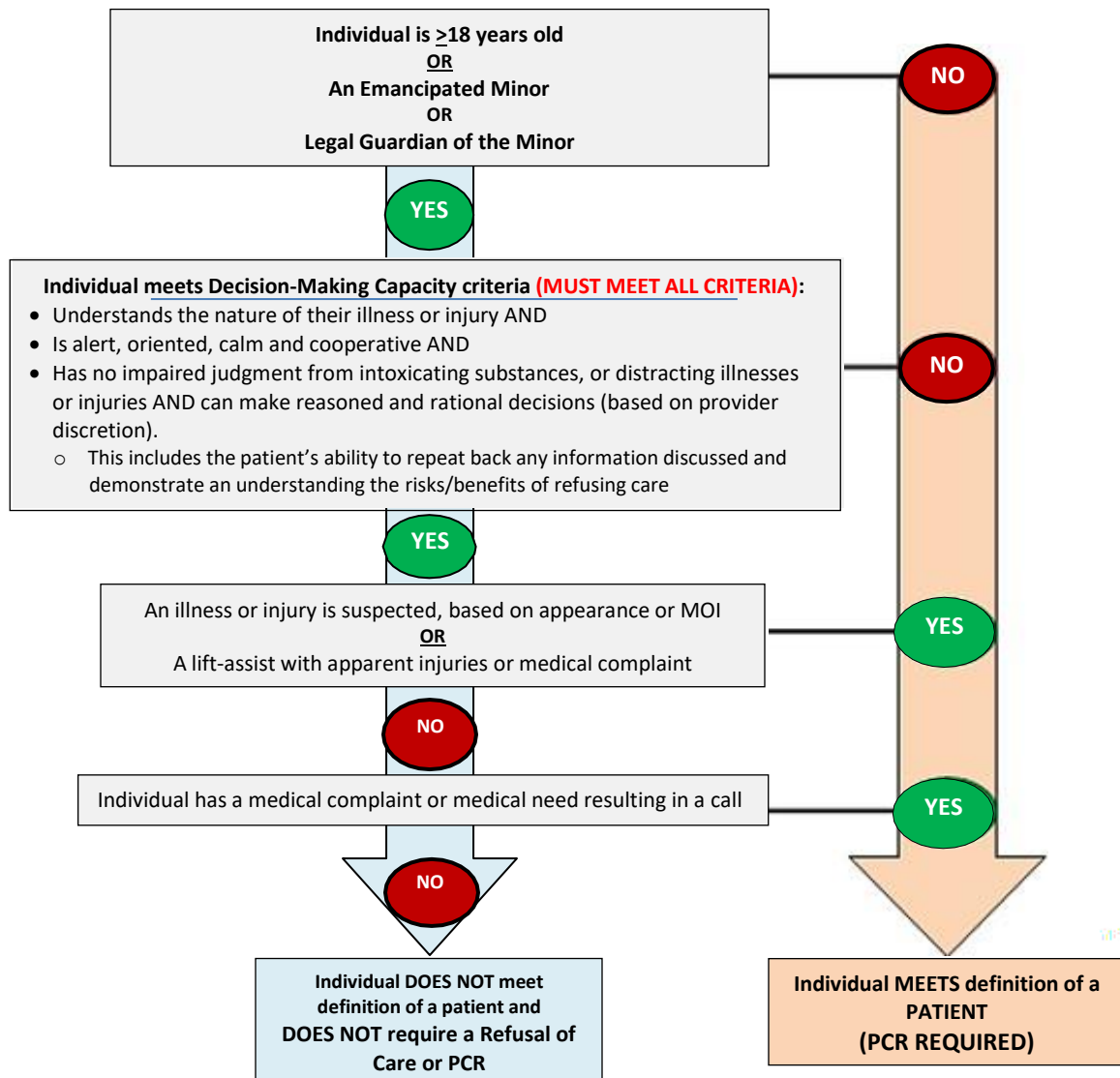
The curriculum for initial EMS provider training may not cover some of the treatments, procedures, and medications included in these guidelines. The acts allowed by Colorado’s Chapter Two Rules are more extensive than those required to be taught using the National EMS Scope of Practice model.

Therefore, it is the responsibility of all EMS agencies and their Medical Directors to ensure that initial training, verification of competence, and maintenance of the skills falling outside traditional EMS education are documented for all agency providers. This may be of additional importance when training and orienting new providers, providers moving to a higher level of certification, and providers new to Colorado, prior to allowing them to practice independently.

# Patient Determination

## Description

- When in doubt as to whether individual is a “patient”, err on the side of caution and perform a full assessment as well as documentation.
- No guideline can anticipate every scenario and providers should use best judgment.
- If further care and evaluation is warranted AND the patient is refusing to be treated/transported, then refusal documentation **MUST** be completed. SEE [PATIENT REFUSAL GUIDELINE](#).





# Patient Consent

## Decision Making Capacity

- 1) A person has appropriate **decision-making capacity** if the individual or responsible party;
  - a) Is alert, orientated, reliable, calm, and cooperative **AND**
  - b) able to understand the nature and consequences of his or her illness or injury **AND**
  - c) able to understand the nature and consequences of the proposed or refused treatment **AND**
  - d) does **NOT** exhibit **IMPAIRED JUDGEMENT AND** can make reasoned and rational decisions (based on provider discretion)
    - i. This includes the patient's ability to repeat back any information discussed and demonstrate an understanding of the risks/benefits of refusing care.
- 2) The patient should be assessed to determine that they are oriented, understand what happened, understand what may possibly happen if treated (or not treated), and have a plan of action, such as how to get home from scene, if refusing treatment.
- 3) If the patient does not have appropriate decision-making capacity under these guidelines, consent should be obtained from another responsible party.
  - a) They must also have appropriate decision-making capacity and be legally "of age", a spouse, an adult son or daughter, aparent or stepparent, an adult brother or sister, or a legal guardian.
- 4) If the patient does not have appropriate mental capacity and none of the above persons can be reached, the person should be treated and transported to a medical facility.
  - a) It is preferable to enlist support and agreement in this course of action from law enforcement.

## Consent

- 1) A patient has the right to consent to or to refuse treatment. If the patient does not have decision-making capacity, a biological relative or legally appointed guardian has this same right (see below).
  - a) Age of consent varies from state-to-state. In general, the patient must be over 18 years-of-age or between 15 and 18-years-old and emancipated.
    - i. An Emancipated Juvenile per Title 19 section 19-2-511 of the Colorado Revised Statutes is anyone  $\geq 15$  and  $< 18$  years who has, with the real or apparent consent of the juvenile's parents, demonstrated independence from the juvenile parent's matters of care, custody, and earnings. The term may include, but shall not be limited to, any such juvenile who has the sole responsibility for their own support, who is married, or who is in the military.
- 2) Consent is "**implied**" when the patient is unable to consent to treatment due to age, mental status, or medical condition **AND** no responsible party is available to grant that consent.
- 3) In no event should legal consent procedures be allowed to delay immediately-required treatment.
  - a) If the time delay to obtain lawful consent from an authorized person would present a serious risk of death or serious impairment to their health or would prolong severe pain or suffering of the patient, treatment may be undertaken to avoid that risk.
- 4) If the patient is a minor, consent should be from a competent biological parent, adoptive parent, or court-appointed legal guardian.
  - a) This includes school systems where *loco parentis* exists; this allows teachers and other responsible adults to act on behalf of a student when a biological parent, adoptive parent, or court-appointed legal guardian is not available.
- 5) Consent is "**involuntary**" in rare circumstances where a person other than the patient may authorize consent.
  - a) This may include a court order (guardianship), authorization by a law enforcement officer for prisoners in custody or detention, or for persons under a mental health hold or commitment who are a danger to themselves or others or are gravely disabled.

## Special Considerations

- 1) A provider should render care in "good faith"; this may help reduce the risk of legal consequence for failure to treat and/or negligence. Do not let fear of legal consequences prevent rendering of care.
- 2) The best defense against any legal question of consent, decision making capacity, and the need for care, is a well-documented prehospital care report.
  - a) A well-written account of the patient and care rendered will be invaluable, if legal questions are raised at a future date, and will convey the provider's competence and adherence to standards of care.
- 3) A medical provider with no previously established professional relationship with the patient has no medical authority to direct care on scene.
  - a) Contact your Leadership or Medical Control.

# Patient Refusal

## Description

- a) Any individual who has **decision-making capacity** may refuse treatment, examination, or transport.
  - i. See the [PATIENT CONSENT GUIDELINE](#) for the definition of **decision-making capacity**.
- b) If further care and evaluation is warranted **AND** the patient is refusing to be treated/transported, then a refusal **MUST** be completed.
- c) The patient or a legally responsible party **MUST**:
  - a. Be alert, oriented, reliable, calm, and cooperative
  - b. Understand the nature and consequences of his or her illness or injury
  - c. Understand the nature and consequences of any proposed treatment or treatment being refused.
  - d. Not demonstrate **IMPAIRED JUDGEMENT AND** be able to make reasoned and rational decisions (based on provider discretion)
  - e. Voluntarily refuse treatment or transport
- d) EMS personnel on scene are responsible for a reasonable assessment of the patient to determine if there is an injury, illness, or reason for transport and treatment.
  - i. They should consider the nature of the incident, potential mechanism, actions of the patient, as well as the patient's verbal statements.
  - ii. They should make sure the refusal is informed and voluntary.

## Role of On-line Medical Control

- 1) The role of medical control is to assist on-scene providers in determining the patient's ability (or inability) to make medical treatment decisions and assist when a patient is refusing but needs to be transported (in the judgement of the on-scene provider). It is imperative that an accurate and concise report be given, so the medical control physician to be able to provide good, situational advice
- 2) Contact with Medical Control **DOES NOT** need to be made (standing order) in cases where **ALL** the following are present:
  - a) The patient is:
    - i. 18 years-of-age **or**
    - ii. an emancipated minor **or**
    - iii. a minor with a biological parent/court appointed guardian on-scene or available via phone **or**
    - iv. A minor in the care of adults employed by their school system (loco parentis)
  - b) **NO** life threatening/debilitating injuries or acute medical illness are present
  - c) There is **NO** reasonable expectation of patient condition worsening BRUE
- 3) Consider Medical Control contact, **IF** further guidance is needed in situations such as, but not limited to, the following:
  - a) Patient is a Minor (<18 years-of-age) and no biological parent/legal guardian is on-scene or available via phone
  - b) EMS personnel on scene are **NOT** in agreement or have doubts regarding the patient's ability to refuse
  - c) Life-threatening, debilitating injury, or acute and potentially life-threatening medical illness is present

## Documentation/ Agency-specific Refusal of Care Form

- 1) Anyone who can be considered a patient, and/or receives any kind of medical assessment **REQUIRES** at least one (1) set of documented vital signs, a completed patient care report, **AND** an agency-specific **Patient Refusal of Care** form.
- 2) Refer to your agency's standard operating procedures (SOPs) for agency-specific [Refusal of Care](#) documentation and requirements.
  - a) If the patient will not/cannot sign the [Refusal of Care](#) form, document reason in the narrative (i.e. patient refuses to sign etc.).
- 3) A [Refusal of Care](#) form **MUST be completed for every patient** receiving any kind of medical assessment at a multi-patient scene (such as motor vehicle crash).



# Patient Refusal

- 4) Every level of EMS provider can and should complete their agency-specific Refusal of Care form, after performing any kind of medical assessment in the field.
  - a) When multiple EMS agencies are on scene, **both** agencies must document that a Refusal of Care form was completed (and which agency completed the form) in their respective patient care reports.
- 5) Any EMS agency may dictate that their providers contact Medical Control for all refusals of care.

## **Advising the Patient**

---

- a) Discussion with an individual (or legal guardian) who is refusing care, as well as documentation that the patient fully understands everything that is being discussed, must include the following explanations:
  - a) Prehospital care is not a substitute for evaluation and treatment by a physician in a licensed clinical setting.
  - b) Prehospital care is severely limited and is geared towards transport to definitive care.
  - c) A list of all the risks of the patient's refusal of care, along with any reasonable alternatives to refusing.
  - d) The patient (or dependent) could have a serious or life-threatening injury or illness that could worsen without further care and transport, and the patient could suffer serious permanent disability or death as a result.
  - e) The patient may change their mind at any time and contact 9-1-1 for further medical assessment, care and transport.

# General Assessment & Care

## Description

---

- 1) All patients will require a basic amount of supportive care and assessment; some will require a more advanced assessment and care. This guideline is designed to lay out the minimum requirements for BLS and ALS care, while acknowledging potential situational-specific scenarios.

## Assessment

---

- 1) A complete patient assessment is critical for identifying injuries or illness. It helps to create a working diagnosis that will guide treatment decisions by a BLS and/or ALS provider. It involves five steps:
  - a) Scene evaluation
  - b) Primary assessment
  - c) Medical interview
  - d) Secondary assessment
  - e) Continual reassessment

## Vital Signs

---

- 1) In most medical settings, the standard, baseline vital signs are as follow:
  - a) Level of consciousness (APVU)
  - b) Pulse rate & quality
  - c) SpO<sub>2</sub>
  - d) Respiratory rate & quality
  - e) Blood pressure
  - f) Body temperature, if available
- 2) In some instances, along with baseline vital signs, patient assessment can be expanded to evaluate:
  - a) EtCO<sub>2</sub>
  - b) Blood glucose
  - c) ECG (including 12-lead (if clinically indicated))
  - d) Lung sounds
  - e) Glasgow Coma Scale (if clinically indicated)
  - f) Capillary refill
  - g) Pupils
- 3) The EMS provider is responsible for recognizing the need to expand the baseline vital signs to help ensure a comprehensive assessment.
  - a) Obtain multiple sets of vitals to identify trends, unless scene and transport time are brief
  - b) Unstable patients **SHOULD** have vital signs assessed every 5 minutes
- 4) Normal vital sign ranges for the average healthy adult, while at rest are:
  - a) Blood pressure: 90/60 mm/Hg to 120/80 mm/Hg
  - b) Breathing: 12 to 18 breaths per minute
  - c) Pulse: 60 to 100 beats per minute
  - d) Temperature: 97.8°F to 99.1°F (36.5°C to 37.3°C)/average 98.6°F (37°C)
- 5) For Pediatric Vital Signs, see [GENERAL PEDIATRIC OVERVIEW](#)

# General Assessment & Care

## General Supportive Care

---

### 1) Basic Life Support

- a) Maintain airway and provide appropriate oxygenation and ventilation
- b) Attempt to keep SpO<sub>2</sub> Sat  $\geq$  90% and  $\leq$  98%
- c) Monitor EtCO<sub>2</sub>, when indicated. Target range is between 35 and 45 mmHg
- d) Monitor baseline and expanded vital signs (listed above)
- e) Control bleeding, provide wound care, and splint extremities, when indicated
- f) Appropriately apply cardiac monitoring leads (including both 4-and-12 leads), when indicated
- g) Establish vascular access (IV/IO), when indicated (EMT-IV certification level only)
- h) Perform venous sampling (blood draws), when indicated (EMT-IV certification level only)
- i) Administer BLS medications, including oral antiemetic, when indicated and within provider's scope of practice
- j) Call for ALS providers (including air medical), potential rendezvous with ALS providers, or transport to the **MOST** appropriate facility

### 2) Advanced Life Support

- a) Provide all BLS supportive care listed above
- b) Monitor, interpret and treat cardiac rhythms, when indicated; including 12-lead serial ECGs and post-arrest evaluation
- c) Provide pain management, when indicated (and within the ALS provider's scope of practice)
- d) Administer ALS medications and skills when indicated (and within the ALS provider's scope of practice)
- e) Consider additional resources (including air medical when indicated). Transport to the **MOST** appropriate facility

## Facility Notification

---

- 1) When transporting medical patients to a hospital Emergency Department, the following information **should** be transmitted to the receiving facility by the reporting EMS provider. Report should be concise and take less than 60 seconds.
  - a) EMS agency name and unit number
  - b) Provider's name and level of certification
  - c) Emergent or non-emergent transport & estimated ETA to hospital
  - d) Clear and understandable patient age (i.e. 18-year-old, 1-8-year-old) and patient gender
  - e) Patient's chief complaint or reason for transport
  - f) History of current event (include any safety concerns)
  - g) Any pertinent medical history and/or medications
  - h) Assessment findings and any trends:
    - i. LOC: altered, uncooperative
    - ii. Airway/breathing status: EtCO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub> sat
    - iii. Description of any secondary injuries
    - iv. Vital signs: BP, RR, breath sounds, BGL, skin, ECG findings
  - i) Treatment interventions: i.e. O<sub>2</sub>, airway management, CPR, meds administered, management of pain/injuries
  - j) Response to treatment interventions
  - k) Ask the receiving facility for any orders or clarifications

# General Pediatric Overview

## Description

- a) Pediatric patients are defined as birth until patients' weight-based calculations equal the adult dose
- a) Benzodiazepines are an exception to the above statement

## Medical Treatment - Age Ranges

- 1) Pediatric age ranges will differ, when making transport decisions, as well as performing specific procedures (refer to ages in specific guidelines)
  - a) For specific facilities, see [DESTINATION GUIDELINE](#)
  - b) For consent, see [CONSENT GUIDELINE](#)
  - c) For Rapid Sequence Induction (RSI), see [WAIVER GUIDELINE](#)
  - d) For needle and surgical cricothyrotomy information, see [AIRWAY PROCEDURES GUIDELINE](#)

## Normal Pediatric Vital Sign Ranges

Pediatric Age Group	BGL	Respiratory Rate	Heart Rate	Systolic BP	Systolic Hypotension	Weight in Kilos
Neonate (<28 days)	40 to 99	30 to 53	100 to 205	67 to 84	<60	4.5 to 7
Infant (1-12 months)	127 +/-24	30 to 53	100 to 190	72 to 104	<70	9 to 22
Toddler (1-2 years)	137 +/-24	22 to 37	98 to 140	86 to 106	<70 + (age in years x2)	22 to 31
Preschooler (3-5 years)	128 +/-24	20 to 28	80 to 120	89 to 112	<70 + (age in years x2)	31 to 40
School Age (6-11 years)	90 to 180	18 to 25	75 to 118	97 to 115	<70 + (age in years x2)	41 to 92
Adolescent (12 to 15 years)	90 to 130	12 to 20	60 to 100	110 to 131	<90	>110

Normal pediatric SpO<sub>2</sub> values have not yet been decisively recognized and are lower in the immediate newborn period.

- In general, a SpO<sub>2</sub> of <92% should be a cause of concern and may be suggestive of a respiratory disease or cyanotic heart disease.

Normal ETCO<sub>2</sub> is 35-45 mm HG, and a normal waveform is rectangular shaped. These values are consistent across all age groups.

Temperature ranges do not vary with age. The temperature considered to be a fever in pediatric patients is 100.4 F

Reference: Chris Novak and Peter Gill for <http://www.pedsccases.com/>

## Brief Resolved Unexplained Event (BRUE); formerly known as Apparent Life-Threatening Event (ALTE)

- 1) Defined as an episode in an infant < 1 year of age, that is frightening to the observer; characterized by cyanosis or pale complexion; absent, decreased, or irregular breathing; marked change in muscle tone (hyper- or hypotonia) or altered responsiveness that has resolved.
- 2) BRUE is diagnosed only when there is no explanation for a qualifying event, and after conducting an appropriate history and physical examination.
  - a) Any child experiencing a BRUE **SHOULD** be transported to ED for evaluation; monitor vital signs en route.
- 3) Make sure to document the following:
  - a) Document observer's impression of the infant's color, respirations, and muscle tone.
  - b) Was the child apneic, or cyanotic or limp during event?
  - c) Was there seizure-like activity noted?
  - d) Was any resuscitation attempted or required, or did event resolve spontaneously?
  - e) How long did the event last?

## Special Considerations

- 1) For pediatrics, reference a Pediatric Field Guide, Broselow Tape, Handtevy Guide, or other approved source.
- 2) Airways are smaller, softer, and easier to obstruct or collapse.
- 3) Respiratory reserve is small. Minor insults such as improper positioning, emesis, stomach filled with air, or airway narrowing can lead to major problems.
- 4) Circulatory reserve is also small. The loss of one unit of blood is enough to account for severe shock or death in an infant. Conversely, 500 mL of unnecessary fluid can result in x' pulmonary edema.
- 5) Vital signs and level of consciousness can be difficult to assess. History, a high index of suspicion, and "soft signs" can be critical. Listen to the parents. They know when changes have occurred, even if they have difficulty expressing what has changed.



# Destination Guideline (General)

## Description

---

- 1) Destination choices should be based on the following:
  - a) Patient's request
  - b) Request by family, primary care physician, or caretaker
  - c) Nature and/or severity of the patient's condition
  - d) Proximity to hospital
  - e) Specialty care provided at an individual facility
  - f) If the patient exceeds EMS capabilities for stabilization, you may transport to **ANY** emergency department regardless of hospital destination level or capabilities
- 2) If the patient has no hospital preference, transport them to the closest appropriate hospital. The destination decision **MUST** be documented in the destination box of the PCR and include the reason. (Closest - no preference, patient request, family request, staff request, trauma center, burn center; hospital divert, triage, paramedic divert)
- 3) When necessary, responsibility for determining patient destination lies with the on-scene medical supervisor,
- 4) **EXCEPT** in the following situations:
  - a) In multi-casualty incidents, the destination responsibility lies with the Medical Supervisor on scene, or, if appointed, the Transportation Unit Leader or Group Supervisor
  - b) Police may determine hospital destination for individuals in custody or under arrest if not seriously ill or injured. In serious or critical situations, patients will be transported to the most appropriate facility
  - c) Trauma patients meeting the criteria for transport to a trauma center **SHOULD** be taken to an appropriate trauma center designated pursuant to the Statewide Trauma Care System Act
- 5) Destination guidelines may be overridden for patients in **EXTREMIS** who are **NOT** expected to survive transport to the appropriate designated hospital. Examples may include:
  - a) Uncontrollable airway emergencies
  - b) Active cardiopulmonary arrest
  - c) Imminent breach delivery (**EXCLUDING Children's**)
- 6) When a hospital is on divert, the patient **SHOULD** be transported to the next most appropriate hospital
  - a) If **ALL** hospitals are on divert, facilities are then required to accept patient as if they are not on divert

## Children's Hospital Destination Guideline

---

- a. Pediatric patients with any of the following care **SHOULD** be transported to Children's Hospital.
  - a) Any critically ill pediatric patient up to 21 y/o (provider discretion)
  - b) Cardiac arrest with ROSC
  - c) Status seizures
  - d) Medically-complex child
  - e) Patient of any age with pre-established care at Children's Hospital (call prior to transport)
  - f) Respiratory distress in the technology-dependent child
  - g) Suspected:
    - i. Button Battery ingestion
    - ii. Stroke
    - iii. BRUE/ ALTE
    - iv. Non-accidental trauma

# Destination Guideline (General)

## Specific Destination Guidelines

Condition	Penrose Hospital	Memorial Central	Saint Francis	Memorial North	Grandview Hospital	Children's Hospital	Evans Army Hospital	PPRH	St. Thomas More
Critical Illness (Adult)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES
General Illness (Adult)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES
Critical Illness (Pediatric)	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES ≤ 21	NO	NO	NO
General Illness (Pediatric)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ≤ 21	YES	YES	YES
STEMI	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES ≤ 17	NO	NO*	NO*
Stroke: Last Known Normal ≤ 4 Hours	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ≤ 17	NO	YES	YES
Stroke: Last Known Normal > 4 to 24 hours	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES ≤ 17	NO	NO	NO
Stroke: Last Known Normal > 24 hours	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ≤ 17	NO	NO	NO
Behavioral/ETOH	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ≤ 17	YES	YES	YES
SANE (sexual assault)	NO	YES	NO	YES Call Prior to Tx	NO	YES ≤ 17	NO	NO	NO
OB <20 weeks	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES
OB ≥20 weeks	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES

**Patients with military DOD ID cards and with nonlife-threatening and/or psychiatric conditions SHOULD be considered for transport to Evans Army Community Hospital on Fort Carson. Contact Evans Medical Control ER at 719-526-7526**

**Pediatrics: Trauma < 15 years old & Medical <18 years old**

\*If, due to weather or other circumstances, a STEMI patient is expected to have transport time longer than 60 minutes to a non-PCI facility, transport to the closest Emergency Department (PPRH or St. Thomas More) shall occur for consideration of IV thrombolytics.

# Destination Guidelines (TRAUMA)

If unable to adequately ventilate or Imminent arrest transport to the closest appropriate facility

Trauma Criteria	Age Range	Penrose Main	MEMO Central	Saint Francis	MEMO North	Children	PPRH	St. Thomas More									
	<p><b>PHYSIOLOGIC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intubation (advanced airway) or assisted ventilations</li> <li>GCS motor score &lt; 5</li> <li>Respiratory rate &lt; 10 or &gt; 29</li> <li>Any S/S of abnormal perfusion (i.e. Shock*) such as;</li> <li>Delayed cap refill &gt;2 sec                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>ADULTS:</b> Systolic BP &lt;90</li> <li><b>PEDIATRICS:</b> <i>Low systolic BP for age; See Pediatric Field Guide*</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>PEDIATRIC (Additional Considerations)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any S/S of respiratory insufficiency;                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Severe hypoxia</li> <li>Accessory muscle use, grunting or abdominal breathing</li> </ul> </li> <li>Any S/S of abnormal perfusion (i.e. Shock*) such as;                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Depressed or deteriorating mental status*</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age</th> <th>SBP</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>&lt;1yr</td> <td>&lt;60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1-10 yrs</td> <td>&lt;70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>&gt;10 yrs</td> <td>&lt;90</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age	SBP	<1yr	<60	1-10 yrs	<70	>10 yrs	<90	<15	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Age	SBP																
<1yr	<60																
1-10 yrs	<70																
>10 yrs	<90																
	15-17	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO								
	≥18	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO								
<p><b>ANATOMIC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Penetrating injuries to the head, neck, torso, or extremities above the elbow or knee</li> <li>Flail chest</li> <li>TWO (2) or more proximal long bone fractures (humerus &amp;/or femur)</li> <li>Unstable pelvic fracture</li> <li>Paralysis or other evidence of spinal cord injury</li> <li>Amputation above the wrist or ankle</li> <li>Crushed, degloved, or mangled extremity</li> <li>Open or depressed skull fracture</li> </ul> <p><b>PEDIATRIC (Additional Considerations)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elbow deformity*</li> <li>Significant blunt trauma to chest and/or abdomen*                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i.e. Flail chest, seatbelt sign</li> </ul> </li> <li>Suspected TBI with any of the following                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abnormal AVPU/following commands*</li> <li>CSF leak (nose ears)*</li> <li>Open or depressed skull fracture</li> <li>Burns &gt; 20% BSA deep partial and/or full thickness*</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<15	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO									
	15-17	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO								
	≥18	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO								
<p><b>MECHANISM OF INJURY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Falls &gt; 20 feet (<b>ADULT</b>) or 3x the height (<b>PEDIATRICS</b>)</li> <li>High risk auto crash, with such components as:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intrusion of vehicle of 12 inches in occupant compartment; &gt;18inches any site</li> <li>Ejection (partial or complete) from automobile</li> <li>Death In same passenger compartment</li> <li>Moderate/high speed crash with unrestrained or improperly restrained child</li> </ul> </li> <li>Auto vs. Pedestrian/Bike thrown, run over, or with significant impact (auto going &gt;20 mph)</li> <li>Motorcycle crash &gt; 20 mph</li> <li>Events involving high energy dissipation, such as:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ejection from motorcycle, ATV, animal, etc</li> <li>Striking a fixed object with momentum</li> <li>Blast, explosion, or high energy electrical injury</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<15	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES									
	15-17	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES								
	≥18	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES								
<p><b>OTHER CONSIDERATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Older <b>ADULT:</b> the risk of death increases after age 55 years</li> <li>Anticoagulation or bleeding disorders</li> <li>End stage renal disease requiring dialysis</li> <li>Pregnancy &gt; 20 weeks</li> <li>Suspicion of hypothermia</li> <li>Intra-abdominal injury/seat belt sign</li> <li>Burns &gt;10% TBSA (2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> degree) &amp;/or to the hands, face, feet, groin, or inhalation injury</li> <li>EMS provider judgement for triage to a higher level trauma center</li> <li>Suspicion of non-accidental trauma</li> </ul>	<15	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO									
	15-17	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES									
	≥18	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES									
	Pregnancy ≥ 20 wks	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES									

Any item denoted by an \* and that is italicized is additional criteria NOT provided by the state. See appendix for more info on PPRH.

Level 4 Criteria: Non-life threatening injuries and absent of any above criteria

Grand View Hospital

# Death in the Field

## Description

---

- 1) This guideline applies to patients of all ages, including victims of SIDS. It cannot address all possible contingencies; therefore, the provider should, when in doubt, attempt resuscitation.
  - a) Once advanced life support has been initiated, care should not be terminated except as outlined in these guidelines

## Death in the Field Indications

---

- 1) An obvious death in the field is a standing order if the below criteria is met
- 2) Determination of death in the field (without initiation of resuscitation) should include the following instances;
  - a) Patient is unresponsive, pulseless, apneic, AND
    - i. Decomposition, **or**
    - ii. Rigor mortis or dependent lividity with warm air temperature, **or**
    - iii. Down time  $\geq$  15 minutes as related by an apparently reliable source, **or**
    - iv. Any advanced directive **or**
      - Physician orders as specified on the Colorado Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment (MOST) form: “No CPR. Do Not Resuscitate/DNR/Allow Natural Death”
      - Physical document not required, see [ADVANCED DIRECTIVE GUIDELINE](#)
    - v. Trauma that is incompatible with life,
      - i.e. Decapitation, exposed brain matter, incineration, etc.
    - vi. Multiple casualty situations where system resources are required for stabilization of viable patients
    - vii. Meeting Cardiac Arrest Criteria, see [MEDICAL CARDIAC ARREST GUIDELINE](#)
      - Unwitnessed arrest **AND**  $>$  73 years old, **AND** non-shockable rhythm

## Termination of Resuscitation (TOR) Indications

---

- 1) Provider discretion, the timeframe to Termination of Resuscitation (TOR) can be extended or shortened
  - a) **ADULTS >19**: Recommend a minimum of **4 cycles (8 minutes)**
  - b) **PEDIATRICS: <18**: recommend a minimum of **10 cycles (20 minutes)**
- 2) If positive pressure ventilation (PPV) with persistent EtCO<sub>2</sub> < 10
- 3) If no reversible causes have been identified and resuscitative efforts are deemed futile
- 4) Trauma (all levels)
  - a) No ROSC following appropriate interventions, which may include opening the airway, bag-valve-mask ventilation, advanced airway, needle decompression, fluid therapy, and/or pelvic binding as clinically indicated
  - b) Resuscitation is considered futile after 10 minutes

## Special Considerations

---

- 1) The following patients found pulseless and apneic warrant resuscitation efforts beyond 20 minutes and **SHOULD** be transported:
  - a) Hypothermia
  - b) Drowning with hypothermia and submersion  $\leq$  60 minutes
  - c) Pregnant patient with estimated gestational age  $\geq$  23 weeks (obvious pregnancy)
  - d) Lightning strike/significant electrocution
- 2) It is **NOT** recommended to transport patients to a facility without a pulse
  - a) In special circumstances where transport was initiated, care should be continued until the patient has been delivered to the appropriate facility
- 3) Only the coroner can provide time of death. When documenting please use the phrase “termination of resuscitative efforts” and provide the time of termination and document the agency’s primary medical director name as the standing order physician
  - a) If medical control is contacted document the name of the physician and details of the discussion



# Death in the Field

## Potential Crime Scene

---

- 1) If the situation appears to be a potential crime scene;
  - a) During patient care limit scene alteration as much as possible beyond what is required for patient care and scene safety
  - b) Observe the position of anything relevant to the body (such as sheets, weapons, etc.) and the position of the body. Make notes (for law enforcement) about these and about anything disturbed as soon as possible.
  - c) Do not leave the scene until law enforcement assumes control
  - d) Consider shielding the body if in public view as long as it does not disturb the potential crime scene

## Documentation

---

- 1) Documentation is extremely important when dealing with a death in the field or termination of resuscitation and **SHOULD** include the following:
  - a) Position of the patient when found
  - b) Details on the environment
  - c) Name of the physician or the agency's primary medical director as the standing order physician, if contacted for pronouncement
  - d) Name of the person/entity the patient was released to (police, nursing home, Hospice, coroner etc.)
  - e) How the DNR/ advanced directive was identified
  - f) Attach ECG to ePCR, if applicable

# Mandatory Reporting

## Description

- a) This guideline is designed to assist the prehospital provider in determining mandatory reporting situations as per Colorado State Law C.R.S. 19-3-304, passed in 2014, which includes the role of EMS providers as mandated reporters

## Definition of Abuse

- 1) Any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse, or exploitation OR an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm
- 2) Forms of Abuse include:
  - a) Neglect (this includes significant self-neglect)
  - b) Physical
  - c) Sexual
  - d) Emotional

## Mandatory Reporting

- 1) Mandated reporters are required to “register their suspicion” of abuse. This is **not** considered a direct accusation.
- 2) Informing providers at the receiving healthcare facility of your suspicions for **DOES NOT** meet the requirements of a mandated reporter
  - a) EMS providers **ARE REQUIRED** to register their suspicion with law enforcement and/ or the appropriate authorities
  - b) EMS providers reporting their findings in “good faith” are immune from criminal prosecution and civil lawsuits
- 3) If the mandatory reporter suspects any of the following, they are to report the information within 24-hours of encountering the situation to local law enforcement and/or appropriate authorities either by written and/or verbal report
  - a) Known or suspected abuse mentioned above of a child or “at-risk elder” who is 70-or-older or an “at-risk adult” of any age with intellectual or developmental disabilities
  - b) Any patient with domestic assault injury
- 4) Information to report:
  - a) The name, address, age, sex, and race
  - b) The name(s) and address(s) of the person(s) responsible for the suspected abuse or neglect (if known)
  - c) The nature and extent of the injuries (if known)
  - d) Knowledge of previous cases of known or suspected abuse or neglect
  - e) The family composition, including any siblings
  - f) The name, address and/or contact phone number, and occupation of the person making the report
  - g) Relation of the person making report to the child and/or how information was obtained
  - h) Any action taken by the reporting source
  - i) Any other information reporting person feels is important
- 5) Mandatory reporters who **DO NOT** report abuse can be charged with a class 3 misdemeanor and held liable for damages proximately caused by failing to report

## Special Considerations

- 1) For children, contact law enforcement and/or call **1-844-CO-4-Kids** or **1-844-264-5437** to report your concerns.
- 2) For Adult, Adult Protective Services website- <https://humanservices.elpasoco.com/adult-protective-services/> for form.
- 3) Protecting patient confidentiality **DOES NOT** legally justify a failure to report specific cases defined by law.
- 4) During transport and treatment of a patient meeting the definition of potential mandatory reporting;
  - a) Confine history-taking to pertinent medical needs
  - b) Observe patient’s behavior around caregivers
  - c) Provide same-sex provider, if requested and available, and respect patient’s emotional needs
  - d) Don’t judge, accuse, or confront the victim or their suspected assailant, especially victims of domestic violence. Doing so may threaten the victim’s safety and prevent them from seeking medical and/or legal assistance in the future
  - e) Protect all possible evidence, when dealing with reported or suspected sexual assault. Patients should not bathe, clean up, or change their clothing

# Waivers to Scope of Practice

## Description

- a) This guideline is designed to assist the prehospital provider with specific skills and or medications allowed through the waiver process.
- 1) In Colorado, the EMS provider scope of practice is defined by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). Decisions about scope of practice are based on recommendations from the Colorado Emergency Medical Practice Advisory Council (EMPAC), a state council of experts in EMS.
- 2) The EMS scope of practice for Colorado is defined in legislation as [CHAPTER TWO - RULES PERTAINING TO EMS PRACTICE AND MEDICAL DIRECTOR OVERSIGHT](#).
- 3) If a medical director wishes to allow the EMS providers serving under his or her license to practice a skill beyond the Chapter Two Scope of Practice, they may apply to the EMPAC for a waiver of the skill or medication they wish to add; or for any additional indications for an existing medication not currently recognized by the State.
  - a) If enough medical directors are applying for the same waiver, the EMPAC can consider moving the waived skill or medication into the standard scope of practice at the next review and revision.
- 4) Scope of practice waivers may be authorized by the medical director under standing orders or direct verbal order of a physician, including by electronic communications, depending upon what was specifically requested in the application and what the EMPAC specifically approved.
- 5) **NO** EMS provider shall function beyond their scope of practice identified in Chapter Two until their medical director has received official written confirmation that the waiver has been granted by the department AND the medical director has given them specific permission to do so.
- 6) Use of any waived skill or medication must be documented, and the data reported to the state, according to the terms of the waiver approved by the state. Anytime you practice a waived skill or administer a waived medication, you must notify the medical leadership of your agency for reporting purposes.
- 7) Use of Ketamine for Pain Management must be report to the State EMTS office here: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/ems-medical-direction>

## Hakkarinen's Medical Waivers

***Waived Act***	EMR	EMT	EMT -IV	AEMT	Intermediate	Paramedic	MAAM Medics
<b>Procedures &amp; Medications</b>							
<b>MAAM</b>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	SO
<b>MAAM Medications;</b>							
Etomidate	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	SO
Rocuronium	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	SO
Succinylcholine	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	SO
Vecuronium	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	SO
Ketamine for MAAM	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	SO
<b>Medication</b>							
Ketamine for Pain Management	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	SO	

# Waivers to Scope of Practice



## Hurtado's Medical Waivers

***Waivered Act***	EMR	EMT	EMT-IV	AEMT	Intermediate	Paramedic
<b>Ketamine</b>						
Ketamine for Pain Management	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
<b>Reduction of Joint Dislocations</b>						
Patella	NO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO
Fingers and Toes	NO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO
Shoulders	NO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO
<b>EPCSAR and NETCO Only</b>						
TXA Epistaxis	NO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO
TXA Hemorrhage	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	SO



# Advanced Directives

## Description

- 1) This guideline outlines minimum standards required to treat a patient with a valid Do Not Resuscitate order (DNR), state-approved Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment (MOST), Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST), Advanced Care Directives (ACD), and/or in the care of Hospice.

## Special Considerations

- 1) Any EMS personnel who, **in good faith**, complies with an advanced care directive shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability or regulatory sanction for such compliance pursuant to CRS Section 15-18.6-104, C.R.S., updated 12/15/2019.
- 2) An individual with an ACD, DNR, and/or MOST etc. shall receive evaluation by EMS personnel and be provided appropriate and available palliative treatment and measures.
  - a) Any CPR Directive that is apparent and immediately available to EMS personnel and that directs resuscitation not be attempted constitutes lawful authority to withhold or discontinue CPR.
    - i. Includes, but is not limited to, artificial ventilation, chest compression, delivering electric shock, placing tubes in the airway to assist breathing, or other basic and advanced resuscitative therapies.
- 3) There are many ways that an individual may make their wishes known regarding health care, particularly end-of-life decisions which may include, but is not limited to, documents such as a living will, medical durable power of attorney, CPR Directive, or other advance directives, including those from other states.
  - a) Any document or item of information or instruction that clearly communicates the individual's wishes or intent regarding CPR may be regarded as valid and the individual's wishes honored.
  - b) This Rule may include advanced directives from other States.
  - c) **A valid CPR Directive that has been photocopied, scanned, faxed, or otherwise reproduced shall be honored.**
- 4) Careful and thorough assessments should be performed to identify complaints not related to the illness and care should be delivered with the utmost patience and compassion.
- 5) There may be circumstances in which you encounter patients (especially those in hospice) in cardiac arrest and DNR paperwork is not immediately available on scene. In this situation, it is justifiable to accept a verbal DNR verification from family members, significant others, facility staff, etc., who are intimately involved with patient care; **it is not mandated to have the physical DNR paperwork in order to honor it.**
- 6) In cases where the patient's status is unclear and the appropriateness of withholding resuscitation efforts questioned, EMS personnel should initiate CPR immediately and then contact medical control for oversight.

## Key Terms

- 1) **Do Not Resuscitate (DNR)/CPR Advanced Directive:** A physician order to refrain from cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
- 2) **Medical Order for Scope of Treatment (MOST) Form:** A resource for the seriously ill that summarizes and consolidates information about a patient's preferences for life-sustaining treatments including: CPR, artificial nutrition, and hydration.
- 3) **Physician's Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) Form:** A form for when a person becomes seriously ill or frail and toward the end of life. It gives medical orders to emergency personnel based on the current medical situation. POLST forms and advance directives are both advance care plans but they are NOT the same.
- 4) **Do Not Intubate (DNI):** A form outlining a patient's wishes to not have an endotracheal tube placed.
- 5) **Advanced Care Directive (ACD):** An expression of treatment preferences, guidelines, or instructions regarding medical treatment made by an individual, or for an individual by that individual's authorized agent, in advance of the need for such treatment.
  - a) **Living Will:** Legal document used to state certain future health care decisions when a person becomes unable to make decisions their own. It is only used at the end of life when a person is terminally ill or permanently unconscious. It will also describe the type of medical treatment the person would want or not want to receive. It can describe under what conditions an attempt to prolong life should be started or stopped.
  - b) **Medical Power of Attorney (MPA):** A legal document that allows an individual to delegate a person to make medical decisions when the individual cannot make decisions for themselves.
- 6) **Hospice:** Administer supportive care to individuals who are in the final phase of a terminal illness who require comfort care or non-terminal individuals who need assistance managing symptoms of life-limiting or chronic illness.

# Advanced Directives

- 7) **Comfort Measures:** Refers to medical treatment of a terminally ill patient where the natural dying process is permitted to occur while assuring maximum comfort. To include but **NOT** limited to;
  - a) Clearing the airway, suctioning, supplemental oxygenation, CPAP, AND/OR nebulizers
  - b) Position of comfort AND/OR [PAIN MANAGEMENT](#)
  - c) Anti-emetic to alleviate nausea and/or vomiting, see [NAUSEA/VOMITING GUIDELINE](#)
  - d) Bleeding control AND/OR splinting

## **Specific Complaints**

---

- 1) **Cardiac Arrest**
  - a) **DNR:** With a DNR patient, do not initiate resuscitative efforts or if resuscitative efforts have been initiated then cease care when a valid Colorado State approved DNR has been identified.
    - i. In situations where the patient does not have one of the above acceptable valid forms then proceed with resuscitation
  - b) **DNI/MOST/POLST/ACD:** Be sure to make every effort possible to honor the wishes of the patient and/or MPA as described in the Living Will or ACD.
- 2) **Patients in the care of Hospice**
  - a) Should have a MOST form or other related documents outlining medical wishes
  - b) If there is documentation of a DNI/MOST/POLST/ACD and/or in the care of Hospice, the patient should receive full treatment per guidelines except for any intervention specifically prohibited
- 3) **Exacerbation of Preexisting Disease:**
  - a) If the complaint is due to complications/exacerbation of the preexisting disease that motivated the patient's decision to have a ACD/DNR/MOST etc., than provide [GENERAL SUPPORTIVE CARE](#) and ensure comfort measures as described above and as clinically indicated
- 4) **General Medical Complaint:**
  - a) Treat the complaint per the clinically indicated guideline and provide [GENERAL SUPPORTIVECARE](#)
- 5) **Traumatic Injury:**
  - a) Treat injury per the clinically indicated guideline and provide [GENERAL SUPPORTIVE CARE](#)
- 6) **Suicide:**
  - a) Not all patients who attempt suicide are necessarily incapable of making a rational decision about their health care. Treat per the [BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EMERGENCY](#) guideline
    - i. In some cases, it may be appropriate to withhold resuscitation attempts in suicidal patients in cardiac arrest who have a preexisting DNR/MOST/POLST/ACD etc.

# Interfacility Transport

## Description

- 1) Prehospital providers may, under the supervision and authorization of a medical director, perform advanced emergency medical care acts and or administer medications consistent with and NOT to exceed those listed in Appendix D of [6 CCR 1015-3 CHAPTER TWO - RULES PERTAINING TO EMS PRACTICE AND MEDICAL DIRECTOR OVERSIGHT.](#)
- 2) The following medical skills and acts are approved for interfacility transport of patients, with the requirements that the skill, act, or medication allowed must have been initiated in a medical facility under the direct order and supervision of a licensed physician and are **NOT** authorized for field initiation.
  - a) EMS continuation and monitoring of these interventions is to be allowed, with any alterations in therapy requiring direct verbal order from a physician.
  - b) EMS providers should continue the same medical standards of care with regards to patient monitoring that were initiated in the facility.
- 3) EMS providers at any level of certification **SHALL** decline to transport any patient he or she believes requires a level of care beyond his or her scope of practice or training.
  - a) EMS providers **SHALL** contact medical direction prior to transfer for any patient the provider perceives is receiving medications, skills, procedures, or acts felt contradictory to the current standards of care or guidelines.
- 4) Patients who require special monitoring (e.g. central venous pressure, intracranial pressure) or specialized equipment (i.e. intra-aortic balloon pump) should remain under the care of an experienced critical care practitioner, and every attempt should be made to transport these patients while maintaining an appropriate level of care.
  - a) The capabilities of the facility and the transporting agency and, most importantly, the safety of the patient should be considered when making transport decisions.
- 5) Any medical skill and act not included in the following table is not allowed unless a waiver to the rules has been granted.
- 6) The EMS provider will determine transport priority and may delay the transfer due to high-risk weather and/or patient condition assessment. Refer to individual agency policy.

Interfacility Transport Acts Allowed	EMT	EMT-IV	AEMT	EMT I-99	Paramedic
<b>Fluid Administration/Maintenance</b>					
Monitoring and maintenance of hospital/medical facility-initiated crystalloids	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Monitoring and maintenance of hospital/medical facility-initiated colloids (non-blood component) infusions	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Monitoring and maintenance of hospital/medical facility-initiated blood component infusion	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Initiate hospital/medical facility supplied blood component infusions	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Total parenteral nutrition (TPN) and/or vitamins	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
<b>Airway/Ventilation/Oxygen</b>					
Ventilators - Automated Transport (ATV) <sup>1</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
<sup>1</sup> Use of automated transport ventilators (ATVs) is restricted to the manipulation of tidal volume (TV or VT), respiratory rate (RR), fraction of inspired oxygen (FIO2), and positive end expiratory pressure (PEEP). Manipulation of any other parameters of mechanical ventilation devices by EMS providers require a waiver to these rules.					
<b>Cardiovascular/Circulatory Support</b>					
Aortic Balloon Pump Monitoring	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Chest Tube Monitoring	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Central Venous Pressure Monitor Interpretation	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Cardiac Medications</b>					
Amiodarone - continuous infusion	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Lidocaine - continuous infusion	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
<b>Cardiac Medications</b>					

# Interfacility Transport



Anticoagulant - Glycoprotein inhibitors	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Anticoagulant - Heparin (unfractionated)	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Anticoagulant - Low Molecular Weight Heparin (LMWH)	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Diltiazem/ Cardizem infusion	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Dobutamine	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Epinephrine – infusion	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Nicardipine	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Nitroglycerin, intravenous	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Norepinephrine	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>High Risk OB Medications</b>					
Magnesium sulfate infusion	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Oxytocin/Pitocin infusion	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
<b>Miscellaneous Medications</b>					
Antibiotic infusions	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Antidote infusion - Sodium bicarbonate infusion	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Electrolyte infusion - Magnesium sulfate	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Electrolyte infusion - Potassium chloride	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Insulin	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Mannitol	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Methylprednisolone/Solu-cortef - infusion	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Octreotide	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Pantoprazole/Protonix	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
<b>Interfacility Transport Acts Allowed – Critical Care Paramedic</b>					<b>P-CC</b>
Manual Transport Ventilators					YES
Blood Chemistry Interpretation					YES
Rapid Sequence Intubation – Adult (age 13 & over)					YES
<b>Medications - Critical Care Paramedic</b>					<b>P-CC</b>
acetylcysteine (Mucomyst)					YES
alteplase (Activase)/ tPA infusion					YES
antibiotics					YES
bilvalirudin (Angiomax)					YES
diazepam (Valium)					YES
dobutamine (Dobutamine)					YES
esmolol (Brevibloc)					YES
etomidate (Amidate)					YES
fentanyl (Sublimaze)					YES
fosphenytoin (Cerebyx)					YES
ketamine (Ketalar)					YES
labetalol (Normodyne)					YES
levetiracetam (Keppra)					YES
metoprolol (Lopressor)					YES
midazolam (Versed)					YES
morphine sulfate					YES
norepinephrine (Levophed)					YES
phenytoin (Dilantin)					YES
propofol (Diprivan)					YES
rocuronium (Zemuron)					YES
succinylcholine (Anectine)					YES
TNKase (Tenecteplase)					YES
vecuronium (Norcuron)					YES



# Airway Management

## Definition:

- 1) The goal of airway management is to ensure patients receive adequate ventilation and oxygenation. This can be accomplished through various techniques including but not limited to, basic positioning, adjuncts, and/or advanced level airways.
  - a) Assessment is crucial to the success of airway management helping to identify complications before they arise and thus ensuring a proper device is utilized in the right clinical situation.
  - b) A difficult airway is defined as the clinical situation in which a conventionally trained prehospital provider has trouble with maintaining adequate ventilation and oxygenation.
    - i. Successful airway management is not defined as the placement of an endotracheal tube (ETT), it is the ability to effectively oxygenate and/or ventilate.
- 2) The infectious disease operational timeline is determined by Medical Direction.

## Description

- 1) Many aspects of this guideline have been modified to achieve the highest level of EMS provider safety during an infectious disease crisis such as COVID-19; the guideline will be reviewed again for modification after the exposure threat has resolved.
- 2) All airway management should be performed with EMS provider in recommended PPE.
- 3) All attempts should be made to optimize oxygenation/ventilation prior to placement of an advanced airway to the maximum point possible.
- 4) Advanced airway placement in conjunction with continuous waveform EtCO<sub>2</sub> and pulse oximetry.
- 5) Consider early insertion of an advanced airway in arrest with suspicion of primary respiratory etiology.
- 6) Ensure perfusion status prior to placing an advanced airway i.e. systolic BP<90, EtCO<sub>2</sub><30, MAP<60.
  - a) Administer early **FLUID THERAPY**.
  - b) Patients demonstrating inadequate perfusion administer an **EPINEPHRINE INFUSION**.
- 7) **NO MORE THAN (3) ETT TOTAL ATTEMPTS PER PATIENT**
  - a) Definition of an ETT intubation attempt is when the blade passes the teeth with the intent to insert an ETT through the vocal cords.
  - b) Recommend oxygen administration at 8 L via nasal cannula during ETT attempt.
- 8) Consider cricothyrotomy in patients where effective oxygenation and/or ventilation cannot be provided.

## Infectious Disease

- 1) Avoid aerosol-generating procedures (AGPs) (i.e. nebs, C-Pap, etc.) unless absolutely necessary; if AGPs are necessary, perform using a barrier device (BD) when possible.
- 2) Advanced airway preference in order is as follows:
  - a) **ALL SITUATIONS:** iGel with viral filter > iGel with barrier device (BD) > Video Laryngoscopy (VL) intubation with filter > Video Laryngoscopy (VL) intubation with barrier device (BD) > VL intubation > iGel without barrier device or viral filter.

## Non-Infectious Disease

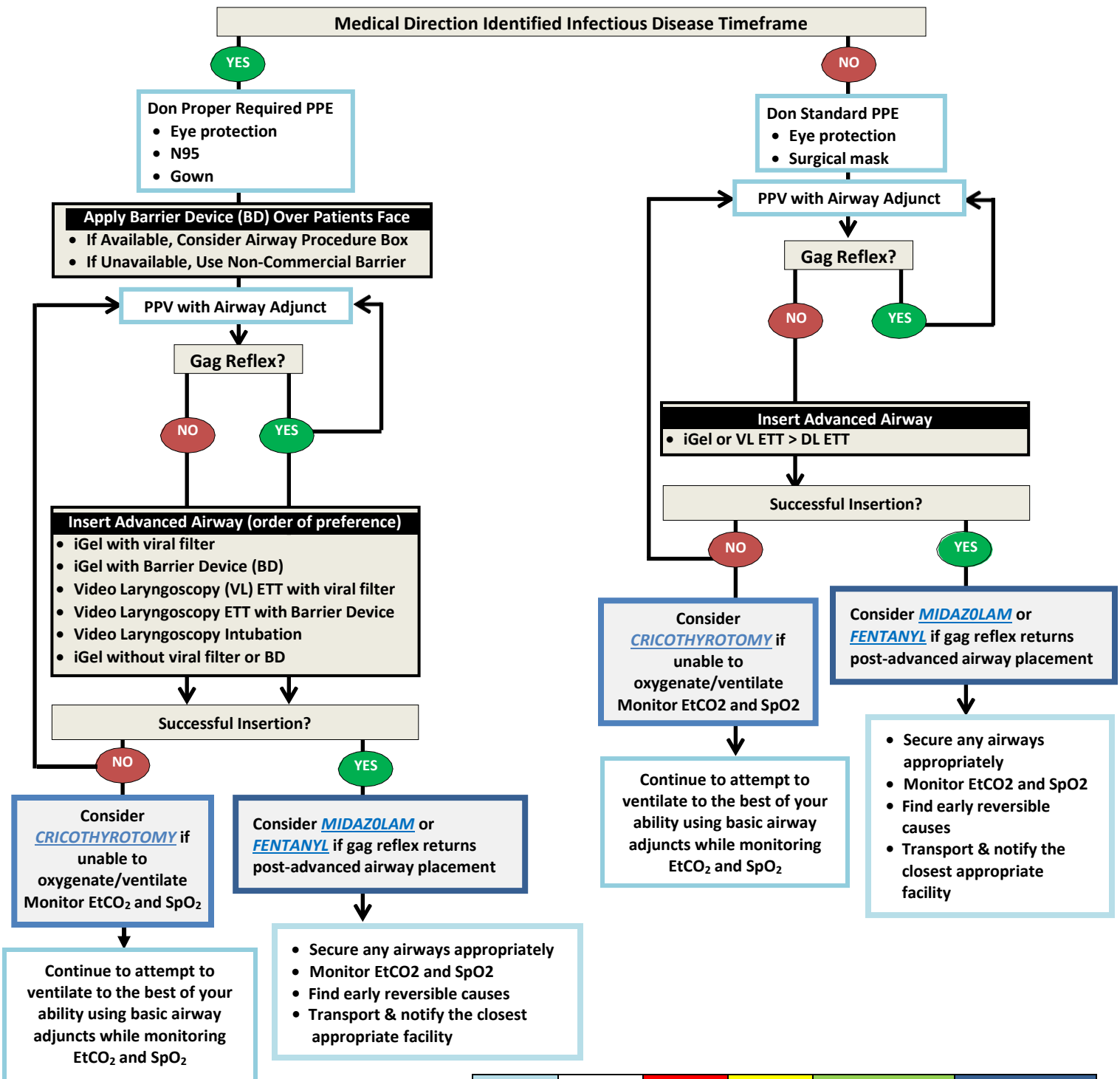
- 1) Advanced airway preference in order is as follows:
  - a) **Respiratory Arrest:** iGel or VL intubation > DL intubation
  - b) **Cardiac Arrest:** iGel > VL intubation > DL intubation
  - c) **ROSC:** iGel or VL intubation > DL intubation

EMR	EMT	EMT-IV	AEMT	Intermediate	Paramedic
-----	-----	--------	------	--------------	-----------

# Airway Management

## Description:

- a. This algorithm is intended to assist the prehospital provider navigate airway management in the setting of imminent or current respiratory arrest.



# Airway Procedures



Provider Level	Oral and Nasopharyngeal Airways	Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)	Supraglottic Airway Devices	Oral Intubation 13 & over	Oral Intubation < 12 years old	Nasal Intubation	Surgical and Needle Cricothyrotomy	Needle Decompression
EMR	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
AEMT	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Intermediate	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES
Paramedic	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES

## Nasopharyngeal Airway (NPA)

- 1) Indications:
  - a) Unconscious/semi-conscious with an intact gag reflex needing airway support
- 2) Contraindications:
  - a) Any resistance
  - b) Improper size
- 3) Special Considerations:
  - a) Can be utilized in patient's potential basilar skull fractures when airway management is required

## Oropharyngeal (OPA)

- 1) Indications:
  - a) Unconscious without an intact gag reflex needing airway support
- 2) Contraindications:
  - b) Gag reflex
- 3) Special Considerations:
  - c) Consider a more advanced airway, if ineffective or unable to insert properly

## Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)

- 1) Indications:
  - a) Respiratory conditions exhibiting severe distress or failure such as:
    - i) CHF/Pulmonary Edema
    - ii) High altitude pulmonary edema
    - iii) Asthma
    - iv) COPD/Emphysema
    - v) Drowning/Near-Drowning
    - vi) Pneumonia
    - vii) Hyperkalemia
- 2) Contraindications:
  - a) Respiratory or cardiac arrest
  - b) Systolic BP < 90 mmHg
  - c) Lack of gag reflex
  - d) Altered mental status, unable to follow verbal instructions or signal distress
  - e) Vomiting, aspiration risk, or active upper GI bleed
  - f) Suspected or known pneumothorax, penetrating chest trauma
  - g) Severe epistaxis
  - h) Patient size or facial anatomy prevents adequate mask seal

# Airway Procedures

## 3) C-PAP Special Considerations:

- a) Should patient deteriorate on CPAP:
  - i) Troubleshoot equipment
  - ii) Consider advanced airway
  - iii) Assess need for possible chest decompression due to pneumothorax
  - iv) Assess for possibility of hypotension secondary to significantly reduced preload caused by positive pressure ventilation.
- b) There is no age criteria; it is based on size of the mask. If the mask properly fits (without modification), then use is allowed.
- c) In-line nebulized medications may be given during CPAP as clinically indicated and in accordance with manufacturer recommendations
- d) Continuously monitor EtCO<sub>2</sub>
- e) The default size of mask utilized is medium. Medium will fit the majority of patients
- f) If the patient is anxious, consider mild sedation; see [BEHAVIORAL EMERGENCY GUIDELINE](#)
- g) Consider pretreating with an antiemetic; see [NAUSEA VOMITING GUIDELINE](#)

## Supraglottic Airway

---

### 1) Indications:

- a) Cardiac arrest after continuous compressions, defibrillation, and BLS airway management has been completed
- b) Unresponsive patient without a gag reflex
- c) Rescue airway when intubation is difficult/ is unsuccessful

### 2) Contraindications:

- a) Intact gag reflex
- b) Obstructive lesions below the glottis
- c) Caustic ingestion (does not apply to I-Gel airways)
- d) Patients with known or suspected esophageal varices (does not apply to I-Gel airways)
- e) Patients under/over height/length for tube size used

### 3) Special Considerations:

- a) Airway sizing is based on patient's IDEAL body weight and not their actual weight
- b) Ensure correct sizing per manufacturer recommendations for best results
- c) Pediatric I-Gels do not come with a manufacturer's securing device; consider attaching tape or tube tie to package

## Oral Endotracheal Intubation

---

### 1) Indications:

- a) Patients whose clinical condition warrants airway or ventilation management due to worsening or impending respiratory compromise and/or the unconscious patient without a gag reflex

### 2) Contraindications:

- a) None, if there is the need for definitive airway management

### 3) Special Considerations:

- a) Have backup plans, equipment (including rescue airway device), and supplies ready
- b) **Direct video laryngoscopy is preferred**, but not required, during initial attempt, if available
- c) Consider utilizing a bougie stylet
- d) In addition to waveform capnography, confirm and document **3** other methods of correct tube placement
- e) Ventilate at the appropriate rate and volume for the patient's age and/or condition
- f) If the intubated patient deteriorates, think "DOPE"
  - i) Dislodgement
  - ii) Obstruction
  - iii) Pneumothorax
  - iv) Equipment failure (no oxygen)



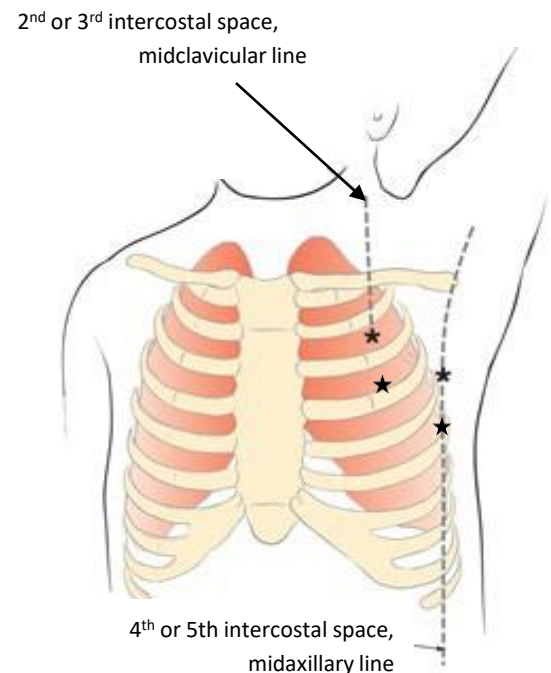
# Airway Procedures

## Cricothyrotomy

- 1) Indications:
  - a) A life-threatening condition exists AND advanced airway management is indicated AND you are unable to establish an airway or ventilate the patient by any other means. ("Cannot intubate/cannot ventilate"). Examples include but are not limited to;
    - i) Acute upper airway obstruction, which cannot be relieved by obstructed airway maneuvers
    - ii) Upper airway trauma with inability to orally intubate a patient who has severe respiratory insufficiency/unmanageable airway secretions
  - b) Perform Bougie-assisted Surgical Cric: Patient age  $\geq 8$  years old
  - c) Perform Needle Cric: Patient age 1 to 8 years old. Provides 20 - 40 minutes of oxygenation
  - d) Cricothyrotomy is not indicated for  $< 1$  year old
  - e) Needle Cricothyrotomy: Asthma- If other resources are exhausted
- 2) Contraindications:
  - a) Tracheal transection
  - b) Significant trauma to the cricoid cartilage or larynx
  - c) Unable to locate anatomical landmarks
- 3) Special Considerations:
  - a) For surgical cricothyrotomy, **bougie-assisted technique is preferred**
  - b) Bleeding is common in surgical cricothyrotomy, even with correct technique; have suction available

## Needle Decompression

- 1) Indications:
  - a) Suspected tension pneumothorax associated with hypotension and/or poor perfusion
  - b) Blunt or penetrating trauma to the thorax
- 2) Contraindications:
  - a) None in the emergency setting
- 3) Special Considerations:
  - a) If patient deteriorates after needle decompression, be prepared to assist with ventilation
  - b) Acceptable locations include the,
    - i. 2<sup>nd</sup> anterior (between 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> ribs) or 3<sup>rd</sup> (between 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> ribs) intercostal space **at the midclavicular line or**
    - ii. 4<sup>th</sup> lateral (between 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> ribs) or 5<sup>th</sup> (between 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> ribs) intercostal space **at the midaxillary line.**
  - c) Guide the catheter over the top of the inferior rib during insertion
  - d) Insertion in pediatric patients is 1/3 the depth of the chest
  - e) Consider 1.5 inch 14- or 16-gauge catheter
  - f) Angiocath may become occluded with blood or by soft tissue. Be prepared to repeat the procedure as clinically indicated
  - g) Do not remove original catheter; place another next to the first
  - h) Midaxillary is preferred location, if hemothorax is suspected



# Cardiac-Related Procedures

Provider Level	Cardiac Monitoring (Noninterpretive)	Cardiac Monitoring (Interpretive)	12-Lead ECG	Automated External Defibrillator	Manual Defibrillation	Synchronized Cardioversion	Transcutaneous Pacing (TCP)	Vagal Maneuvers
EMR	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
AEMT	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Intermediate	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO
Paramedic	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

## Cardiac Monitoring

### 1) Indications:

- Patients with clinical syndromes or situations at increased risk of cardiac arrhythmias
- Patients who experience transient symptoms such as seizure, brief resolved unexplained event (BRUE), dizziness, palpitation, syncope, chest pain that may suggest a cardiac arrhythmia, and after administering opioids and/or benzos for pain management
- Routine monitoring of heart rate

### 2) Contraindications:

- None in the emergency setting

### 3) Special Considerations:

- Avoid placement directly over implanted devices
- Avoid placement over medication patches. Remove patch, cleanse skin, and apply electrodes

## 12- Lead ECG

### 1) Indications:

- Patients with clinical syndromes or situations at increased risk of cardiac arrhythmias
- Patients with suspicion of acute coronary syndromes
- Post cardiac arrest patients

### 2) Contraindications:

- None in the emergency setting

### 3) Special Considerations:

- Consider right sided or posterior ECG if inferior or posterior myocardial infarction is suspected
- Small areas of hair on the client's chest or extremities may be shaved
- If patient's skin is exceptionally oily, scaly, or diaphoretic rub the electrode site with a dry 4" x 4" gauze pad or alcohol pad before applying the electrode to help reduce interference in the tracing
- During the procedure, ask the patient to breathe normally. If the respirations distort the recording, ask them to hold his/her breath briefly to reduce baseline wander in the tracing

## Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and Manual Defibrillation

### 1) Indications:

- All patients in cardiopulmonary arrest (for AED use)
- Pulseless ventricular tachycardia and/or ventricular fibrillation (for Manual Defibrillation)

### 2) Contraindications:

- Patients with a pulse

### 3) Special Considerations:

- Infant pads are generally used for patients < 1 year of age or < 15 kg
- Energy setting
  - AED: **ADULT:** Automated, **PEDIATRIC** > Neonate
    - NOT ALLOWED for neonate pediatric patients
  - Manual: **ADULT:** maximum joules, repeat as needed **PEDIATRIC:** 4 joules/kg repeated as needed

# Cardiac-Related Procedures

## Synchronized Cardioversion

---

- 1) Indications:
  - a) Tachydysrhythmia with a pulse (ventricular tachycardia, torsade de pointe, SVT, A-fib/Flutter with RVR, etc.) and signs of poor perfusion
- 2) Contraindications:
  - a) Repetitive, self-terminating, short-lived tachycardias (i.e. runs of non-sustained VT)
- 3) Special Considerations:
  - a) Do not be overly concerned about the dysrhythmias that normally occur in the few minutes following successful cardioversion. These usually respond to time and adequate oxygenation and should only be treated if they persist more than 5 minutes
  - b) **MIDAZOLAM** may be used in conscious adult patients prior to cardioversion
  - c) ENERGY SETTING
    - i) **ADULT:** Maximum joules, repeat as needed
    - ii) **PEDIATRIC:** 2 joules/kg, repeat as needed

## Transcutaneous Pacing (TCP)

---

- 1) Indications:
  - a) Bradydysrhythmia with a pulse and signs of poor perfusion
- 2) Contraindications:
  - a) Moderate to severe hypothermia
  - b) Pulseless cardiac arrest
  - c) Bradycardia due to trauma
- 3) Special Considerations:
  - a) Consider **PAIN MANAGEMENT**
  - b) Muscle tremors may complicate evaluation of pulses; femoral pulse may be more accurate. Utilizes EtCO<sub>2</sub> to help identify improved perfusion
  - c) Studies indicate no relationship between body surface area, weight, and capture thresholds and although most children will achieve capture between 50 to 100 mA higher current requirements are possible
  - d) The pacing rate must be set high enough to perfuse the patient
  - e) ENERGY SETTING
    - i) **ADULT:** Set rate at 60 beats per minute, begin energy at lowest dose and increase energy until electrical/mechanical capture
    - ii) **PEDIATRIC:** Set rate at 80 beats per minute, begin energy at lowest dose and increase energy until electrical/mechanical capture

## Vagal (Valsalva) Maneuvers

---

- 1) Indications:
  - a) Stable tachydysrhythmia
- 2) Contraindications:
  - a) Patient unable to attempt the maneuver or follow commands
- 3) Special Considerations:
  - a) Patients should be instructed on how to perform vagal maneuvers properly before attempting one
  - b) Preferred Technique,
    - i) To improve conversions success rate, place the patient in Trendelenburg position and if the patient is able have them draw their knees to their chest. Once in position have the patient blow out the plunger of a 10 mL syringe
    - ii) In pediatrics a bag of ice with water (easily moldable) can be applied to the face
    - iii) Any vagal maneuver has a higher success rate when held for 30 seconds
    - iv) Repeat as needed until conversion or patient becomes unstable

# Law Enforcement Blood Draw



## **Description:**

---

If a blood draw is requested by Fire District/Department, the following procedures shall commence:

## **Procedure:**

---

- a) Law Enforcement shall contact El Paso County Dispatch and advise the need for a blood draw.
- b) El Paso County Dispatch shall contact Fire District/Department who will identify the closest available fire station to the Law Enforcement.
- c) El Paso County Dispatch will notify the fire station by phone with an estimated ETA for the Law Enforcement.
- d) Fire District/Department understands that if an emergency call for service arises prior to the Law Enforcement's arrival at the fire station, the fire unit will respond to the call for service.
  - i. Upon arrival of the Law Enforcement, Fire Department will notify dispatch of an in-station alarm for a Fire District/Department blood draw. This request will take this fire unit out of service while performing the blood draw.
  - ii. FD personnel will document this activity as indicated below.
- e) If at any time during this process a significant emergency incident (i.e., structure fire, cardiac arrest, etc.) arises in the station's district, the company shall immediately return to service and respond to the emergency incident.
  - i. FD personal shall follow the above procedure to identify a different fire station to complete the blood draw procedure.
- f) All materials for the blood draw procedure will be provided by Law Enforcement,
  - i. Law Enforcement will be responsible for all evidence collected as part of the blood draw procedure including storage and testing of the samples.
- g) A Paramedic or an EMT-IV may perform the procedure.

## **Special Considerations:**

---

- a) Complete documentation of procedure on ePCR system NFER's section if no patient care rendered, or assessment performed



# Miscellaneous Procedures

Provider Level	Suction (upper airway)	Suction (lower airway)	Venous Blood Draw	Gastric Tube Insertion (oral)	Gastric Tube Insertion (nasal)
EMR	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO
AEMT	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Intermediate	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
Paramedic	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

## Suctioning

### 1) Indications:

- Obstruction of the airway or stoma (secondary to secretions, blood, or any other substance) that need to be cleared
- Clear secretions, blood, etc in a patient currently being assisted by an airway adjunct such as an OPA/NPA, endotracheal tube, supra glottic airway, tracheotomy tube, or cricothyrotomy tube

### 2) Contraindications:

- None

### 3) Special Considerations:

- Suctioning, particularly through endotracheal tubes, always risks suctioning the available oxygen, as well as the fluid, from the airway. Limit the suction time to a few seconds while the catheter is being withdrawn
- Patients with pulmonary edema may have endless frothy secretions. Be sure to allow time for the patient to breathe, even though it is tempting to continue suctioning
- Complications may be caused both by inadequate and overly vigorous suctioning. Technique and choice of equipment are very important. Choose equipment with enough power to suction large amounts rapidly to allow time for ventilation

## Blood Draw (Non-Law Enforcement)

### a) Indications:

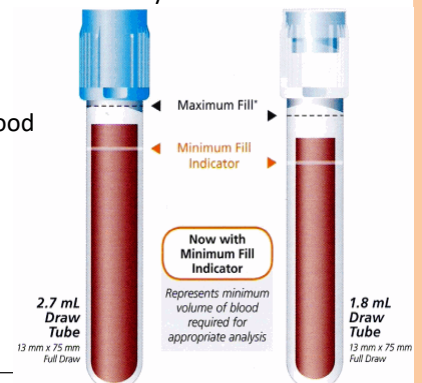
- Blood sampling should be considered in any patient where lab testing would be medically beneficial

### b) Contraindications:

- None

### c) Special Considerations:

- DO NOT** delay time sensitive treatments or transport in order to attain blood sampling
- Avoid areas with cellulitis, hematomas, vascular shunt/graphs, and/or vascular access devices
- Order of blood draw: **BLUE, RED, GREEN, LAVENDER**
  - Ensure the **BLUE** tube has been filled to marker line



## Orogastric/ Nasogastric Tube Insertion

### 1) Indications:

- Adult and pediatric patients, following advanced airway placement to relieve air build-up in the stomach
- Maintenance of a previously placed gastric tube

### 2) Contraindications:

- Actual or suspected laceration or perforation of the esophagus
- Ingestion of a caustic substance

### 3) Special Considerations:

- Anticoagulant use (e.g., coumadin, warfarin) or disorders of coagulopathy (hemophilia) is a relative contraindication
- Nasal gastric tube placement – consider facial maxillary trauma

# Monitoring Devices

Provider Level	Blood Glucose Monitor	SpO <sub>2</sub>	EtCO <sub>2</sub>	spCO Monitor
EMR	YES	YES	YES	YES
EMT	YES	YES	YES	YES
EMT-IV	YES	YES	YES	YES
AEMT	YES	YES	YES	YES
Intermediate	YES	YES	YES	YES
Paramedic	YES	YES	YES	YES

## Blood Glucose Monitor

- 1) Indications:
  - a) Known or suspected diabetic-related complaints
  - b) Patients with metabolic or endocrine disorders and presenting with non-specific complaints
  - c) Patients with altered mental status
  - d) Bradycardia or hypothermia in infants
  - e) Newborn delivery in the field with abnormal APGAR score
  - f) Traumatic brain injury
  - g) Seizures
- 2) Contraindications:
  - a) None
- 3) Special Considerations:
  - a) Hypo/Hyperglycemia numbers are relative to patient's normal blood glucose level

## SpO<sub>2</sub>

- 1) Indications:
  - a) Any and all patients who require a respiratory assessment and/or have a respiratory complaint
- 2) Contraindications:
  - a) None
- 3) Special Considerations:
  - a) Inaccurate measurements may be caused by:
    - i) CO poisoning
    - ii) Elevated levels of bilirubin, carboxyhemoglobin, or methemoglobin
    - iii) Externally applied coloring (such as nail polish)
    - iv) Severe anemia or low arterial perfusion
    - v) Motion artifact
    - vi) Hydroxycobalmin administration

## EtCO<sub>2</sub>

- 1) Indications:
  - a) Initial and continuous confirmation of advanced airway placement
  - b) Any patient receiving CPR
  - c) Any patient with a respiratory complaint or depression
  - d) Any patient with suspected shock
  - e) Any patient receiving narcotics and/or benzodiazepines
- 2) Contraindications:
  - a) None

# Monitoring Devices

### 3) Special Considerations:

- a) All patients with an advanced airway and/or CPR will have EtCO<sub>2</sub> monitored and documented
  - i) Copies of the post advanced airway waveform and waveform at time of transfer of care to receiving facility will be attached to the Patient Care Record (PCR)
- b) Patients with normal cardiac and pulmonary function should have a level of 35 to 45 mmHg
- c) If no EtCO<sub>2</sub> is detected, evaluate 3 factors:
  - i) Loss of airway function: improper tube placement, apnea
  - ii) Loss of circulatory function: cardiac arrest, exsanguination, massive PE
  - iii) Equipment malfunction: tube dislodgement, adapter is disconnected or obstructed
- 4) EtCO<sub>2</sub> value > 10 may be utilized to confirm the quality of chest compressions and the adequacy of an airway including BVM and advanced devices. EtCO<sub>2</sub> value 10-20 represents high quality compressions
- 5) If EtCO<sub>2</sub> value significantly increases, assess for ROSC
- 6) In the post resuscitation patient, no effort should be made to lower EtCO<sub>2</sub>

### **SpCO Monitor**

---

#### 1) Indications:

- a) Known or suspected carbon monoxide poisoning

#### 2) Contraindications:

- a) None

#### 3) Special Considerations:

- a) Be sure to follow manufacturer instructions as some require no direct sun light on probe sensor
- b) Inaccurate readings may occur due to misplaced/dislodged probes
- c) If an abnormal level of CO is detected, always confirm by measuring other fingers and average
- d) Inaccurate measurements may be caused by,
  - i) Elevated levels of bilirubin, carboxyhemoglobin, or methemoglobin
  - ii) Externally applied coloring (such as nail polish)
  - iii) Severe anemia or low arterial perfusion
  - iv) Motion artifact
  - v) Hydroxycobalmin administration

# Vascular Access

Provider Level	IV Access (Peripheral)	IV Access (External Jugular)	IV Access (Umbilical Vein)	IV Access (AV Fistula)	Intraosseous (IO) Access	Access PICC/ Central Line
EMR	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
AEMT	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO
Intermediate	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO
Paramedic	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO

## Intravascular (IV) Access

- 1) Indications:
  - a) Where fluid replacement therapy and/or intravascular medications may be clinically indicated
- 2) Contraindications:
  - a) No absolute contraindications exist
- 3) Special Considerations:
  - a) Avoid placing a peripheral IV in an injured, infected, or burned extremity
  - b) Avoid placing a peripheral IV in a site with a arteriovenous (AV) fistula or an atrophied extremity (stroke patient)
  - c) Continuous monitoring is indicated to ensure that the IV has not infiltrated
  - d) If an accidental arterial puncture occurred, as evidenced by arterial pulsation of blood out of the catheter, remove the catheter and apply direct pressure using gauze for at least 10 minutes
  - e) Peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC) access including tunneled catheters or implanted ports is NOT allowed

## Intraosseous (IO) Access

- 1) Indications:
  - a) For adults and pediatrics use anytime in which vascular access is difficult/impossible to obtain in emergent, urgent, or medically necessary cases
- 2) Contraindications:
  - a) Fracture of the targeted bone
  - b) Previous orthopedic procedures near insertion site (prosthetic limb or joint)
  - c) IO within the past 24-to-48 hours in the targeted bone
  - d) Infection at the insertion site
  - e) Inability to locate landmarks or excessive tissue over the insertion site
- 3) Approved Sites:
  - a) EZ-IO
    - i. Humeral Head (proximal humerus)
    - ii. Proximal tibia
    - iii. Distal femur
  - b) Manual IO
    - i. Proximal tibia
- 4) Special Considerations:
  - a) Consider alternate site if excessive tissue is present at insertion site
  - b) Consider alternate site if infection/burn is present at insertion site



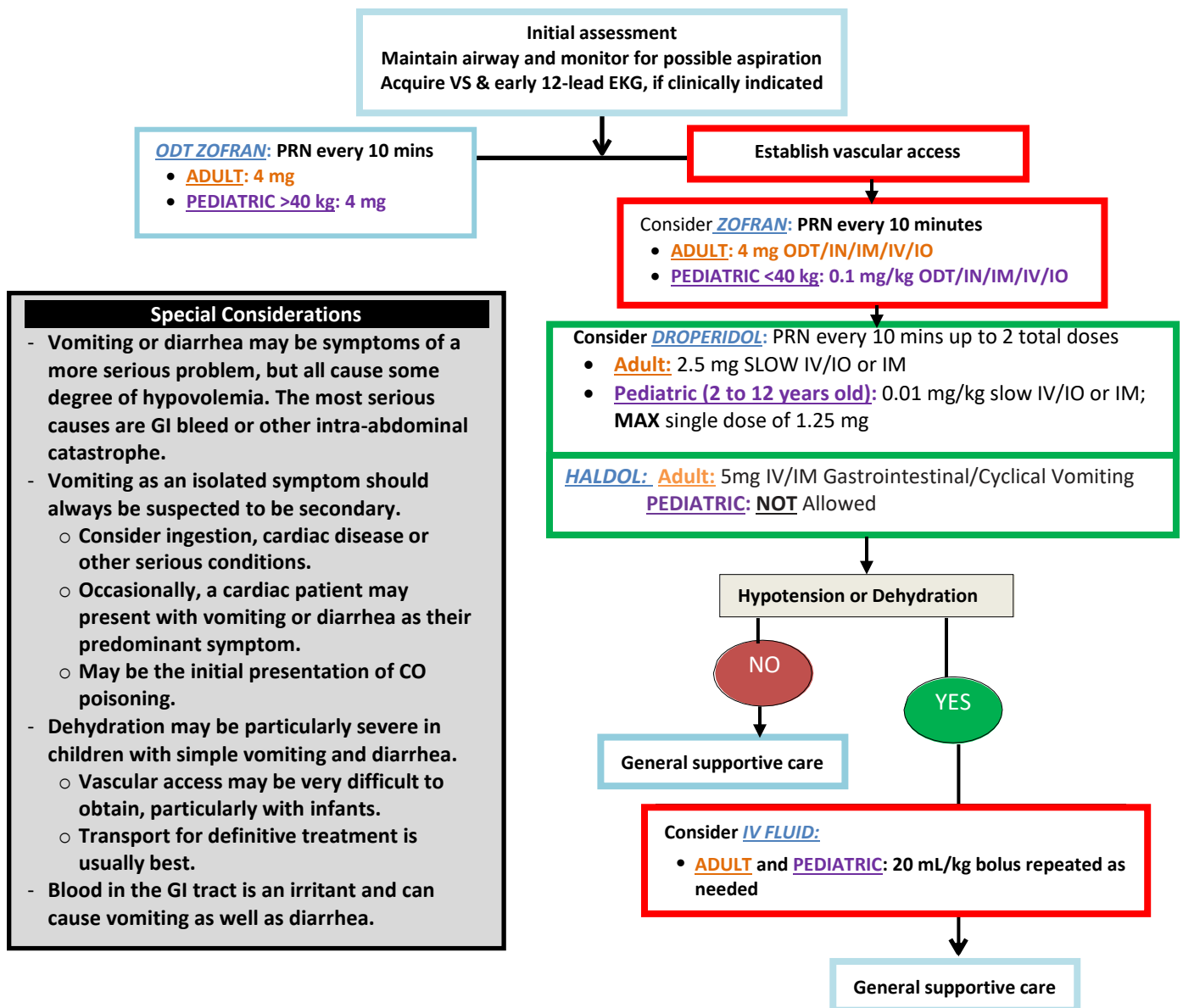
# Nausea/Vomiting

## Description

- The chances of aspiration due to excessive vomiting can be reduced through the administration of an antiemetic and can also increase the effectiveness of pain management medications administered prehospital.
- By disrupting the stimulus to vomit and by reducing nausea, a patient will be more comfortable during transport.

## Indications

- Nausea or vomiting stemming from any medical or traumatic complaint
- Prophylaxis treatment for [PAIN MANAGEMENT](#), [CPAP](#), or [SPINAL MOTION RESTRICTION](#)
- Prophylaxis treatment for any patient with high risk of motion sickness



### Special Considerations

- Vomiting or diarrhea may be symptoms of a more serious problem, but all cause some degree of hypovolemia. The most serious causes are GI bleed or other intra-abdominal catastrophe.
- Vomiting as an isolated symptom should always be suspected to be secondary.
  - o Consider ingestion, cardiac disease or other serious conditions.
  - o Occasionally, a cardiac patient may present with vomiting or diarrhea as their predominant symptom.
  - o May be the initial presentation of CO poisoning.
- Dehydration may be particularly severe in children with simple vomiting and diarrhea.
  - o Vascular access may be very difficult to obtain, particularly with infants.
  - o Transport for definitive treatment is usually best.
- Blood in the GI tract is an irritant and can cause vomiting as well as diarrhea.

# Pain Management

## Indications for Management of Pain with Medication

---

- 1) Pain stemming from an isolated traumatic injury or an easily identifiable medical condition.
- 2) Pain associated with myocardial ischemia. (See [ACS GUIDELINE](#)).
- 3) Patient complaint of generalized abdominal pain.

## Precautions

---

- 1) Most pain medications should only be given to hemodynamically stable patients and titrated slowly to effect. In hemodynamically unstable patients, consider giving smaller, incremental doses of [FENTANYL](#), [MORPHINE](#), [DILAUDID](#), or [KETAMINE](#).
- 2) Opioid and/or benzo pain medications may cause changes in hemodynamic status and/or respiratory depression. (including apnea) that can occur suddenly and without warning and are more common in children and the elderly.
- 3) Chest wall rigidity has been reported with rapid administration of [FENTANYL](#).
- 4) Strongly consider ½ typical dosing in elderly patients or when combining benzodiazepines and opioids.

## General Patient Care Requirements

---

- 1) **All** patients receiving opioid and/or benzo pain medications should receive constant SpO<sub>2</sub>, EtCO<sub>2</sub> and blood pressure monitoring. ECG monitoring is also highly encouraged.
  - a) When this is not possible (i.e. in a back-country environment), pulse oximetry and constant verbal engagement with the patient are the minimum monitoring requirements.

## Other Medication Options

---

- 1) The administration of a combination of benzodiazepines ([MIDAZOLAM](#), [ATIVAN](#) or [VALIUM](#)) and opiates, for the purpose of pain management, anxiety and/or muscle relaxation is permitted; **these patients require constant EtCO<sub>2</sub> monitoring.**
  - a) Ensure that the patient can independently maintain an open airway and normal breathing pattern, maintain normal hemodynamics, and respond appropriately to physical stimulation and verbal commands.
- 2) Consider an antiemetic prior to administration of an opioid for nausea, see [NAUSEA VOMITING GUIDELINE](#).
- 3) Consider benzodiazepines for anxiety associated with pain, see [BEHAVIORAL EMERGENCIES GUIDELINE](#).

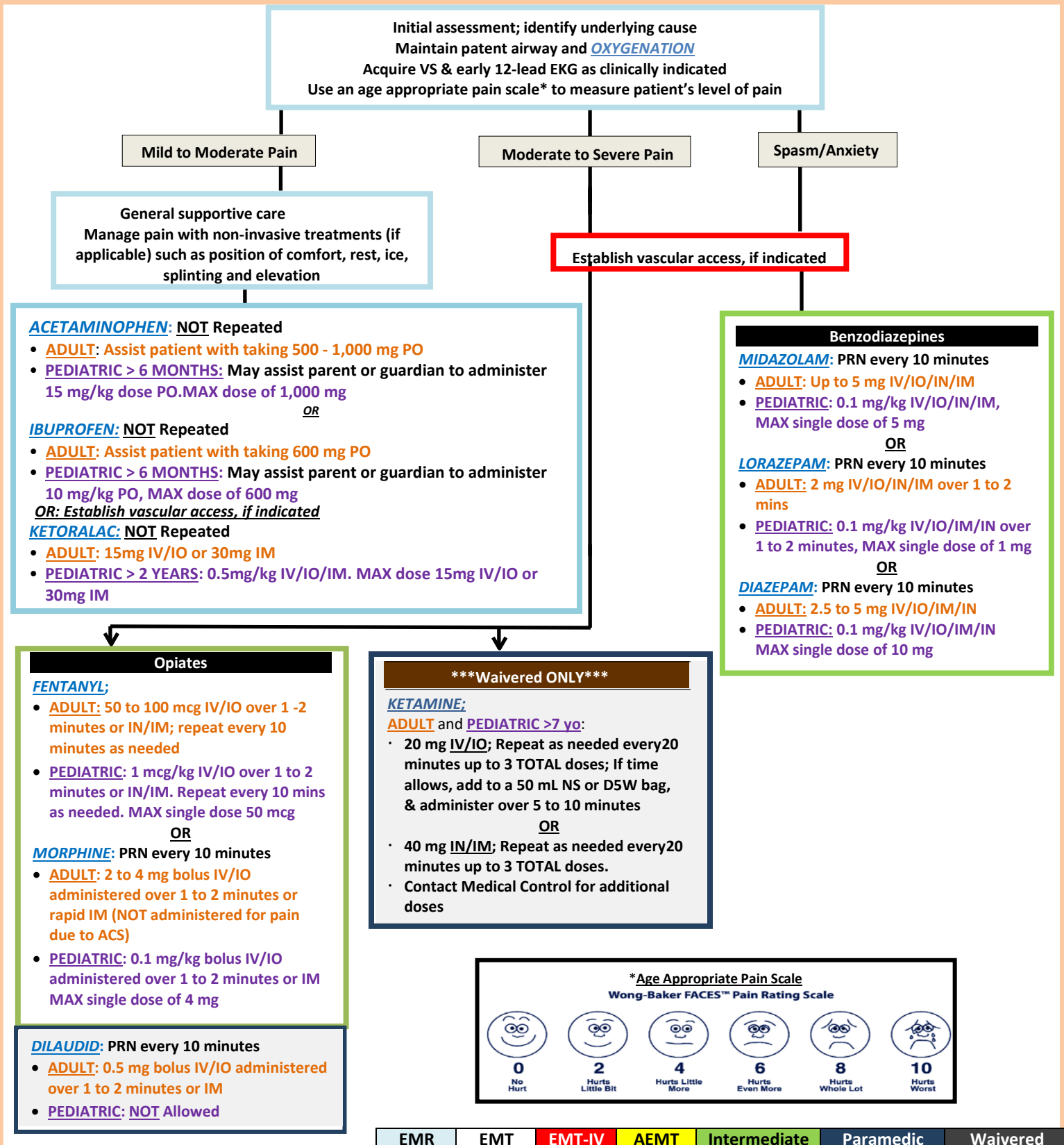
## Special Considerations

---

- 1) The objective of pain management is not the complete relief of all pain, but rather, to make a patient's pain tolerable enough to allow for adequate assessment, treatment, and transport.
- 2) The use of benzodiazepines may be indicated for pain resulting from muscle spasms but will not control other types of pain as effectively as the appropriate dose of opiates.
- 3) Be prepared to treat respiratory depression / apnea.
- 4) Fentanyl is the first line medication for treating pain in pregnant patients (including both OB or GYN pain), unless allergy exists.
- 5) Pain is a secondary concern in trauma; look for major bleeding or life-threats first. Once stabilized, consider pain management.

EMR	EMT	EMT-IV	AEMT	Intermediate	Paramedic	Waivered
-----	-----	--------	------	--------------	-----------	----------

# Pain Management





# Spinal Motion Restriction

Description: This guideline is modeled after the National Emergency X-Radiography Utilization Study (NEXUS) criteria

Mechanism of injury or preexisting medical condition that implies potential need for spinal motion restrictions

Establish manual, in-line cervical stabilization

Does the patient present with ANY of the following?

- IMPAIRED JUDGEMENT from intoxication or recreational drugs, distracting injury/illness, and/or CANNOT make rational decisions
- Barriers to evaluating for spinal injury (e.g. language or developmental barrier)
- Patient >65 or <5 years of age
- Neurologic complaints or deficits, i.e. numbness, tingling, weakness or burning
- Midline pain/tenderness to palpation, especially significant pinpoint, isolated pain/tenderness

YES

NO

Splint cervical spine  
Remind patient NOT to move  
Monitor respiration; be prepared to assist ventilations as needed

Patient does not require SMR  
General supportive care  
See [GENERAL TRAUMA CARE GUIDELINE](#)

Does neuro exam reveal obvious motor or sensory deficits?

NO

Is patient alert, oriented, calm, and cooperative?

NO

YES

Are there signs or symptoms of hypovolemic or neurogenic shock?

YES

Establish IV access  
[IV FLUIDS](#) - 20 mL/kg NS IV/IO  
Keep the patient warm!

Patient **REQUIRES** Spinal Motion Restriction

Patient **DOES NOT** require SMR

- Release manual inline stabilization
- Leave cervical spine splint in place
- Transport patient in position of comfort
- General supportive care
- Document cervical clearance

## Spinal Motion Restriction (SMR)

Includes cervical collar and acceptable devices

- Not necessarily a backboard
- Acceptable devices
  - Ambulance stretcher
  - Vacuum mattress
  - Scoop stretcher
  - Long spine board

## Special Considerations

- Patient self-extrication from a vehicle with assistance is considered better than standard extrication procedures.
- Patients with penetrating trauma only require motion restrictions when there is an obvious motor or sensory deficit on exam.
- Unconscious, blunt trauma patients **REQUIRE** fullspinal splinting
- Use caution when assessing for spinal injury in elderly patients because they have a higher risk for injury and may have minimal symptoms.
- Always err on the side of caution and restrict motion if any of the criteria are **NOT** obviously clear
- Neurological exam documentation is **REQUIRED** in patients with potential cervical or high thoracic trauma, including serial exams.
- Victims of hanging **REQUIRE** spinal motion restriction.
- Consider prophylactic [ZOFRAN](#) administration
- Manage pain, per [PAIN MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE](#)
- If the patient is agitated, see [BEHAVIORAL EMERGENCY GUIDELINE](#)

EMR

EMT

EMT-IV

AEMT

Intermediate

Paramedic



# Taser Probe Removal

Provider Level	Taser Probe Removal	Provider Level	Taser Probe Removal
EMR	YES	AEMT	YES
EMT	YES	Intermediate	YES
EMT-IV	YES	Paramedic	YES

## Description

- 1) Taser guns use technology that interrupts muscular function, resulting in painful contractions that can be incapacitating. EMS personnel may be requested to assess patients after Taser gun deployment, and/or to remove a Taser probe lodged in someone's skin.
- 2) Complete medical documentation is required whether or not EMS transports the patient.
  - a) If the patient is not being transported, make sure the refusal documentation includes a good history of events leading up to and following the Taser event.

## Indications

- a) Taser probe(s) imbedded in skin.

## Contraindications

- 1) Patient is **NOT** physically under control or in an accessible position.
- 2) When the Taser probe is imbedded in an eye, the face, neck, spinal column, breast, groin, a joint space or vascular structure, the probe **SHOULD NOT** be removed in the field AND the patient **MUST** be transported for treatment.

## Precautions

- 1) Confirm that the Taser has been shut off and the barb cartridge has been disconnected from the Taser device.
- 2) When a Taser probe is used in conjunction with pepper spray propellant, there is a burn hazard.
  - a) Electrical arcing from imperfect (but still effective) probe contact can ignite the propellant.
  - b) The resulting combustion may not leave visible burns but may lead to complaints of heat and localized pain. If the patient complains of these symptoms, evaluate for possible minor burns.
- 3) Be aware that secondary injuries may result from falls sustained after the device has been deployed. Subjects should not be confused after being tased.
- 4) There have been reports of deaths involving the use of a Taser on a combative patient. Review of these outcomes site the use of improper or prone restraint of patients, patient use of drugs and patients presenting with excited delirium and hyperthermia as co-morbid factors.
  - a) It is imperative that these patients receive a thorough assessment for these risk factors, and are not improperly restrained.
  - b) A patient presenting with any of these risk factors should be transported for further evaluation.

## Complications

- 1) The subject must be transported to the hospital if he or she meets any of the following criteria:
  - a) Probe lodged in any of the above listed sensitive areas.
  - b) Subject has a previous cardiac history.
  - c) Subject appears intoxicated.
  - d) Subject is non-compliant to direct instructions.
- 2) Inspect probe for breakage or other abnormal findings. If probe is not intact, the patient needs to be transported for further evaluation.

## Special Considerations

- 1) ECG monitoring is indicated, if the patient is over 40-years-old and/or has a history of cardiac issues.
- 2) Removed probes should be handled like contaminated sharps and should be disposed of accordingly.
  - a) Law enforcement will provide the necessary sharps container so that the probes can be logged as evidence.

# Wound Care Procedures



Provider Level	Extremity Splinting	Eye Irrigation Non-Invasive	Eye Irrigation Morgan Lens	Hemostatic Agent	Occlusive Dressing	Pelvic Binder	Pressure Dressing	Traction Splint	Tourniquet	Wound Packing
EMR	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
EMT	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
EMT-IV	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
AEMT	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Intermediate	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Paramedic	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

## Extremity Splinting

### Indications:

- Any time a patient complains of extremity pain post trauma, regardless of deformity presence
- In the presence of gross deformity with circulatory compromise, splint extremity in anatomically correct position

### Contraindications:

- None

### Special Considerations:

- Do not allow a deformed extremity to distract you from life threatening injuries that need immediate attention
- Extremity CMS needs to be checked/documentated before and after splinting

## Eye Irrigation – Non-Invasive

### Indications:

- Removal of foreign substance from the eye
- Chemical burns to the eye after consulting the MSDS or Emergency Response Guideline Manual

### Contraindications:

- Laceration or penetrating injury to the globe of the eye
- Chemical burn when chemical is reactive with water

### Special Considerations:

- MACE is an oil-based product. Irrigation with water will only spread the irritant
- Safety comes first. Do not irrigate if substance is unknown and there is concern for provider/patient safety
- Consider [TOPICAL OPHTHALMIC ANAESTHETIC](#)

## Eye Irrigation – Invasive (Morgan Lens)

### Indications:

- Chemical burns to the eye after consulting the MSDS or Emergency Responses Guideline Manual

### Contraindications:

- Laceration or penetrating injury to the globe of the eye or the eyelid
- Chemical burn when chemical is reactive with water
- Patients who have been sprayed in the eye with MACE

### Special Considerations:

- The Morgan Lens can be used when lengthy irrigation time is required
- Consider [TOPICAL OPHTHALMIC ANAESTHETIC](#)

# Wound Care Procedures



## **Hemostatic Agents**

---

### Indications:

- a) Patients with external bleeding that is not controlled effectively by direct pressure and dressing

### Contraindications:

- b) None when used in the emergency setting

### Special Considerations:

- c) Hemostatic agents should be used in conjunction with **3 full minutes of direct pressure**

## **Occlusive Dressing**

---

### Indications:

- a) Open wounds to the abdomen, injuries to the neck involving large vessels, and open wound to the chest when an airtight seal is needed to prevent further injury

### Contraindications:

- b) None

### Special Considerations:

- c) Frequently monitor the patient for a developing tension pneumothorax due to open wounds to the chest

## **Pelvic Binder**

---

### Indications:

- a) Stabilization of a known or suspected unstable pelvic fracture

### Contraindications:

- b) Suspected isolated hip fracture

### Special Considerations:

- c) Improper placement of a pelvic binder can do more harm than good. Placement should be low over the pelvic ring, not around the top of the hips
- d) Tighten to anatomic position as overtightening can cause increased bleeding

## **Pressure Dressing**

---

### Indications:

- a) To maintain pressure once direct pressure has controlled external bleeding

### Contraindications:

- b) None

### Special Considerations:

- c) Pressure dressings are not the same as an Ace bandage – they must be applied tightly

## **Traction Splint**

---

### Indications:

- a) Stabilization of a known or suspected isolated mid-shaft femur fracture

### Contraindications:

- b) Suspected injury to the knee or close to the knee, hip, pelvis, or lower leg/ankle of injured leg

### Special Considerations:

- c) **DO NOT** release manual traction until splint is properly placed and holding traction

# Wound Care Procedures

## Tourniquet

### Indications:

- a) Patients with external bleeding in an extremity that is not controlled effectively by direct pressure and dressing

### Contraindications:

- b) Any location other than an extremity

### Special Considerations:

- c) **DO NOT** cover tourniquet
- d) More than one tourniquet may be needed, in addition to the first tourniquet applied
- e) Be sure to document when, where, and by whom the tourniquet was placed

## Wound Packing

### Indications:

- a) Large open junctional wounds where packing is needed in conjunction with **10 full minutes of direct pressure** and exterior dressing application
  - i) Axilla, inguinal areas, and extremities

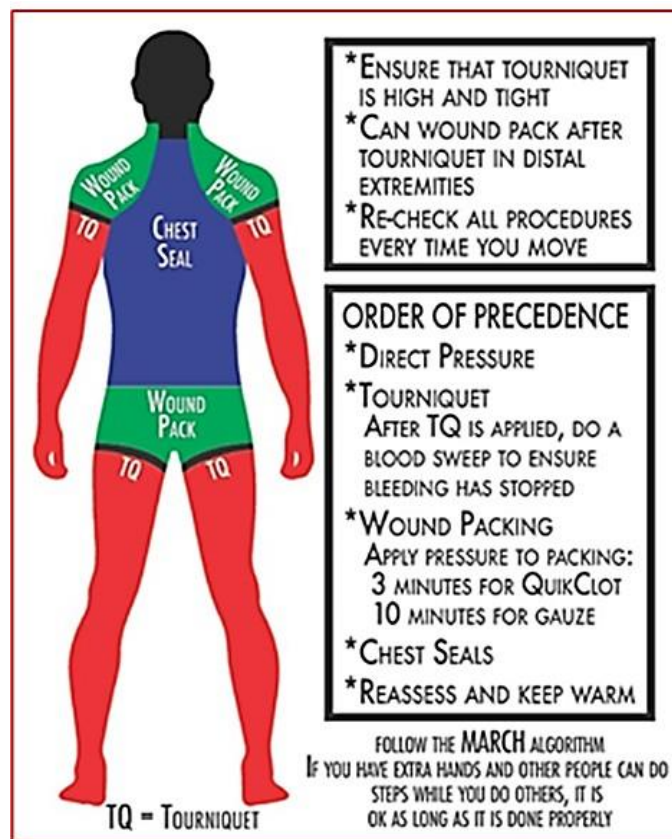
### Contraindications:

- b) Large wounds to the trunk

### Special Considerations:

- c) If hemostatic agent gauze is used for wound packing, **hold direct pressure to the hemorrhaging vessel for 3 minutes**
- d) If non-hemostatic agent gauze is used for wound packing, **hold direct pressure to the hemorrhaging vessel for 10 minutes**

Be cautious of neck wounds. Look for subcutaneous emphysema. If present, apply an occlusive dressing

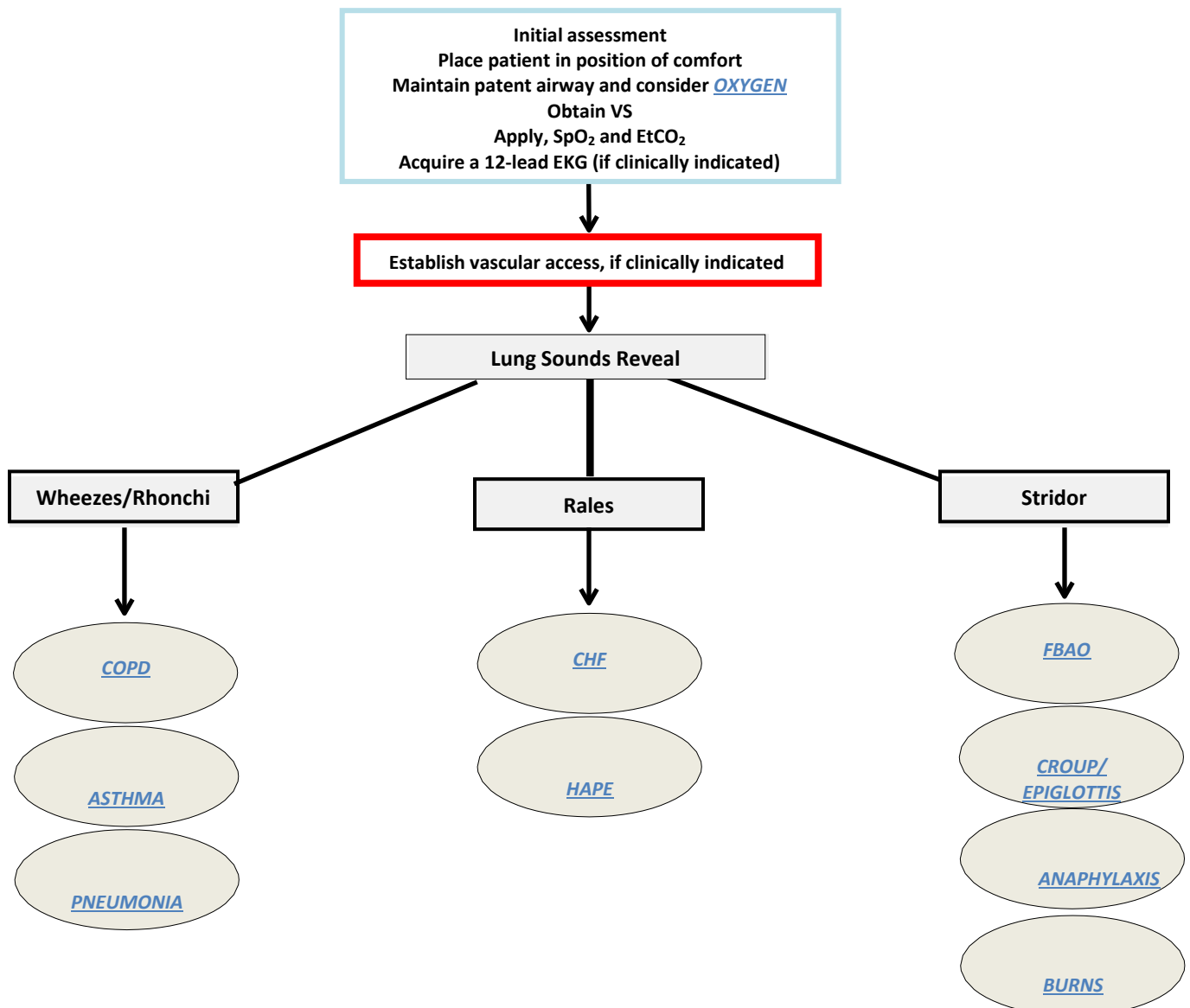




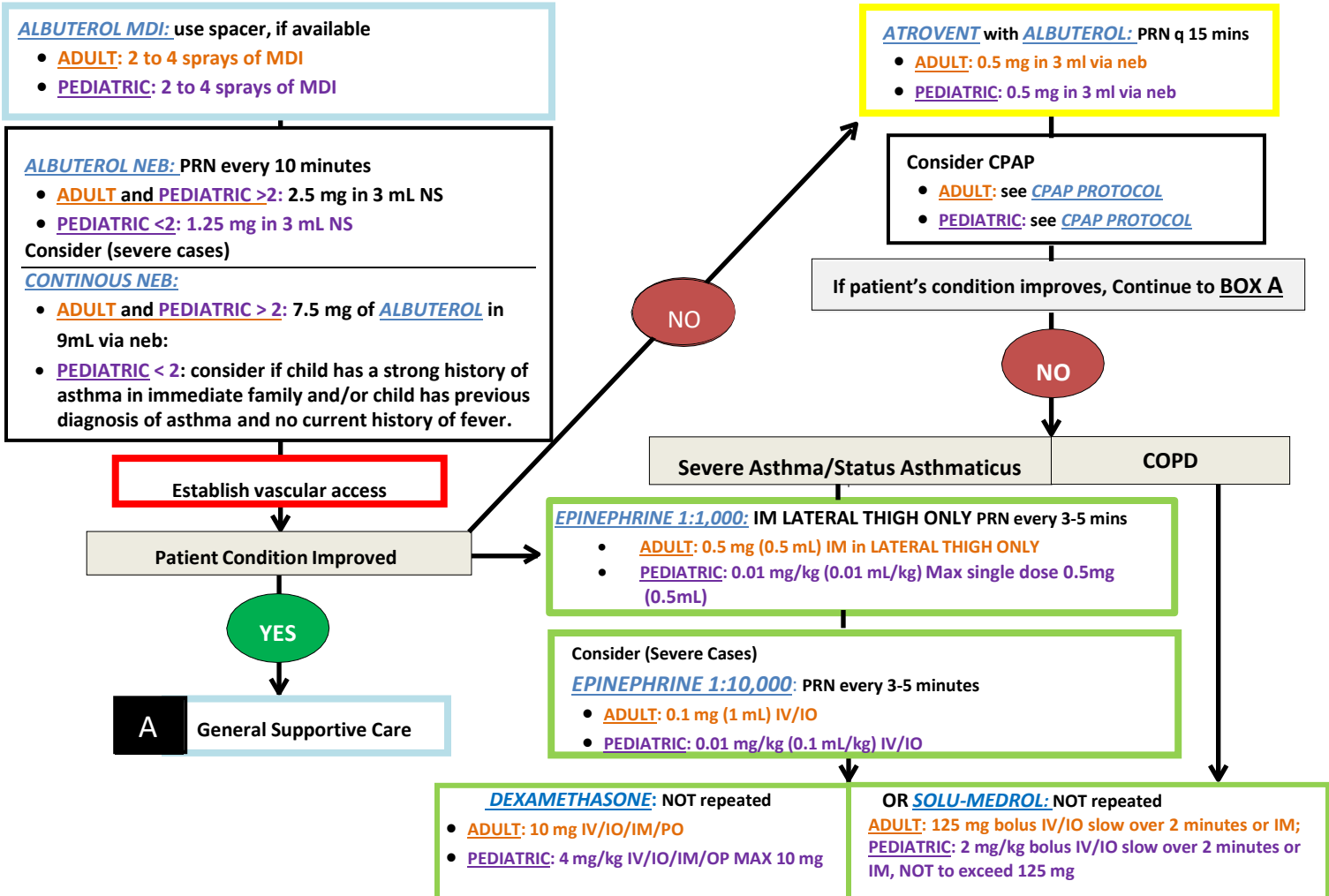
# Standard Dyspnea Care

## Description

- 1) Causes of respiratory distress can be numerous, making the assessment and treatment difficult. This guideline is designed to create a simplified and standard treatment algorithm.
- 2) The goal is to maximize both oxygenation and ventilation without causing hyperoxemia.
- 3) Lung sounds in conjunction with EtCO<sub>2</sub> and SpO<sub>2</sub> are crucial during the assessment and are **REQUIRED** on every respiratory distress patient.
- 4) There are many non-pulmonary causes of dyspnea. If clear lung sounds are present, consider other causes such as: pulmonary embolus, myocardial infarction, carbon monoxide poisoning, and/or anxiety.
- 5) Consider **ADVANCED AIRWAY PLACEMENT**, if respiratory/cardiac arrest is imminent.
- 6) For pediatrics, reference Pediatric Field Guide, Broselow Tape, Handtevy Guide, or approved apps.



# Wheezes/Rhonchi



**Special Considerations**

- **IM EPINEPHRINE** is only indicated for most severe asthma attacks that are not responding to inhaled bronchodilators. Use extreme caution when administering. ECG monitoring is mandatory.
- IV **MAGNESIUM** may be beneficial in some patients with status asthmatics; it should not be given routinely and should be reserved for life-threatening attacks NOT responding to conventional therapy.
- Wheezing may be a presentation of pulmonary edema. If "cardiac asthma" is suspected, see [RALES GUIDELINE](#)
- If fever present and significant suspicion of pneumonia, avoid steroid administration.
- If allowed, consider combining **ALBUTEROL** and **ATROVENT** (DUONEB) and administer via nebulizer.
- Consider **ADVANCED AIRWAY PLACEMENT**, if respiratory/cardiac arrest is imminent.

If Patient Condition Improved, Continue to **BOX A**

Consider (If no improvement)

**MAGNESIUM SULFATE:** NOT repeated

- **ADULT:** 2 gm in 50 mL NS or D<sub>5</sub>W IV over 10 minutes
- **PEDIATRIC:** 50 mg/kg in 50 mL NS or D<sub>5</sub>W IV over 5 minutes IV/IO

Consider PPV, Adjuncts and SGA. See [AIRWAY MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE](#)

Consider in Severe Cases:

**EPINEPHRINE INFUSION:**

- **ADULT and PEDIATRIC:** 1 mg Epinephrine in a 1,000 mL NS or 0.5 mg in 500 mL NS, IV/IO infusion wide open to gravity. Continuously reassess BP until titrated effect. SBP > 90 systolic (see [PEDS GUIDE](#) for recommendation), and/or return of distal pulses, and/or improved mental status

# Rales



## Suspected Cause

### Congestive Heart Failure/Other

Establish vascular access; consider **IV FLUID** if clinically indicated

- Fluid challenge- 250-500mL NS IV/IO

Consider early CPAP

- ADULT:** see [CPAP](#)
- PEDIATRIC:** see [CPAP](#)

### High Altitude Pulmonary Edema

Immediate descent  
General supportive care

Consider early CPAP

- ADULT:** see [CPAP](#)
- PEDIATRIC:** see [CPAP](#)

**NITROGLYCERIN:** Repeat 0.4 mg sublingual every 5 minutes PRN titrated to symptoms and blood pressure

- ADULT:**
  - SBP 100 to 120: 0.4 mg sublingual
  - SBP 121 to 200: 0.8 mg sublingual
  - SBP >200: 1.2 mg sublingual
- PEDIATRIC: NOT ALLOWED**

Consider (if available)

**NITROGLYCERIN PASTE:**

- ADULT:**
  - 0.5" to 2" applied to skin, cover with Tagaderm to prevent smearing
- PEDIATRIC: NOT ALLOWED**

Patient Condition Improved

YES (green circle)

NO (red circle)

General supportive care

If ETCO<sub>2</sub> reveals bronchospasm or clinical suspicion

**ALBUTEROL NEB:** PRN every 10 minutes

- ADULT and PEDIATRIC >2:** 2.5 mg in 3 mL NS
- PEDIATRIC <2:** 1.25 mg in 3 mL NS

Consider **CONTINUOUS NEB:**

- ADULT:** 7.5 mg of **ALBUTEROL** in 9 mL via neb
- PEDIATRIC: NOT ALLOWED**

**ATROVENT:** PRN every 15 minutes

- ADULT:** 0.5 mg in 3 mL via neb
- PEDIATRIC:** 0.25 mg in 3 mL via neb

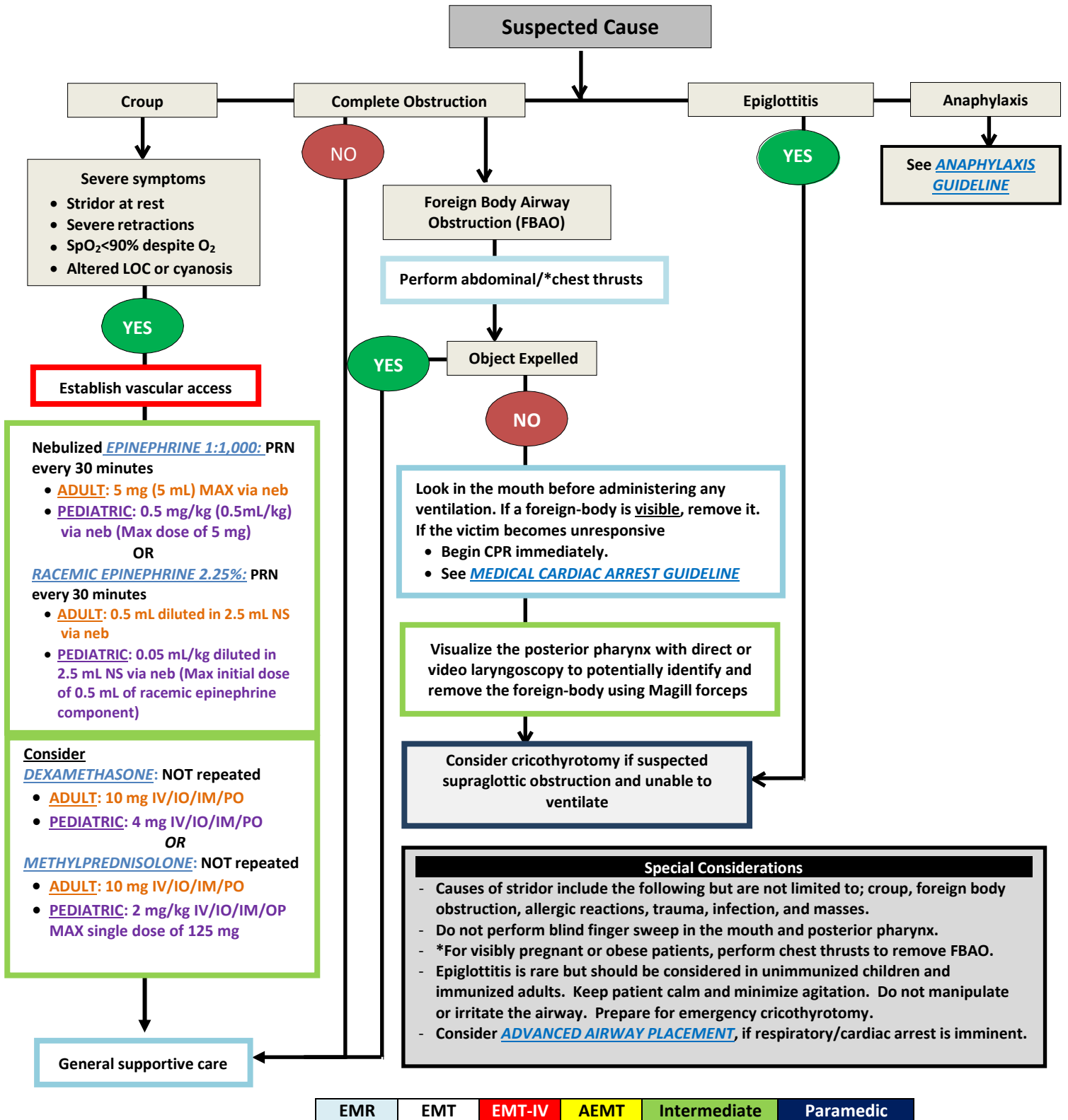
YES (green circle) → General supportive care

**Special Considerations**

- This guideline is designed to assist the prehospital provider with the treatment of patients with shortness of breath who are exhibiting rales.
- Refer to [STANDARD DYSPNEA](#) for initial treatment
- Maximize oxygenation and decrease work of breathing
- Consider myocardial infarction in patients with rales and obtain a 12-lead ECG. See [ACS GUIDELINE](#)
- Treat dysrhythmias per related cardiac guideline.
- Consider treatment of anxiety, see [BEHAVIORAL EMERGENCY](#)
- The most effective and reliable treatment of HAPE is immediate descent and administration of supplemental oxygen.
- Avoid nitroglycerin in any patient who has used phosphodiesterase inhibitors including, but not limited to the following; Viagra or Levitra in the past 24 hours or Cialis in the past 48 hours, due to possible severe hypotension.
- If in scope, consider [ALBUTEROL](#) and [ATROVENT \(DUONEB\)](#) and administering via neb twice before administering continuous [ALBUTEROL](#)
- If patient presents with signs and symptoms of cardiogenic shock with poor perfusion, consider [EPINEPHRINE](#) drip.
- Consider [ADVANCED AIRWAY PLACEMENT](#), if respiratory/cardiac arrest is imminent.

NO (red circle) → Ventilate using basic airway adjuncts and BVM while monitoring EtCO<sub>2</sub> and SpO<sub>2</sub>  
See [AIRWAY MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE](#)

# Stridor/FBAO





# Acute Coronary Syndrome

Receiving Facility Capability						
Check Availability with EMResource						
Condition	PMC	SFMC	MC	MN	GV	CH
NON-STEMI	A/P	A/P	A/P	A/P	A	P
STEMI	A/P	A/P	A/P	A/P	X	P

A=Adult, P=Pediatric X=Does not accept

## Description

- 1) Chest pain can manifest with many signs and symptoms; the primary goal of this guideline is to identify patients with ACS/chest pain that meet Cardiac Alert criteria.
- 2) When activating a Cardiac Alert, the goal is to identify a patient with ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) in the prehospital setting, and to provide advanced notification to the receiving facility to minimize delay to definitive care.

## Cardiac Alert Inclusion Criteria

- 1) **SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS CONSISTENT WITH ACS AND**  
12-lead ECG showing:
  - a) ST-segment elevation (STE) of at least 1 mm in two or more anatomically contiguous leads, **OR**
  - b) 2 mm ST depression or greater in V1-V2 (posterior), **OR**
  - c) Modified Sgarbossa's Criteria (if LBBB or ventricular pacemaker present):
    - i. Concordant ST-segment elevation  $\geq$  1 mm in any lead
    - ii. ST depression  $>$  1 mm in leads v1-v3
  - d) For all level of EMS providers: 12-Lead ECG monitor interpretation of **“\*\*ACUTE MI\*\*”**
- 2) If unsure if patient meets Cardiac Alert criteria, consider activating a PULSARA General Alert and sending an attached image of the patient's 12-lead or call to request medical consult with receiving facility

## Cardiac Alert Treatment

- 1) Notify receiving hospital ASAP with ETA and request **CARDIAC ALERT**
  - a) **Do not delay hospital notification.** If possible, notify ED before leaving scene
- 2) ECG transmission (if available)
  - a) Utilize Pulsara application with an attached image of patient's 12-lead, if available **or**
  - b) Contact hospital by phone or radio and explain STEMI findings and activate cardiac alert
- 3) Strongly consider attaching defibrillation pads for precautionary measures
- 4) Rapid transport to appropriate facility
- 5) If patient does not meet inclusion criteria, yet clinical scenario and ECG suggests STEMI, consider activating a PULSARA General Alert and sending an attached image of the patient's 12-lead **or** call to request medical consult with receiving facility
- 6) Serial 12-leads, if time allows, including posterior and/or RV ECGs, if appropriate

## Documentation Requirements

- 1) Time of first patient contact
- 2) Time of first ECG
- 3) Attach ECG to ePCR/patient care documentation
- 4) Serial 12-leads, if time allows, including posterior and/or RV ECGs, if appropriate

## Special Considerations

- 1) Suspicion of an acute MI is based on a complete assessment and history.
  - a) Do NOT be reassured by a "normal" monitor strip.
  - b) Conversely, "abnormal" strips (particularly ST and T changes) can be due to technical factors or non-acute cardiac diseases.
  - c) Changes **SHOULD** be documented and relayed to physician on arrival at ED.
- 2) Consider **ALL** potential causes of life-threatening chest pain including pulmonary embolus, dissecting aneurysm, pneumothorax, pneumonitis, etc.

EMR	EMT	E-IV	AEMT	Intermediate	Paramedic
-----	-----	------	------	--------------	-----------

# Acute Coronary Syndrome

Receiving Facility Capability						
Check Availability with EMResource						
Condition	PMC	SFMC	MC	MN	GV	CH
NON-STEMI	A/P	A/P	A/P	A/P	A	P
STEMI	A/P	A/P	A/P	A/P	X	P

A=Adult, P=Pediatric X=Does not accept

**Special Considerations**

- Treat the patient's pain!
- Assess lung sounds prior to and during administering fluid to patients at increased risk of CHF
- Treat cardiac dysrhythmias per specific guidelines
- Consider placing right-sided and/or posterior 12-lead ECG leads

Initial Assessment: Identify and treat underlying causes  
 Positive findings of ACS signs/symptoms  
 Maintain patent airway and OXYGENATION (SpO2 95-99%)  
 Begin cardiac monitoring; Acquire VS & early 12-lead ECG

ASPIRIN: NOT repeated  
 • **ADULT**: 162 to 324 mg tablets  
 • **PEDIATRIC**: NOT ALLOWED

STEMI

YES NO

Activate Cardiac Alert

Establish Vascular Access; consider two large bore IVs, if possible

Signs and Symptoms of Poor Perfusion

YES NO

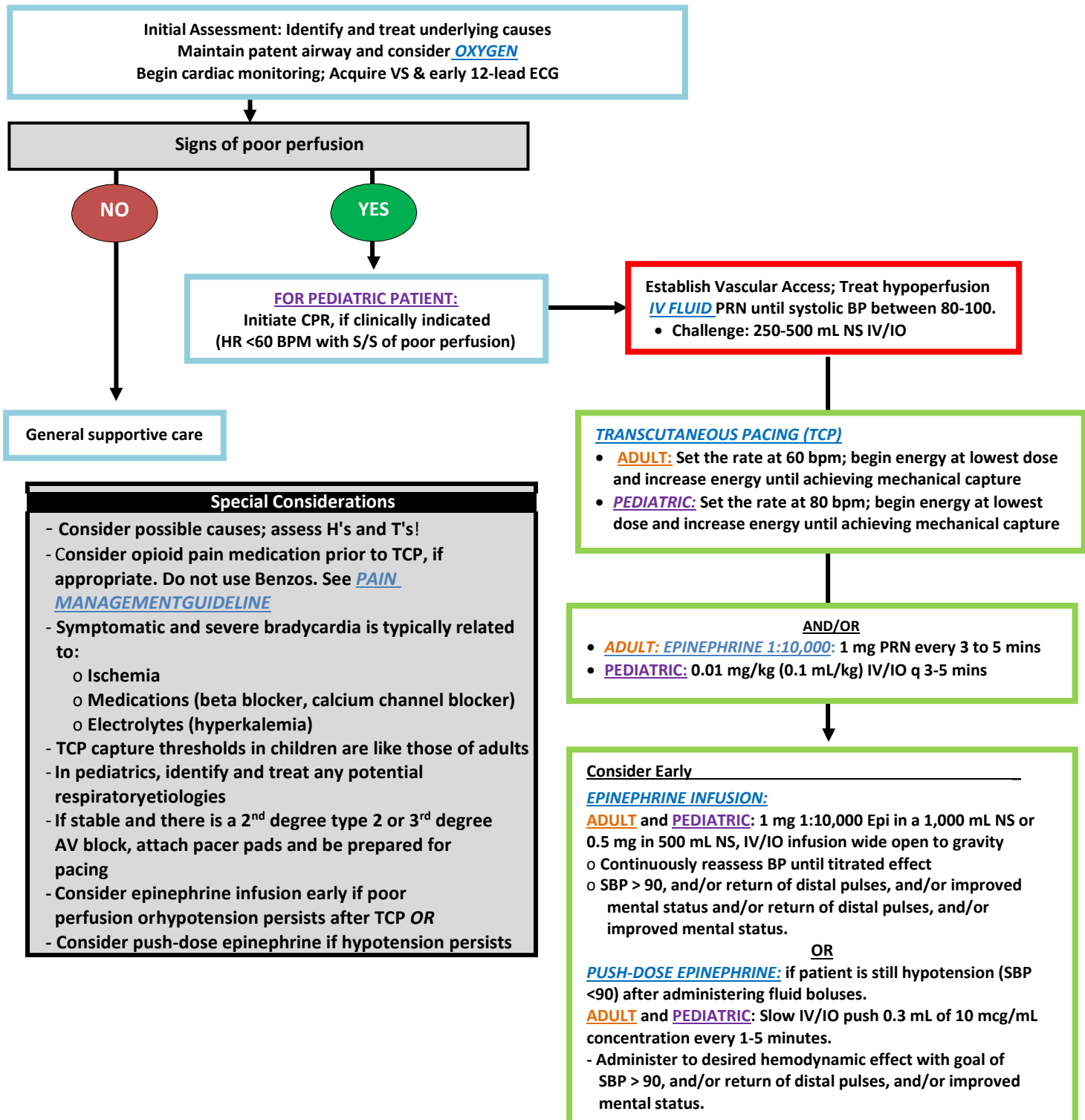
IV FLUIDS: PRN until improved perfusion, SBP between 80-100  
 • Challenge: 250-500 mL of NS IV/IO

Provide PAIN MANAGEMENT  
FENTANYL:  
 • **ADULT**: 50-100 mcg IV/IO over 1-2 minutes or IN/IM

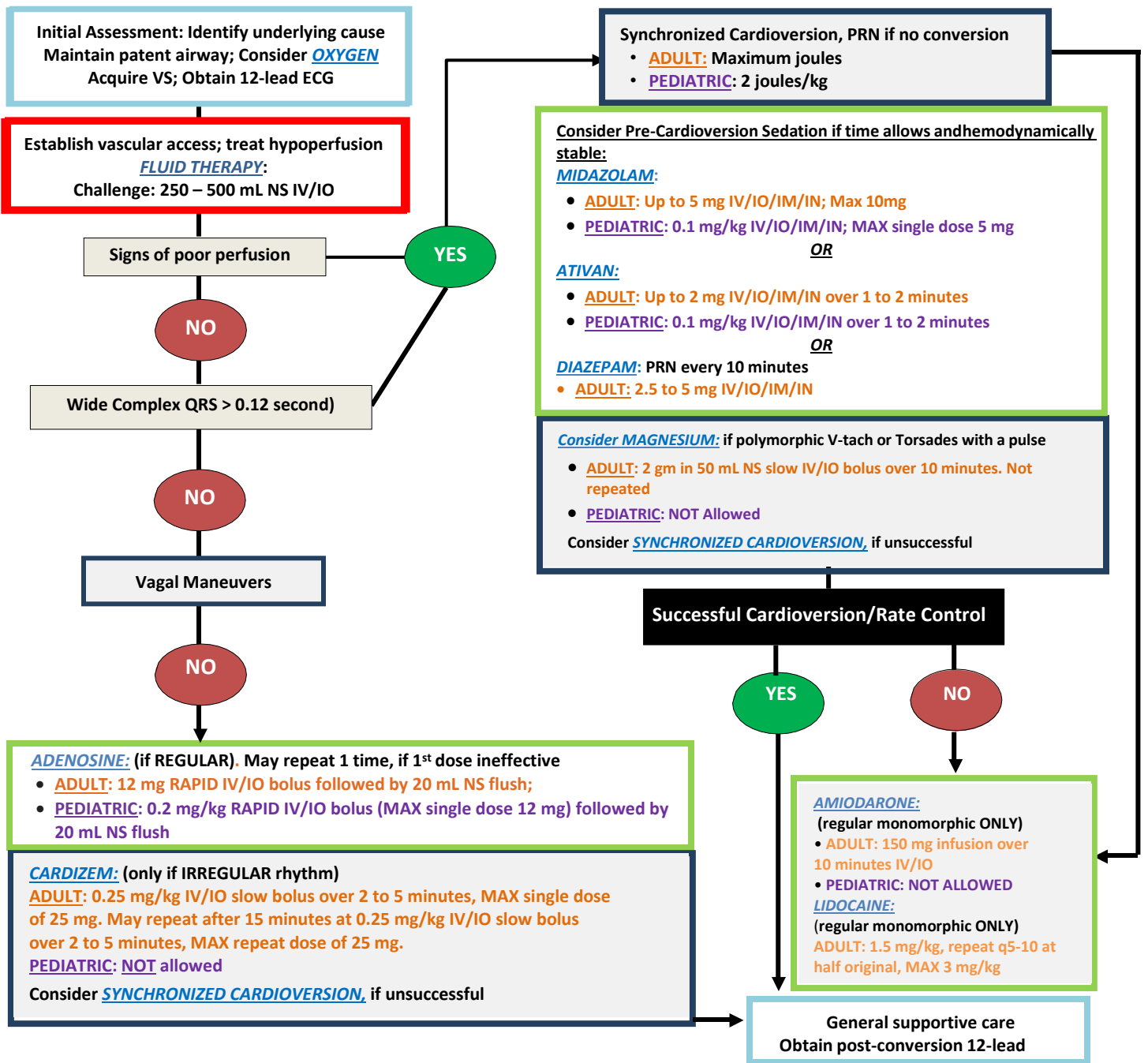
If SBP remains <90 in adults after fluid administration, Consider:  
EPINEPHRINE INFUSION:  
 • **ADULT and PEDIATRIC**: 1 mg Epinephrine in a 1,000 mL NS or 0.5 mg in 500 mL NS, IV/IO infusion wide open to gravity  
 ○ Continuously reassess BP until titrated effect  
 ○ BP > 90 systolic (≥ Peds Guide recommendation), and/or return of distal pulses, and/or improved mental status

Consider DILAUDID: PRN 10 minutes  
 • **ADULT**: 0.5 mg IV/IO over 1-2 minutes or 0.5 mg IM  
 • **PEDIATRIC**: NOT allowed

# Bradydysrhythmias



# Tachydysrhythmias



## Special Considerations

- Consider contacting Medical Control for direction if conversion is unsuccessful.
- Chronic atrial fibrillation is rarely a cause of hemodynamic instability, especially if rate is < 150 bpm. First correct hypoxia and/or hypovolemia, before considering cardioversion.
- Sinus tachycardia rarely exceeds 150 bpm in adults; or 220 bpm in children < 8 years and does not require or respond to cardioversion, treat underlying causes.

EMR

EMT

EMT-IV

AEMT

Intermediate



Paramedic



# Hyperkalemia

Initial Assessment: Identify and treat underlying causes  
 Maintain patent airway and consider OXYGEN  
 Begin ECG monitoring, acquire VS & early 12-lead ECG

Strong suspicion of hyperkalemia (known kidney failure/ dialysis patient),  
 documented K+ lab value of >6 mEq/L AND/ OR ECG demonstrates;

Moderate (6.5-8.0 mEq/L)		Loss of P wave Prolonged QRS complex ST-segment elevation Ectopic beats and escape rhythms
Severe (> 8.0 mEq/L)		Progressive widening of QRS complex Sine wave Ventricular fibrillation Asystole Axis deviations Bundle branch blocks Fascicular blocks

NO

General Supportive Care

**Special Consideration**

- Suspect hyperkalemia in any patient with a new onset bradyarrhythmia or AV block, especially patient with known renal failure, hemodialysis, rhabdomyolysis, or a patient taking any combination of ACE inhibitors, potassium-sparing diuretics, or potassium supplements.
- Untreated, severe hyperkalemia can decompensate into asystole or ventricular fibrillation. Early recognition and rapid treatment are required to prevent cardiac arrest.
- Consider placing defib pads; If patient progresses to cardiac arrest, see MEDICAL CARDIAC ARREST Guideline

YES

ALBUTEROL NEB: PRN x1

- **ADULT**: 10 mg (in 12 mL) repeat as needed;  
Consider early CPAP, if clinically indicated
- **PEDIATRIC**: NOT Allowed

Establish Vascular Access

CALCIUM CHLORIDE: every 10 mins to a MAX of 3 doses

- **ADULT**: 1 Gram slow bolus over 2 to 5 minutes IV/IO
- **PEDIATRIC**: NOT Allowed

CALCIUM GLUCONATE: every 10 mins to a MAX 3 doses

- **ADULT**: 3 Grams slow bolus over 2 to 5 minutes IV/IO
- **PEDIATRIC**: NOT Allowed

SODIUM BICARBONATE: PRN until QRS shortens to <100 ms, if applicable

- **ADULT**: 100 mEq slow bolus over 2 to 5 minutes IV/IO of an 8.4% solution;  
In severe cases, mix 150 mEq (150 mL) in 1000 mL NS and administer at 200 mL/hr
- **PEDIATRIC**: NOT Allowed

EMR    EMT    EMT-IV    AEMT    Intermediate    Paramedic

# Cardiac Arrest (Medical)

## General Electrotherapy Guidelines

---

- 1) For pediatrics, reference Pediatric Field Guide, Broselow Tape, Handtevy application or other approved resource.
- 2) If cardiac arrest patient has an implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) or pacemaker: place pacer/defibrillator pads at least 1 inch from device. Bi-axillary or anterior/posterior pad placement may be used.

## General Chest Compressions

---

**ADULT > 19:** Cover the patient's airway/face as soon as possible.

**PEDIATRIC < 18:** Compression depth should be 1/3 of anteroposterior chest diameter.

### **PREGNANCY:**

- a) Left-lateral tilt is used to improve maternal hemodynamics during cardiac arrest; the degree of tilt should be at a tilt  $\geq 30^\circ$  or manually displace the uterus.
- b) Performed from either the patient's left side with the 2-handed technique or the patient's right side with the 1-handed technique.

## General Airway Management

---

### **ADULT > 19:**

- a) **Passive Oxygenation:** Passive O<sub>2</sub> at 8 L via iGel or NRB/OPA/NPA and cover the patients face for 3 cycles.
  - i. This can be done via, surgical mask, sheet, and/or other type of available barrier etc.
- b) **Positive Pressure Ventilation (PPV):** Initiate after 3 cycles (6 minutes of passive oxygenation unless suspected hypoxic arrest suspected (e.g. asphyxiation, status asthmaticus).
- c) **Advanced Airway Preferences:** See [AIRWAY MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE](#).

### **PEDIATRIC < 18:**

- d) **Positive Pressure Ventilation:** If hypoxic arrest suspected (e.g. asphyxiation, status asthmaticus), begin PPV immediately.
- e) **Advanced Airway:** Can be placed any time suspicion of primary respiratory etiology.
  - i. Placement should not interrupt compressions.

## Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC)

---

- a) See [ROSC GUIDELINE](#)

## General Environment

---

- 1) Ensure full recommended PPE prior to making contact and/or while performing high risk airway or resuscitation procedures.
- 2) Evaluate the scene for any evidence that may help identify a potential infectious disease.
- 3) CPR in a moving ambulance or on a cot is ineffective and is not recommended to transport patients to a facility without a pulse.
  - a) In general, work cardiac arrest on scene either to ROSC, or the field pronouncement, see [DEATH in the FIELD GUIDELINE](#).
- 4) Family presence during resuscitation is preferred by most families, it is rarely disruptive, and may help in the grieving process for family members. Family presence during resuscitation is recommended, unless disruptive to resuscitation efforts.

## General Medication

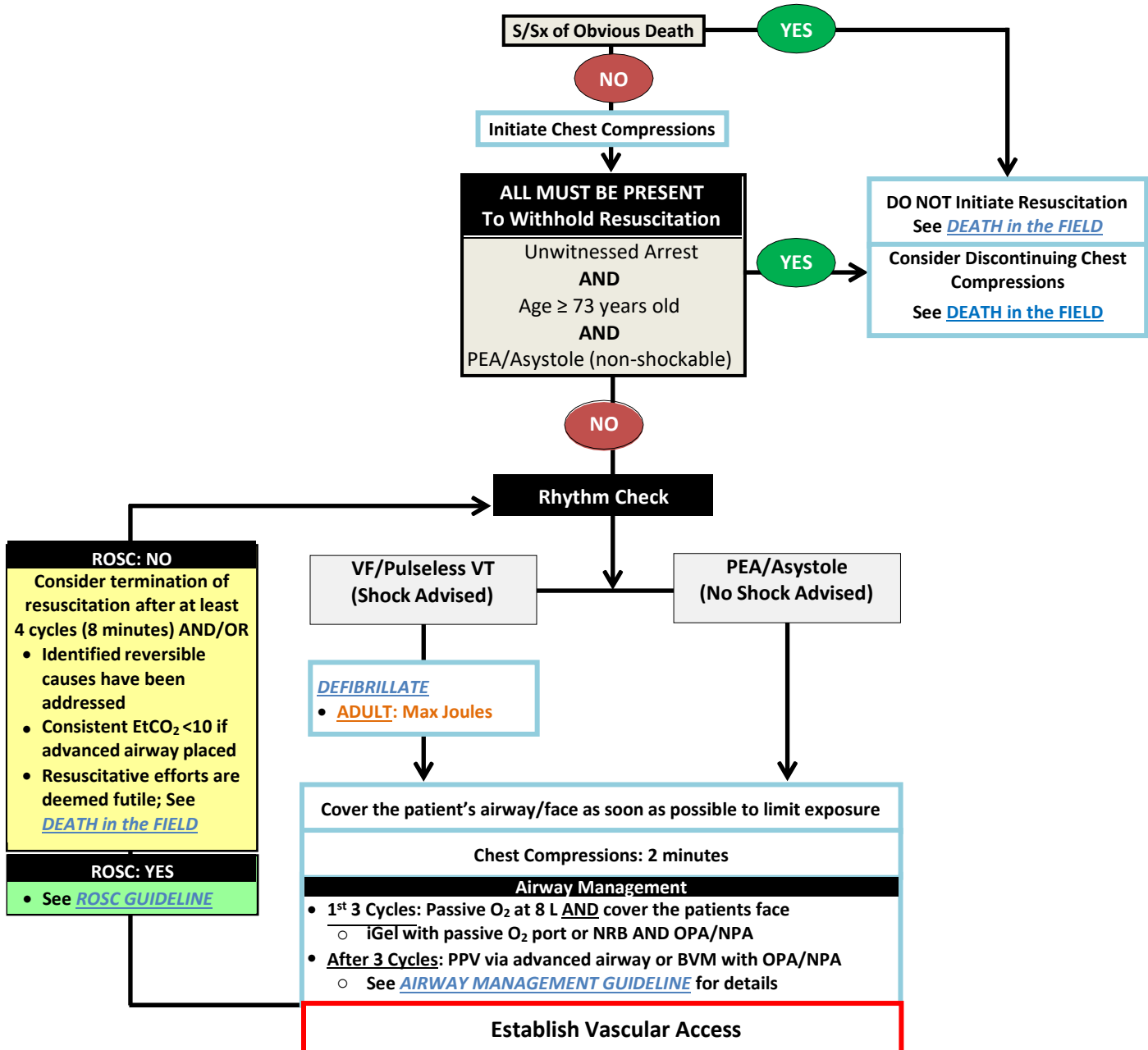
---

- 1) In suspected hyperkalemic arrest, consider early vascular access and administration of [CALCIUM](#) and [SODIUM BICARBONATE](#).
- 2) Consider vascular access and administer [MAGNESIUM](#) for polymorphic VT/Torsade's De Pointes.
- 3) In **ADULTS:** the use of epinephrine, amiodarone or lidocaine are no longer recommended.

EMR	EMT	EMT-IV	AEMT	Intermediate	Paramedic
-----	-----	--------	------	--------------	-----------

# Cardiac Arrest (Medical)

## ADULT > 19 Years Old: Cardiac Arrest Algorithm

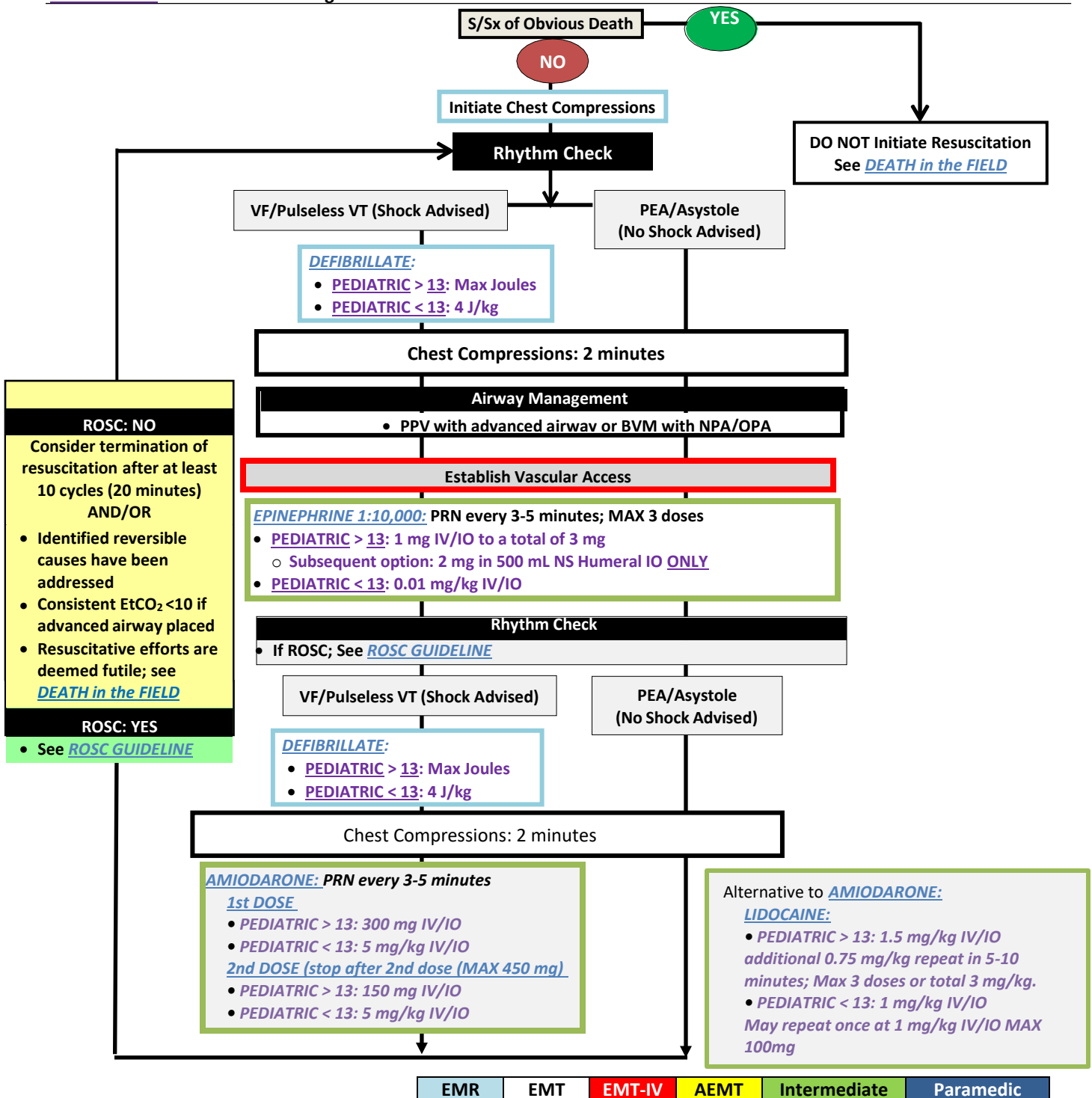


**Medical Direction Note**  
 Provider discretion, the timeframe to Termination of Resuscitation (TOR) can be extended or shortened

EMR   EMT   **EMT-IV**   AEMT   Intermediate   Paramedic

# Cardiac Arrest (Medical)

## PEDIATRIC: <18: Cardiac Arrest Algorithm



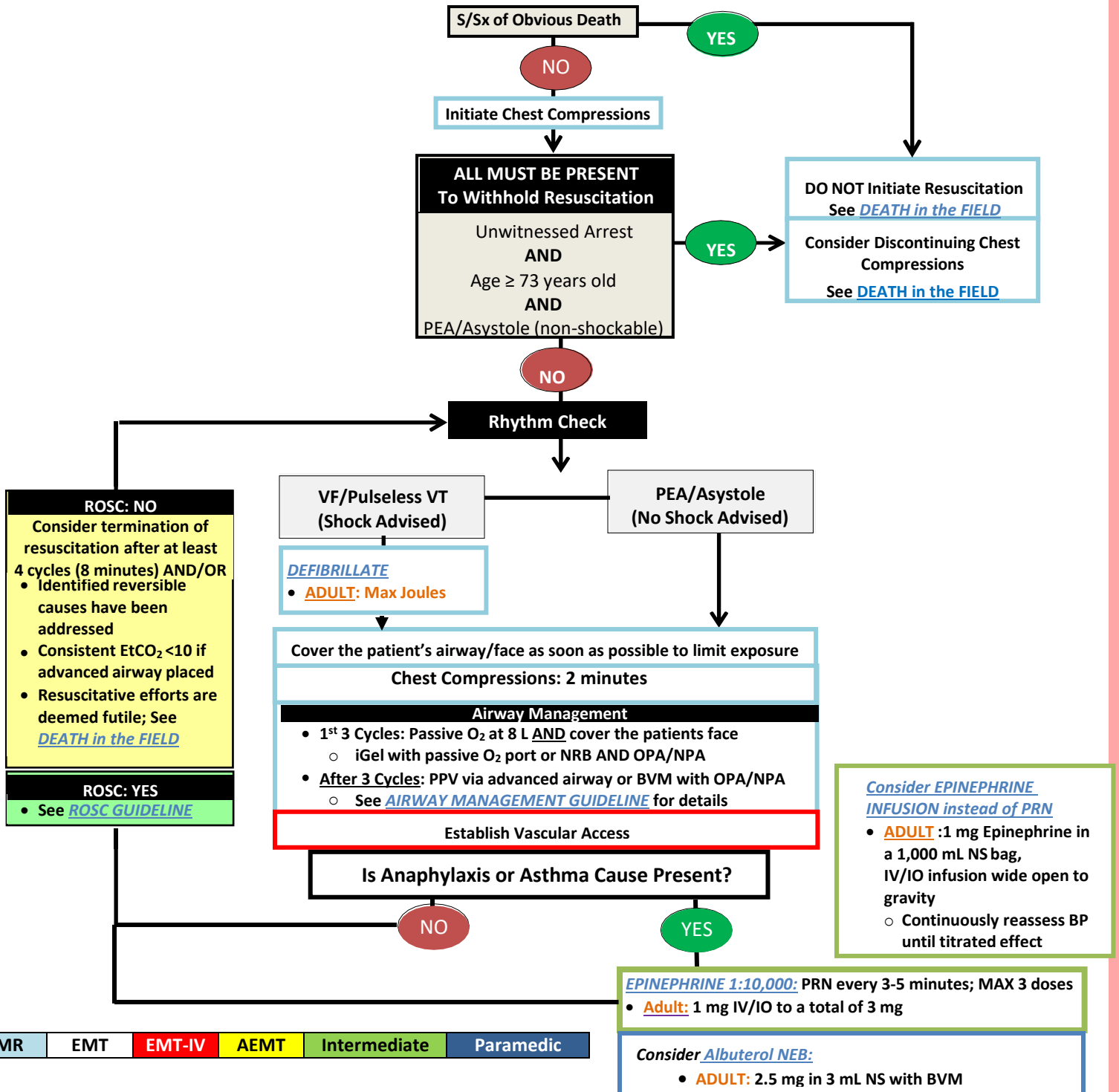
### Medical Direction Note

Provider discretion, the timeframe to Termination of Resuscitation (TOR) can be extended or shortened



# Cardiac Arrest (Respiratory)

## ADULT > 19 Years Old: Cardiac Arrest Respiratory



EMR EMT EMT-IV AEMT Intermediate Paramedic

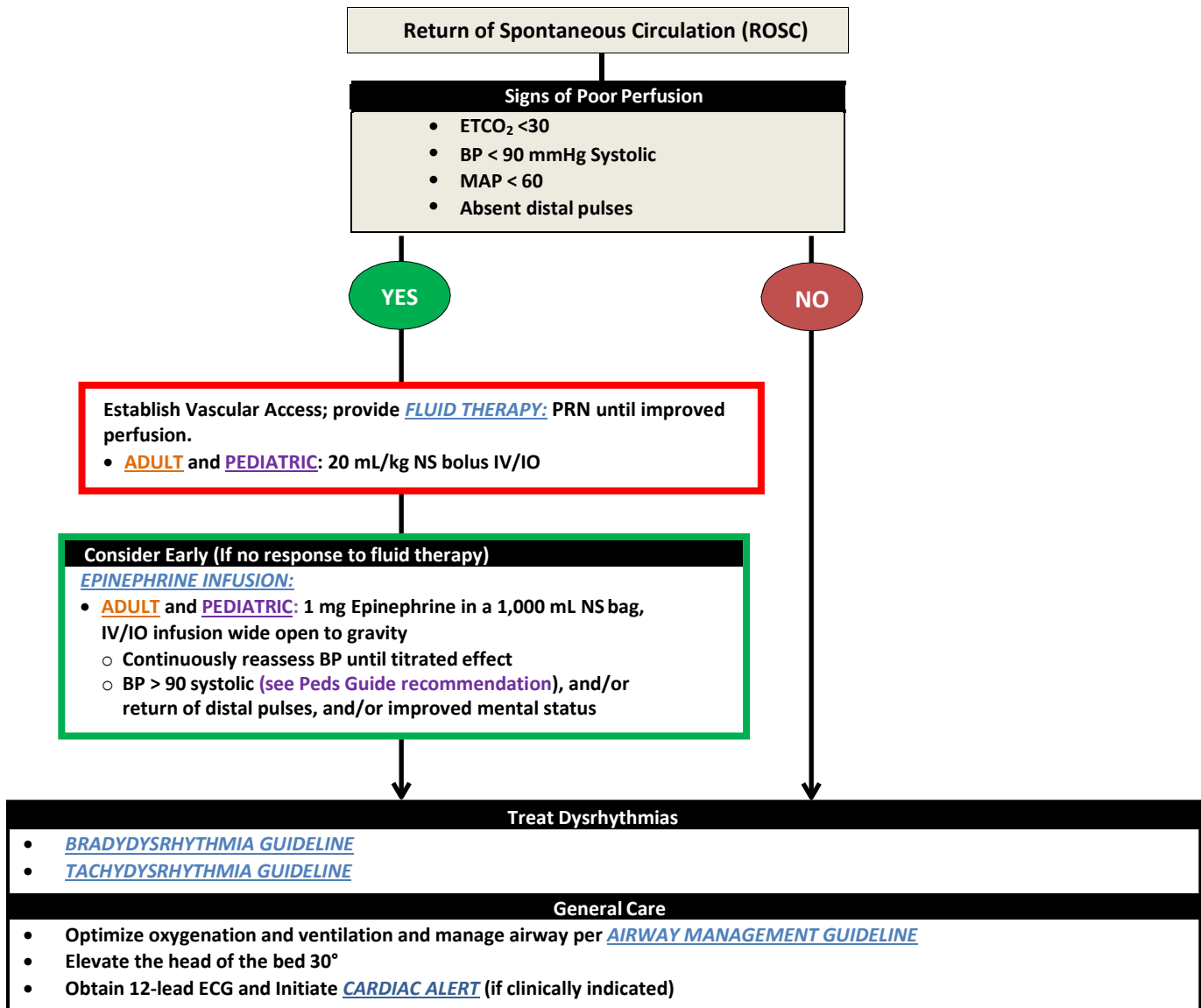
### Medical Direction Note

Provider discretion, the timeframe to Termination of Resuscitation (TOR) can be extended or shortened

# Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC)

## Description

- 1) The condition of post-resuscitation patients fluctuates rapidly and continuously, close monitoring is required.
- 2) Avoid rapid patient movement, assess perfusion status, and stabilize prior to packaging and transport.
  - a) Initial End tidal CO<sub>2</sub> may be elevated immediately post-resuscitation but will usually normalize. The goal is 35 to 45 mmHg for both adults, adolescents, and pediatrics; avoid hyperventilation to achieve a normal EtCO<sub>2</sub>.
  - b) Titrate fluid resuscitation and pressor administration to maintain SBP of 90 to 100 mmHg or Mean Arterial Pressure (MAP) of 60 mmHg.



EMR   EMT   **EMT-IV**   AEMT   Intermediate   Paramedic

# Neonatal Resuscitation

## History and Presentation

- 1) History of mother: age, due date, prenatal care, previous pregnancies and problems, high risk, medications, duration of labor, foul-smelling or stained amniotic fluid, possibility of  multiples .
- 2) If baby is **NOT** delivered and head is **NOT** appearing at vaginal opening with contractions, transport rapidly and consider stopping the ambulance for delivery as clinically indicated.
- 3) If baby is not delivered, but head visible with contractions (crowning), delivery is imminent.

## Special Considerations

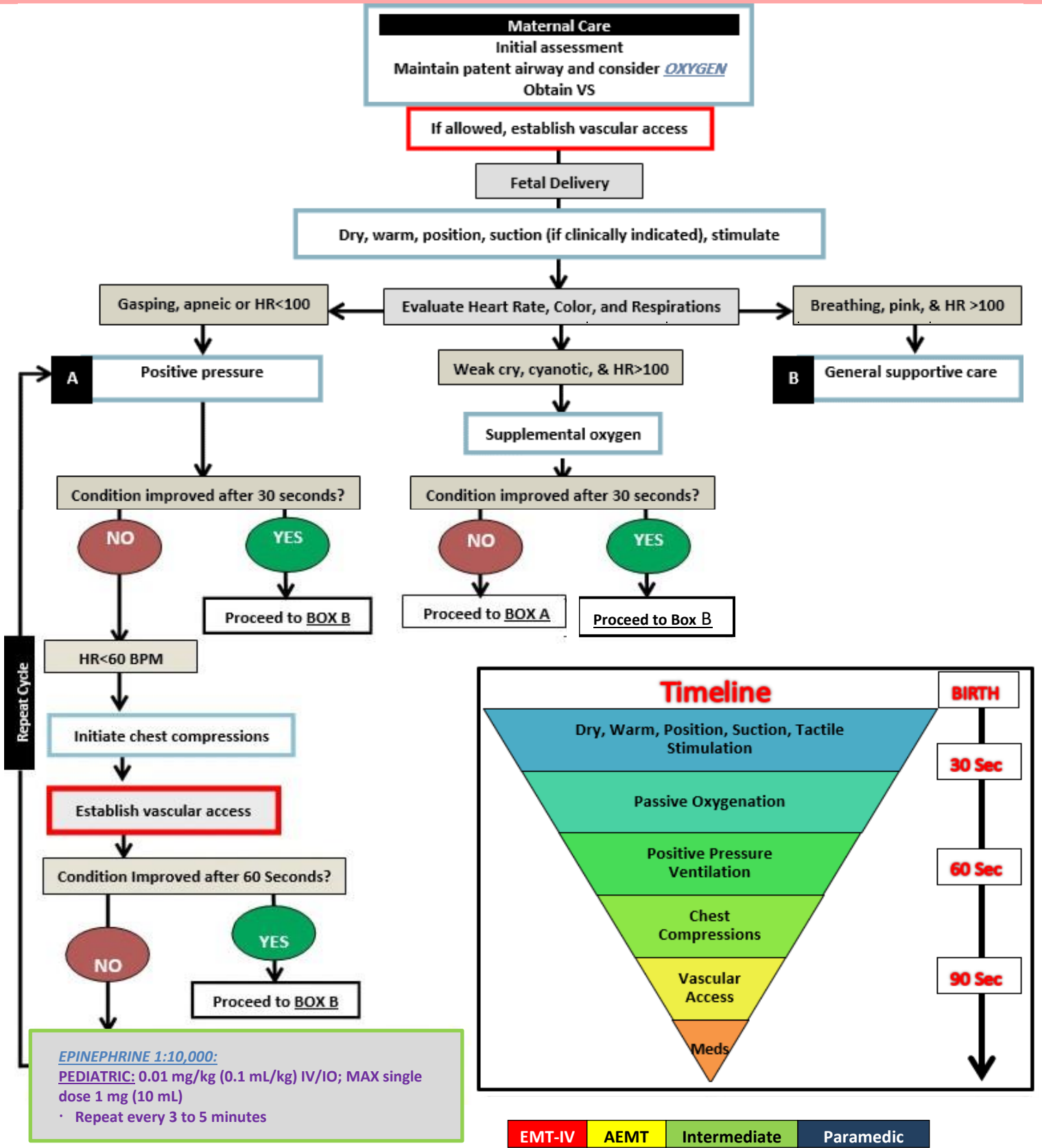
- 1) The decision to progress beyond initial steps is based on an assessment of respirations (apnea, gasping, labored, or unlabored breathing) and heart rate (>/< 100 bpm).
- 2) Assist ventilations at a rate of 40-60 breaths per minute to maintain HR > 100 and use 2-person BVM when possible.
- 3) For CPR, 2 thumbs-encircling hands technique preferred.
  - a) Allow full chest recoil.
  - b) 3:1 ratio for compressions to ventilations, with 90 compressions and 30 breaths per minute, to achieve 120 events per minute.
- 4) Coordinate with ventilations so chest compressions are **NOT** delivered simultaneously.
- 5) Consider, hypoglycemia, hypovolemia, and pneumothorax.
- 6) Suction is **ONLY** indicated when there is an obvious obstruction to spontaneous breathing or those requiring positive- pressure ventilation.
- 7) Neonatal resuscitation, unlike most other resuscitation situations, requires careful attention to temperature.
- 8) When needed to establish vascular access, immediate interosseous (IO) access is preferred, then later if needed obtain a peripheral IV access site.
  - a) NO pressure infusion bag recommended for infant IO access, instead use manual pressure for administration of medications.

## APGAR

- 1) Document APGAR score at 1 and 5 minutes
- 2) APGAR Scoring Chart

Indicator		0 Point	1 Point	2 Points
A	Activity (muscle tone)	Absent	Flexed arms and legs	Active
P	Pulse	Absent	< 100 BPM	>100 BPM
G	Grimace (reflex irritability)	Floppy	Minimal response to stimulation	Prompt response to stimulation
A	Appearance (skin color)	Blue; pale	Pink body, blue extremities	Pink body and extremities
R	Respiration	Absent	Slow and irregular	Vigorous cry

# Neonatal Resuscitation





# Ventricular Assist Devices

## Description

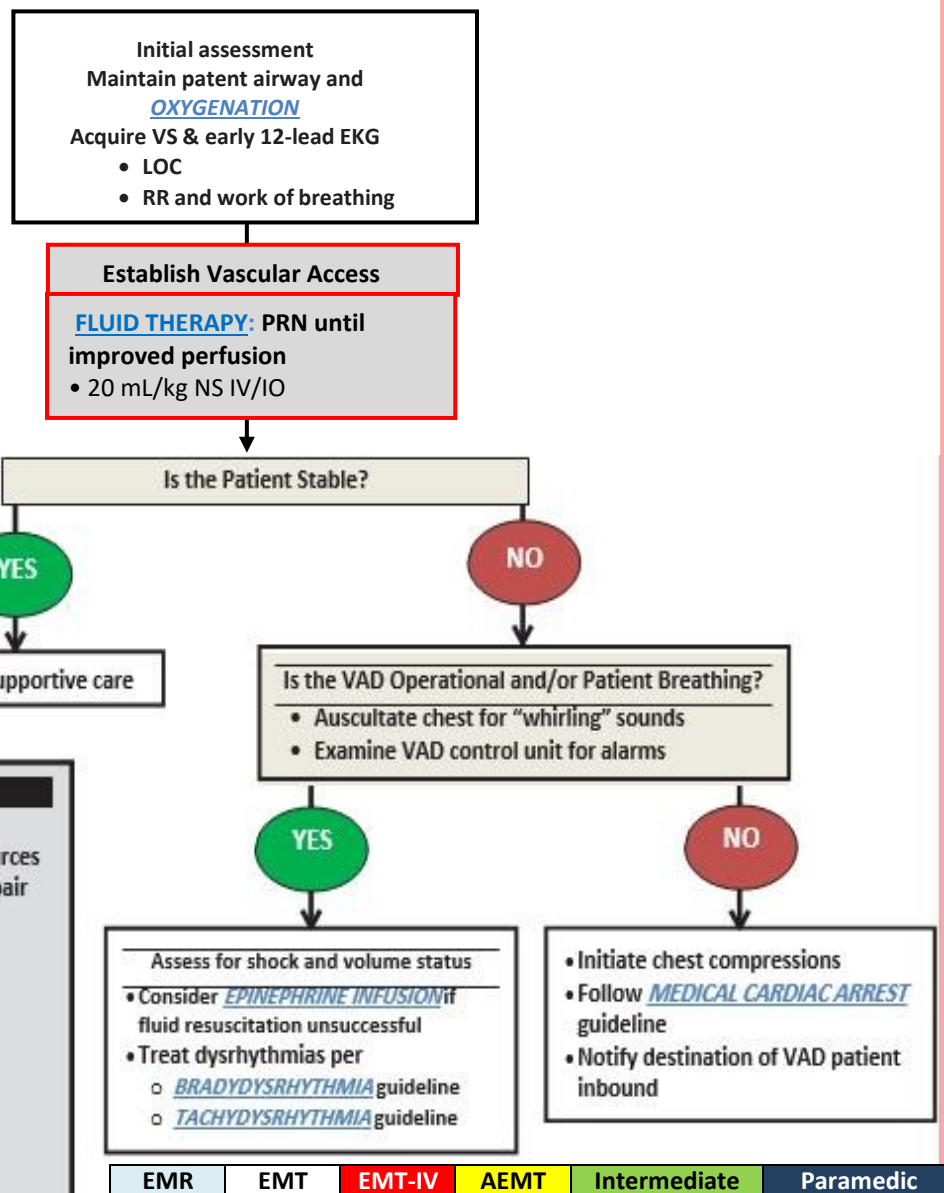
- 1) A Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) is a mechanical device used to support circulation in a patient with significant ventricular dysfunction.
  - a) The Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) is typically used to support the left ventricle and provide additional cardiac output.
  - b) This device can be placed short term to bridge patients until they can receive a heart transplant or long term for people who are not candidates.
  - c) LVAD patients can be identified by an electric driveline cable that comes directly out of their abdomen and connects to an external control pack powered by two external batteries they will be wearing with a bag, harness, or vest. The patient still has underlying heart function and rhythm that can be assessed and treated as appropriate per guidelines.
  - d) Typically, LVAD patients have no discernible pulse. Blood pressure measurement requires manual BP cuff and Doppler, therefore utilize other parameters for patient assessment (see below).

### Key Points

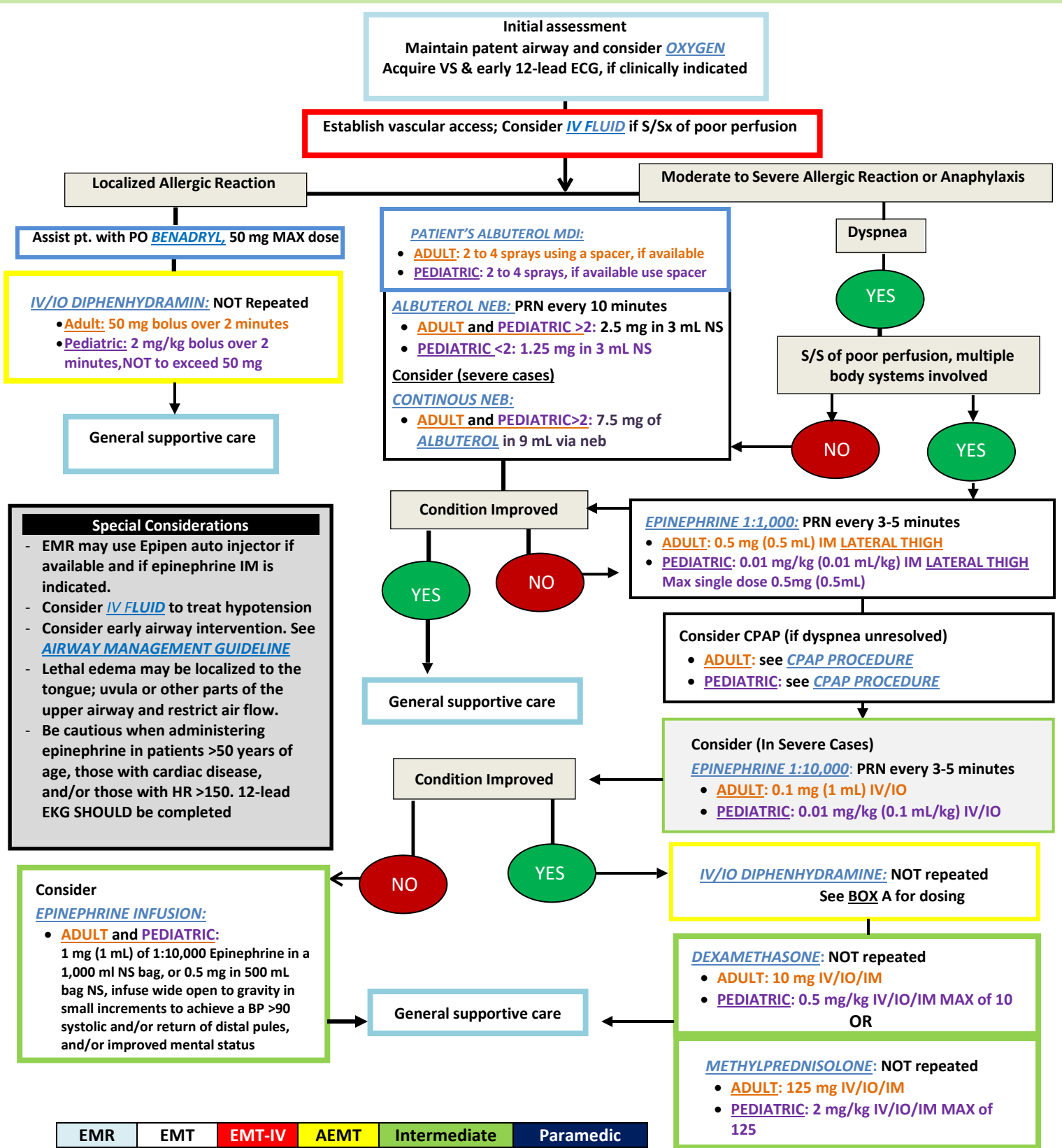
- Unstable VAD patients should be transported to the nearest appropriate facility.
- VAD patient family members are excellent resources to assist with patient history and evaluation/repair of VAD alarms/faults.
- **It is vital to transport the patient's back-up batteries and emergency equipment with the patient.**
- Device specific information for EMS can be found at: <https://www.mylvad.com/medical-professionals/ems>

### Special Considerations

- HR > 100 is hemodynamically unstable
- VAD patient family members are excellent resources to assist with patient history and evaluation/repair of VAD alarms/faults
- Common VAD Complications
  - CVA
  - TIA
  - Arrhythmias
  - Infections
  - Sepsis
  - Obstructions
  - Pump Failure



# Allergy/Anaphylaxis



# Behavioral Emergency

## Description

Behavioral/medical/traumatic emergencies can arise due to anxiety, mental illness, substance abuse or another medical conditions. Symptoms can range from mild to severe. Most behavioral emergencies are mild to moderate in nature and can be managed using verbal de-escalation and/or de-escalation with medication(s).

- a) **Mild (RASS 0 to -2):** Behavior which includes irritability, verbal aggression, anxiety, and/or depression.
- b) **Moderate (RASS -3 to -5):** Increased restless/irritable behavior that escalates to verbal and/or physical aggression toward self or others.
- c) **Severe (RASS +1 to +4):** Behavior which includes poor impulse control, aggressive excitement, non-purposeful movements, and/or unrelenting violent/disruptive behavior **AND** has the potential to require restraint.

### IMPROVED MONTGOMERY COUNTY RICHMOND AGITATION SEDATION SCALE (RASS)

Score	Term	Description	EMS Activity
+4	<b>Combative</b>	Overly combative, violent, immediate danger to staff.	Unsafe to care for patient without maximal assistance, require law enforcement assistance.
+3	<b>Very Agitated</b>	Pulls or removes tube(s) or catheter(s), aggressive	Struggles aggressively and forcefully against care. Routine EMS care impossible.
+2	<b>Agitated</b>	Frequent non-purposeful movements, fights interventions	Resists EMS care, requires gentle physical redirection to allow for routine EMS care
+1	<b>Restless</b>	Anxious, but movements are not aggressive or vigorous	Verbally redirectable, follows commands, routine EMS care possible
0	<b>Alert Calm</b>	Calm behavior	
-1	<b>Drowsy</b>	Not fully alert but has sustained awakening and eye contact to voice (<10 seconds)	Awakens to voice
-2	<b>Light Sedation</b>	Briefly awakens to voice (<10 seconds)	Awakens to bumps/potholes in roadway during transport or application of oxygen via NC or NRB
-3	<b>Moderate Sedation</b>	Movement or eye opening to voice (no eye contact)	Eyes open to physical exam, venous tourniquet application and/or BP cuff
-4	<b>Deep Sedation</b>	No response to voice, but movement or eye contact to physical stimulation	Responds to insertion of NPA or IV start
-5	<b>Unarousable</b>	No response to voice or physical stimulation	No response to insertion of OPA/NPA or IV start

**Remember to document the event/behavior in detail within the ePCR**

## Indication for Restraint

Use restraints **ONLY** if attempts at verbal de-escalation are unsuccessful and when a justifiable behavioral/medical/traumatic emergency is present. This is defined as an underlying behavioral/medical/traumatic condition posing an immediate safety risk to the individual, EMS provider, and/or the public.

- a. If restraining a patient will place EMS/Fire personnel in harm's way, providers are allowed to disengage the restraint process.

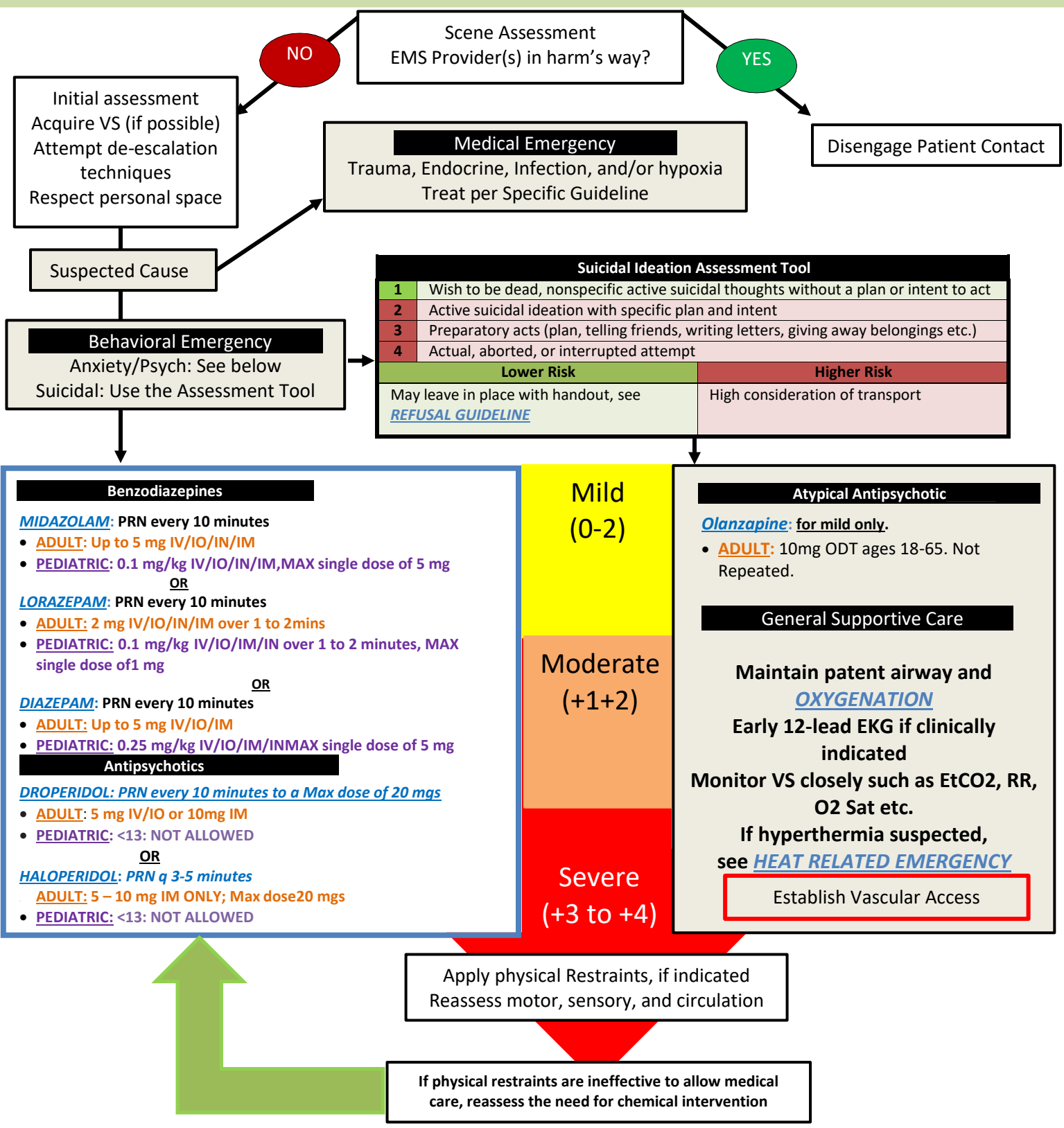
## Restraint Considerations

- a) **AVOID PRONE POSITIONING:** transition the patient from the prone position as soon as possible.
- b) restrained patient may never be left unattended.
- c) Continuous monitoring of vital signs and airway to prevent injury, aspiration, or harm.
- d) Peace officers shall not use, direct, or unduly influence EMS providers with regards to medical care.
- e) Thoroughly document restraint rationale and type utilized, re-evaluations, all persons involved including peace officer, any injury to the patient or provider, as well as patient condition upon hospital transfer of care.
- f) If handcuffs are placed by a peace officer, the officer **MUST** accompany EMS during transport in the ambulance or the patient must be transitioned to soft restraints prior to leaving the scene.
- g) Be aware of potential complications from preexisting medical conditions with the application of restraints such as obesity, ACS, diabetes etc.

EMR	EMT	EMT-IV	AEMT	Intermediate	Paramedic	Waivered
-----	-----	--------	------	--------------	-----------	----------



# Behavioral Emergency

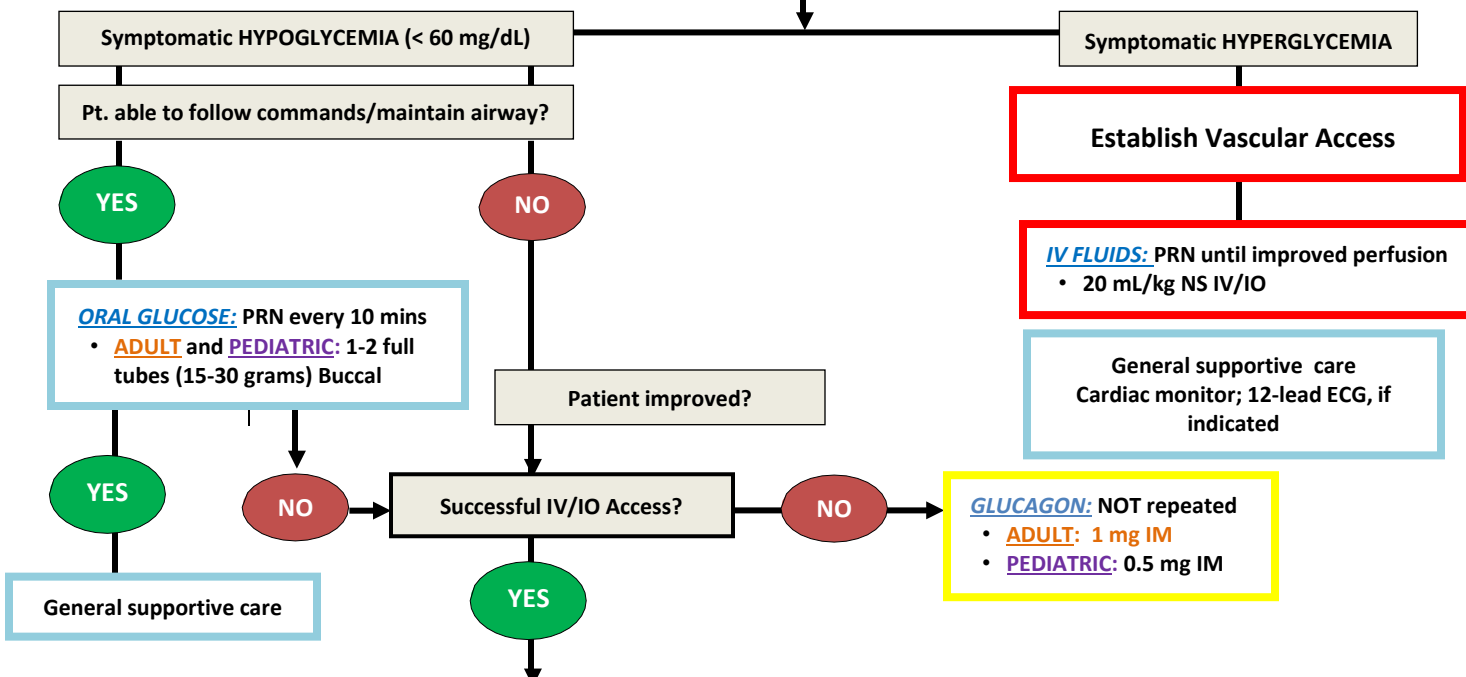


EMR    EMT    **EMT-IV**    AEMT    Intermediate    Paramedic    Waivered



# Diabetic Emergency

**Initial Assessment**  
 Maintain patent airway and **OXYGENATION**  
 Acquire VS & early 12-lead EKG if clinically indicated



## DEXTROSE 10% SOLUTION IV:

- **ADULT:** 25 grams (250 mL of a 10% solution) IV/IO, slowly over 10 minutes or until patient condition improves
- **PEDIATRIC <12:** 10 mL/kg of a 10% solution IV/IO, slowly over 10 minutes or until patient condition improves
  - To make 10% dextrose: Add 25 grams of dextrose 50% solution to 250 mL (or 50 grams in 500 mL) of normal saline
  - Discard 40 mL of liquid from one amp of dextrose 50% solution, then draw 40 mL of NS or sterile water into the amp. Roll the syringe between the palms to mix solution

## Special Considerations

- DO NOT let alcohol confuse the clinical picture. Alcoholics frequently develop hypoglycemia.
- Hyperglycemia may aggravate cerebral edema in a patient with a cerebral vascular accident. A BGL should always be determined prior to administration of glucose.
- Hyperglycemia is treated with fluids. These patients are volume depleted; glucose will begin to clear with adequate hydration
- If hypoglycemic patients have returned to baseline and wish to refuse care, make certain that the patient eats complex carbohydrates and that there is someone to observe them for repeat hypoglycemic episodes. See [REFUSAL GUIDELINE](#)
- If symptoms do not resolve after treatment, consider other causes
- A sugary juice mixture or similar item can be substituted for [ORAL GLUCOSE](#)

# Epistaxis

If suspected trauma, evaluate for possible septal hematoma

**Initial assessment**  
 Maintain patent airway and consider **OXYGEN**  
 Acquire VS & early 12-lead EKG if clinically indicated

Establish vascular access

ADULT

PEDIATRIC

Bleeding from one or both nares?

YES

NO

General Supportive Care

NO

YES

IV THERAPY; If needed, consider  
 • 20 mL/kg NS IV/IO

IV THERAPY; If needed, consider  
 • 20 mL/kg NS IV/IO

**NEOSYNEPHRINE**

- For patients experiencing an active nosebleed and able to follow commands
  - First have patient blow nose to expel clots.
  - Administer 2 sprays to each nostril with patient gently sniffing (if possible) until patient can taste the Neosynephrine.
  - Apply digital pressure to the soft nasal portion or apply commercial nose clip for 20 minutes; repeat as needed

**TXA EPC SAR and NETCO ONLY**

- ADULT ONLY:** 250 mg Topical or IN, repeat PRN
- Have the patient clear the nostrils (blow nose)
- Place TXA on onto a 2x2 gauze pad or cotton ball or Insert TXA soaked pad into affected nostril(s)
- Apply nose clamps
- Let the receiving hospital know if TXA was used to control the nose bleed

General Supportive Care

EMR

EMT

EMT-IV

AEMT

Intermediate

Paramedic

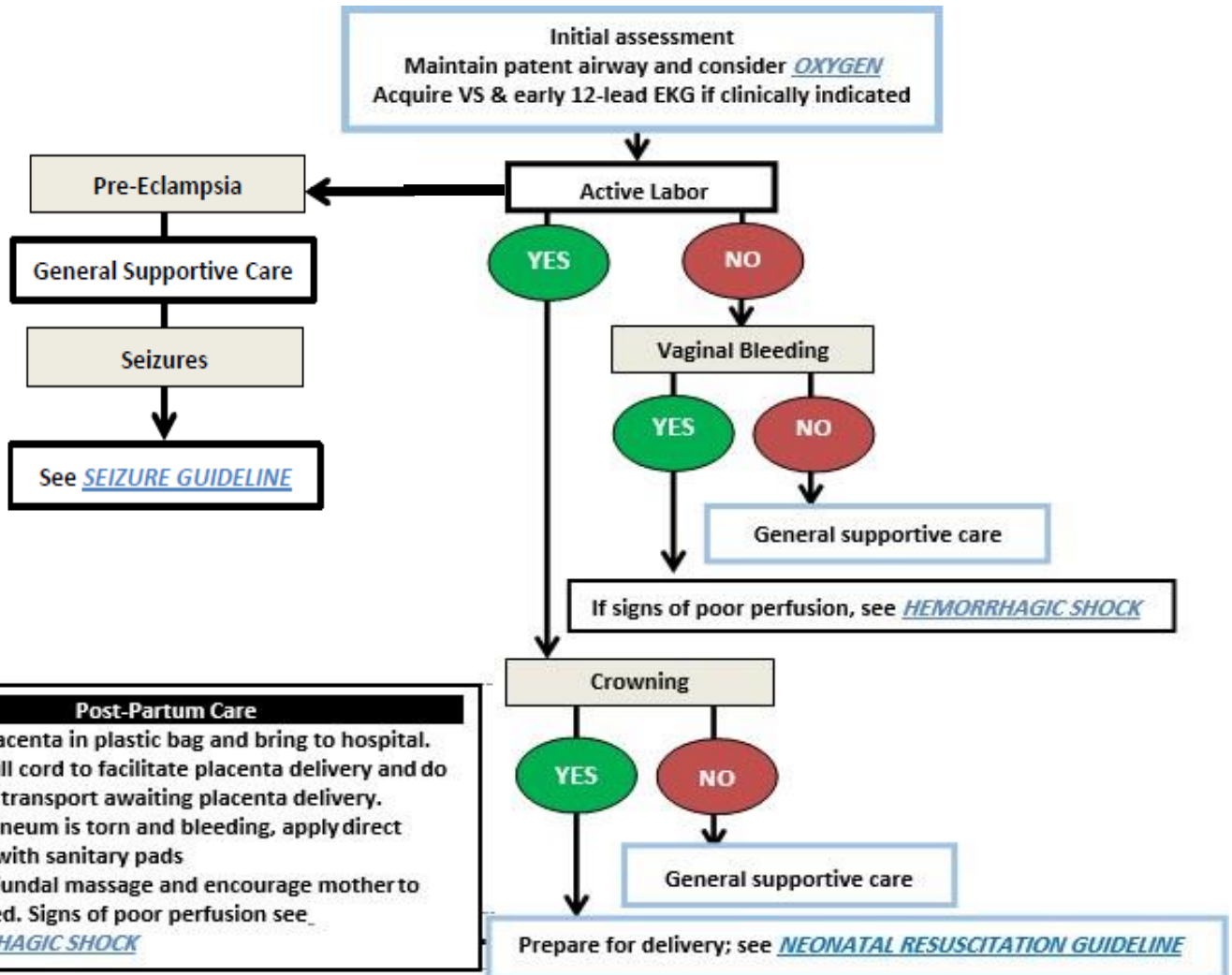
**Special Considerations**

- Do not remove clamp prior to ED arrival
- There is no clear association between hypertension and nose bleeds; complete a thorough medical and trauma assessment.
- Often nose bleeds are associated with patients taking anticoagulants or antiplatelet medications; try to attain a medication list for the receiving facility.

# OB/GYN Emergency

Receiving Facility Capability						
Check Availability with EMResource						
Condition	PMC	SFMC	MC	MN	GV	CH
Pregnancy < 20 Weeks	A/P	A/P	A/P	A/P	A	N
Pregnancy > 20 Weeks	X	A/P	A/P	A/P	X	N
Breech	A/P	A/P	A/P	A/P	A/P	N

A=Adult, P=Pediatric X=Does not accept



## Special Considerations

- Supine hypotension occurs after 20 weeks in some women, due to compression of the Inferior Vena Cava by the gravid uterus. The left lateral recumbent position is optimum for avoiding this
- Patient with prolapsed cord should be placed in left lateral recumbent position in Trendelenburg. The knee-chest position is generally described as the preferred position. If adequate restraints are available to comfortably and safely restrain, knee-chest may be preferred
- Breech presentation should be placed in the knee to chest position
- Treat PAIN, and NAUSEA/VOMITING per corresponding guideline
- Any pregnant patient involved in an MVC should be seen immediately by a physician for evaluation and fetal monitoring.
- Consider transport to the closest emergency department for any one of the following conditions;
  - o Abnormal presentation
  - o Severe vaginal bleeding, especially 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester bleeding (6-8 months); Suspect placental abruption or placenta previa
  - o Seizures; Suspect Eclampsia/Toxemia if SBP > 140, DBP > 90, peripheral edema
    - Transport position of comfort
    - Treat with Magnesium Sulfate per SEIZURE GUIDELINE
  - o Cardiac arrest with gestation ≥23 weeks

EMR

EMT

EMT-IV

AEMT

Intermediate

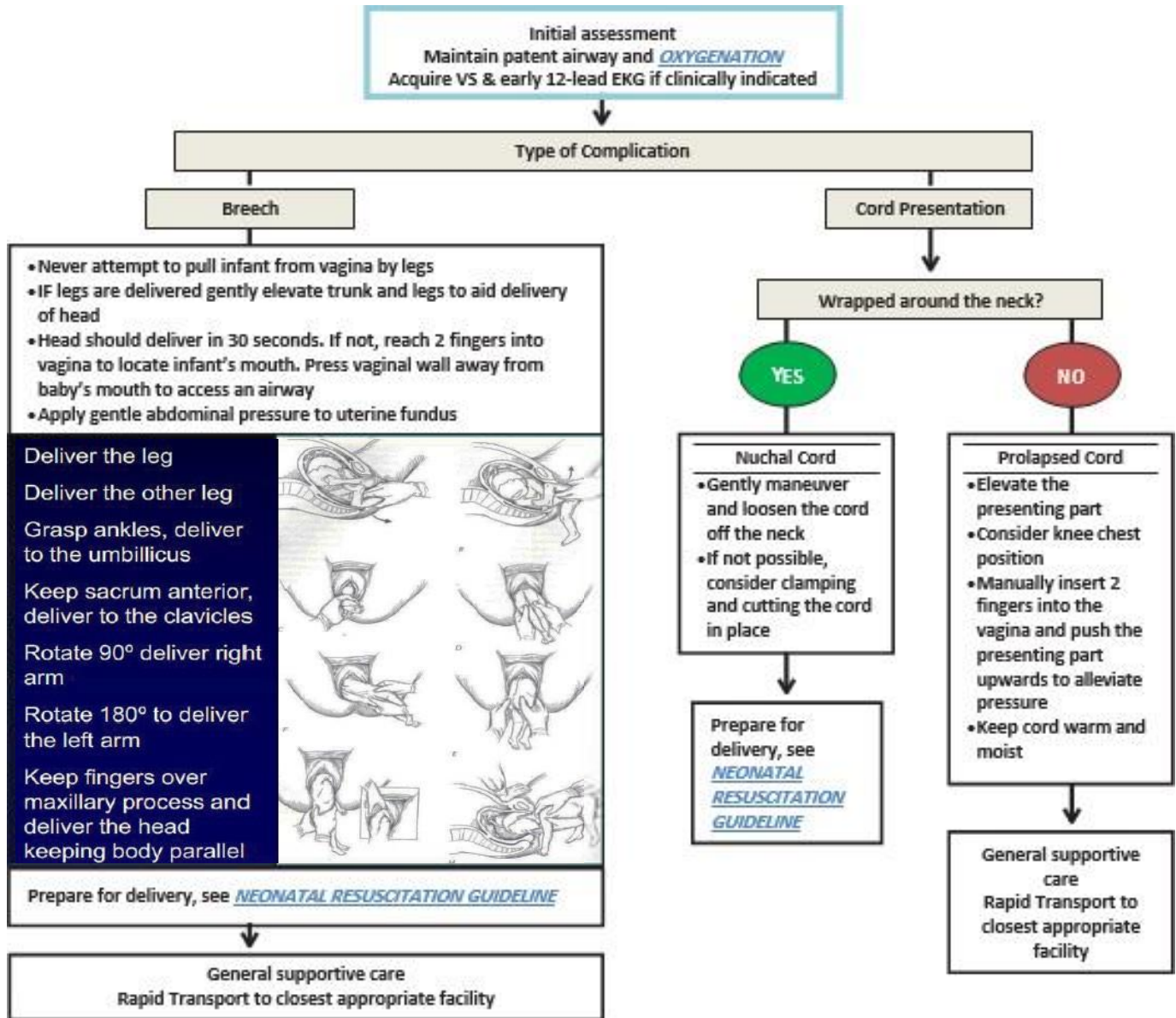
Paramedic



# OB-Complicated Delivery

Receiving Facility Capability						
Check Availability with EMResource						
Condition	PMC	SFMC	MC	MN	GV	CH
Pregnancy < 20 Weeks	A/P	A/P	A/P	A/P	A	N
Pregnancy > 20 Weeks	X	A/P	A/P	A/P	X	N
Breech	A/P	A/P	A/P	A/P	A/P	N

A=Adult, P=Pediatric X=Does not accept



## Special

- These techniques may not be feasible in all situations, or does every OB complication be expected or well managed in the field. This guideline should be considered "best advice" for rare, difficult scenarios. In every case, initiate immediate transport to definite care
- Breech presentation occurs in 3-4% of term deliveries and is more common preterm
- Shoulder Dystocia: Be sure to support the head and facilitate delivery by placing mother with buttocks just off the end of bed, flex her thighs upward and apply gentle open hand pressure above the pubic bone
- Treat seizures per [SEIZURE GUIDELINE](#)
- Treat pain per [PAIN MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE](#)
- Treat nausea/vomiting per [NAUSEA VOMITING GUIDELINE](#)

EMR

EMT

EMT-IV

AEMT

Intermediate

Paramedic



# Poisoning & Overdose



- 1) Although there are some nuances to each individual poison and/or overdose, the general treatment is predominantly the same and includes: scene safety, maintaining airway patency, treating for shock, when clinically indicated, and transport to the closest appropriate facility.
  - a) The prehospital provider is not expected to know every substance in an overdose or poisoning but rather the general classification or toxidrome (see below).
- 2) Consider contacting **Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222**
  - a) Poison Control may assist in allowing a patient to stay at home for nontoxic ingestions/exposures as well as assist in the management of toxic ingestions.
  - b) A release of care (refusal) **MUST** be completed if the patient is not transported

## Special Considerations

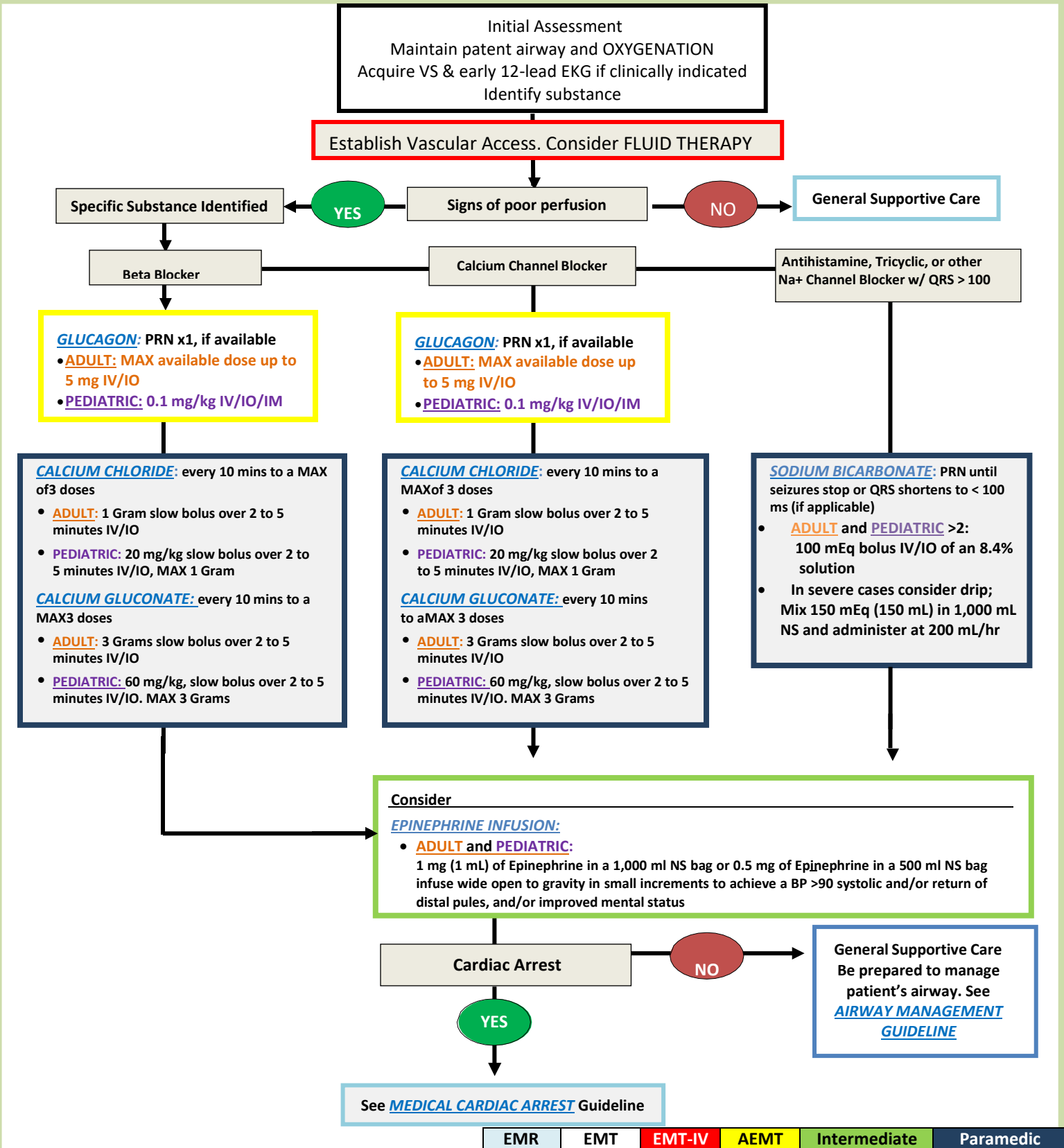
- 1) Symptoms differ, but certain common syndromes may suggest a specific toxidrome
  - a) Different patients poisoned with the same substance may present with very different symptoms
  - b) Patients who have multiple substances are less likely to have symptoms characteristic of a single substance
  - c) Consider treating a suspected antihistamine overdose the same as a TCA overdose
- 2) There are few specific "antidotes." Product labels and home kits can be misleading and dangerous
- 3) Do not neutralize acids with alkalis. Do not neutralize alkalis with acids. These "treatments" cause heat-releasing chemical reactions that can further injure the GI track
- 4) A commonly missed external contamination is gasoline. Be sure that gasoline spilled on trauma patients is washed off promptly and clothing removed to prevent irritant burns
- 5) Inhalation poisoning is particularly dangerous to rescuers. Recognize an environment with continuing contamination, don proper PPE, and extricate rapidly or avoid altogether
- 6) Treat seizures per [SEIZURE](#)
- 7) Treat nausea and vomiting per the [NAUSEA VOMITING](#)
- 8) If the patient is presenting with withdrawal symptoms, treat per [BEHAVIORAL EMERGENCY](#)
- 9) **DO NOT** rely on patient history of ingestion, especially in suicide attempts
- 10) If applicable, consider [HAZMAT and DECON GUIDLINE](#)

## Specific Toxidrome Information

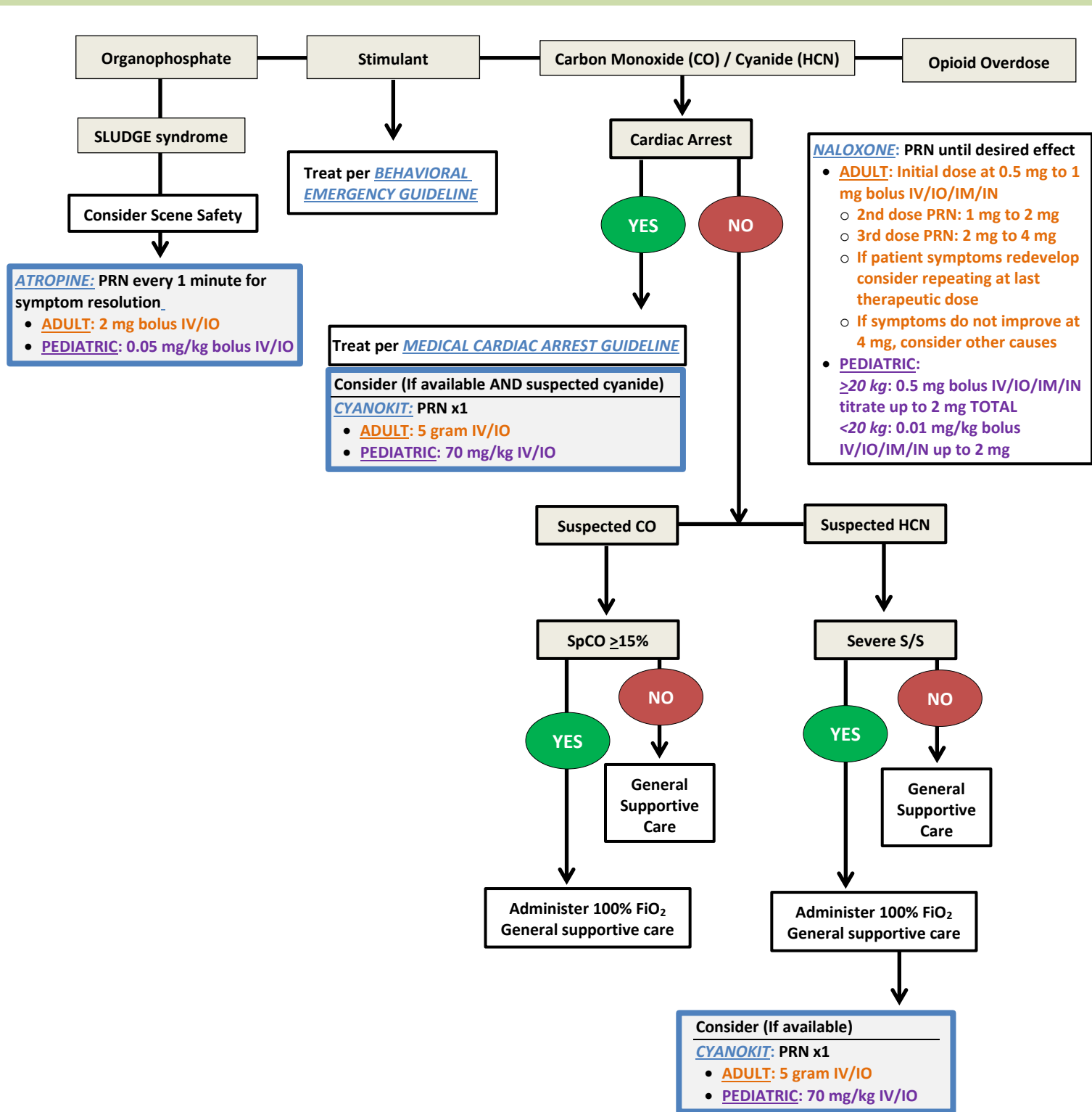
Toxidrome Findings								
Toxidrome	Mental Status	Pulse	RR	BP	Pupil	Skin	Temp	Specific Medication
Opiate	Depressed	↓	↓	↓	Pinpoint	Cool	↓	Narcan
Sedative-hypnotic	Depressed	↓	↓	↓	Normal	Normal	Normal	NA
Sympathomimetic	Agitated	↑	Normal	↑	Dilated	Diaphoretic	↑	Benzodiazepine
Cholinergic	Agitated	↑↓	Normal	↑↓	Dilated	Diaphoretic	Normal	Atropine
Anticholinergic	Agitated delirium	↑	↑↓	↑↓	Dilated	Dry	↑	Benzodiazepine
Withdrawal Syndromes								
Opioids	Agitated	↑	↑	↑	Dilated	Normal to wet	↑	Opioid
Sedative-hypnotic	Normal	↑	Normal	↑	Dilated	Wet	Normal	Benzodiazepine

EMR	EMT	EMT-IV	AEMT	Intermediate	Paramedic
-----	-----	--------	------	--------------	-----------

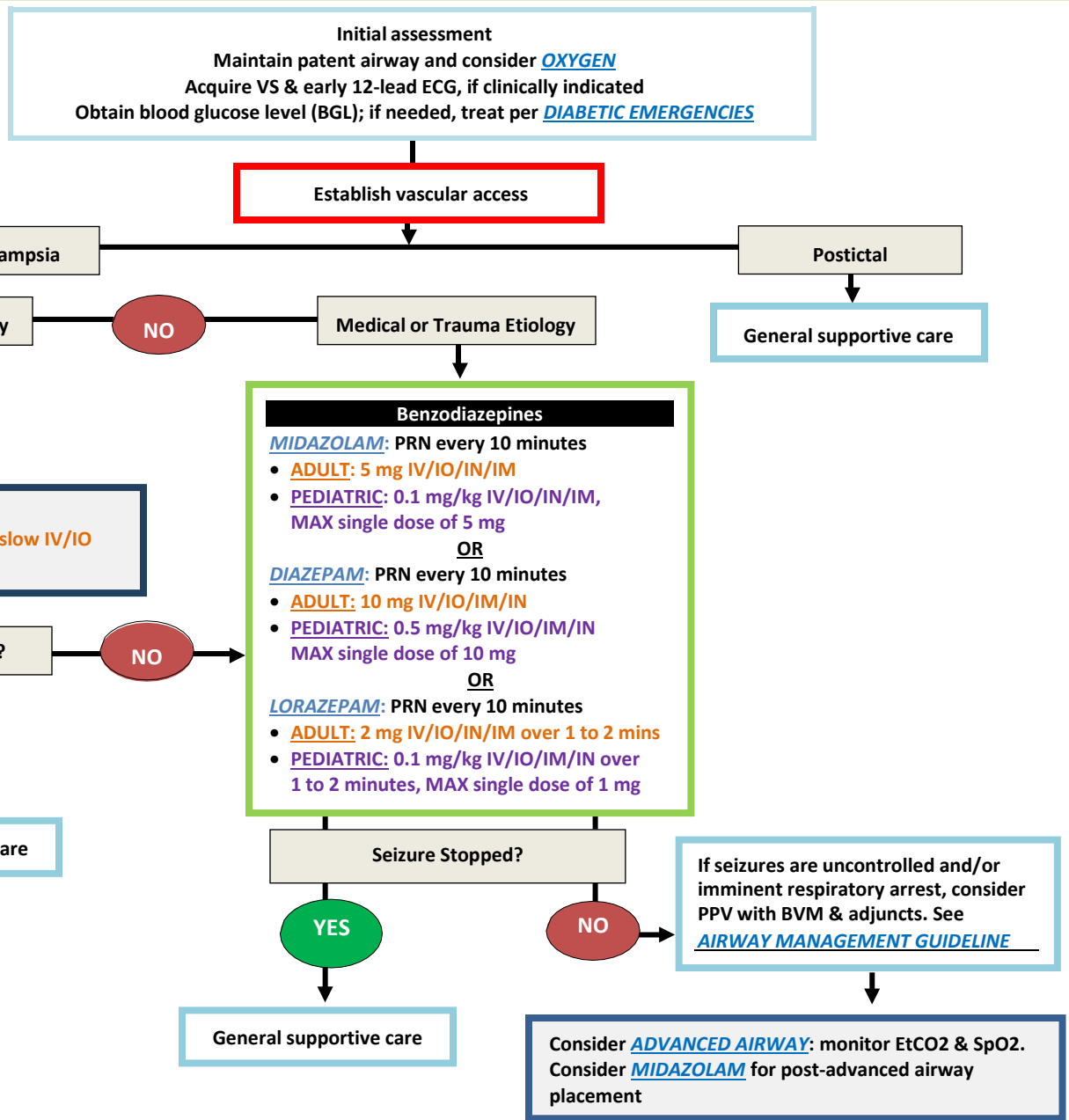
# Poisoning & Overdose



# Poisoning & Overdose



# Seizures



## Special Considerations

- Assess possibility of occult trauma and substance abuse
- Be prepared to assist ventilations, especially if versed is used
- In patients over the age of 50, seizures may be due to dysrhythmias or stroke. Of these, dysrhythmia is the most important to recognize in the field
- Consider nonconvulsive status epilepticus in the patient with a prolonged postictal state that is not improving. Manage this state with continued benzodiazepine administration
- Pregnant patients DO NOT need to be actively seizing to administer, if there was witnessed seizure activity prior to arrival the patient SHOULD receive **MAGNESIUM SULFATE**
- Post-Partum seizures can occur up to 6 weeks after delivery and should be administered magnesium sulfate

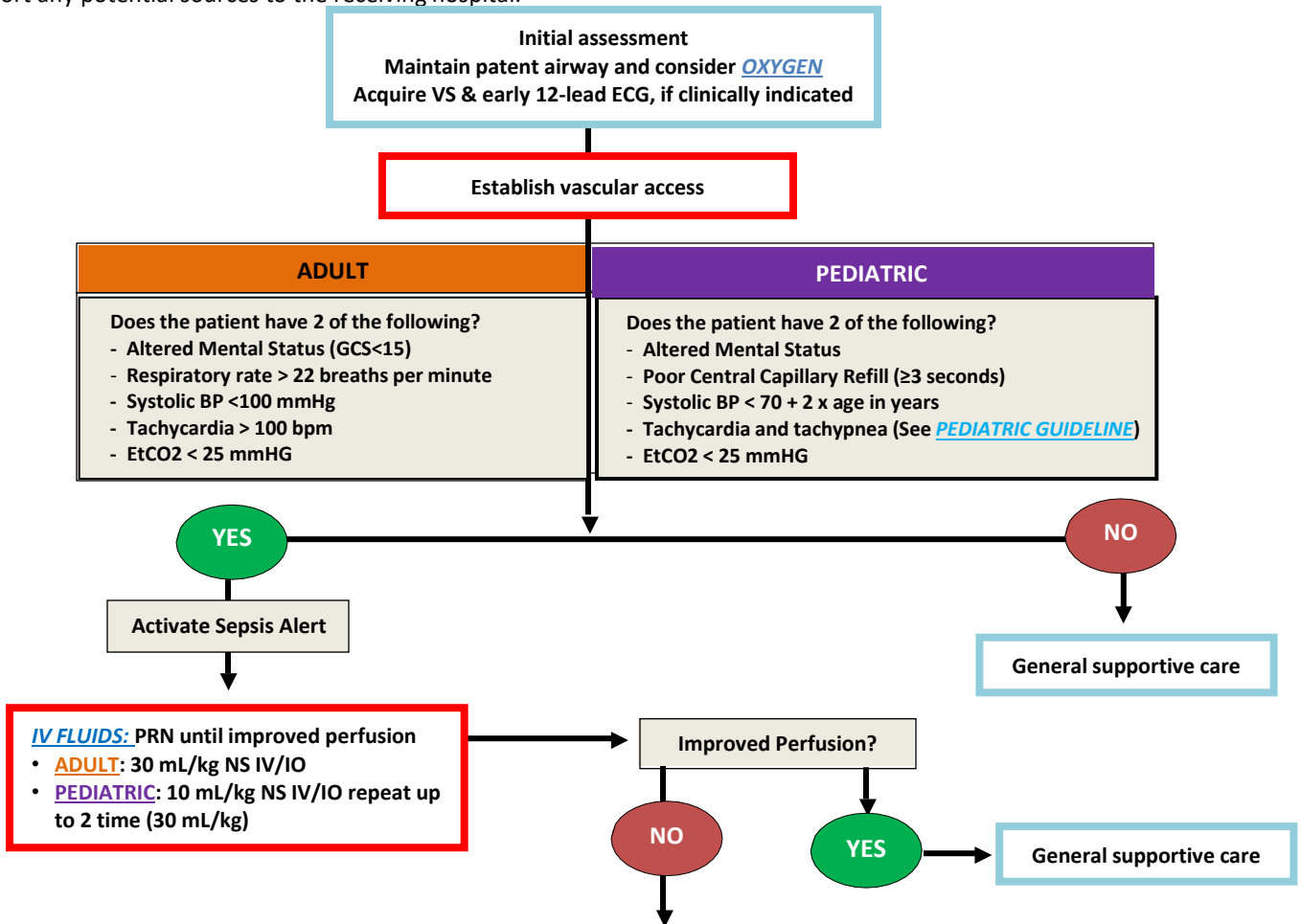
EMR   EMT   EMT-IV   AEMT   Intermediate   Paramedic



# Sepsis/Infection

Pediatric Blood Pressure Chart		
Age	Weight	Systolic BP
Neonate	3-5 kg	67-84
4 Months	6-7 kg	65-105
6 Months	8-9 kg	65-105
1 Year	10-11 kg	70-110
2 Years	12-14 kg	75-110
3-4 Years	15-18 kg	75-110
5-6 Years	19-22 kg	90-115
7-9 Years	23-28 kg	90-115
10-13 Years	29-36 kg	95-120

- 1) These patients should be transported to a comprehensive facility capable of facilitating early “surviving sepsis guidelines”.
- 2) Administration of effective intravenous antimicrobials within the first hour of recognition of septic shock and severe sepsis without septic shock is the goal of therapy.
- 3) Providers **SHOULD** evaluate during transport for potential source of infection (urine, lung exam, full skin exam) and report any potential sources to the receiving hospital.



If SBP remains <90 in adults (or < 70 + 2 x age in years in pediatrics) after fluid administration, Consider:

**EPINEPHRINE INFUSION:**

**ADULT** and **PEDIATRIC:** 1 mg Epi in a 1,000 mL NS or 0.5 mg in 500 mL NS, IV/IO infusion wide open to gravity

- Administer to desired hemodynamic effect with goal of SBP > 90, and/or return of distal pulses, and/or improved mental status. Continuously reassess BP until titrated to effect

OR

**PUSH-DOSE EPINEPHRINE:**

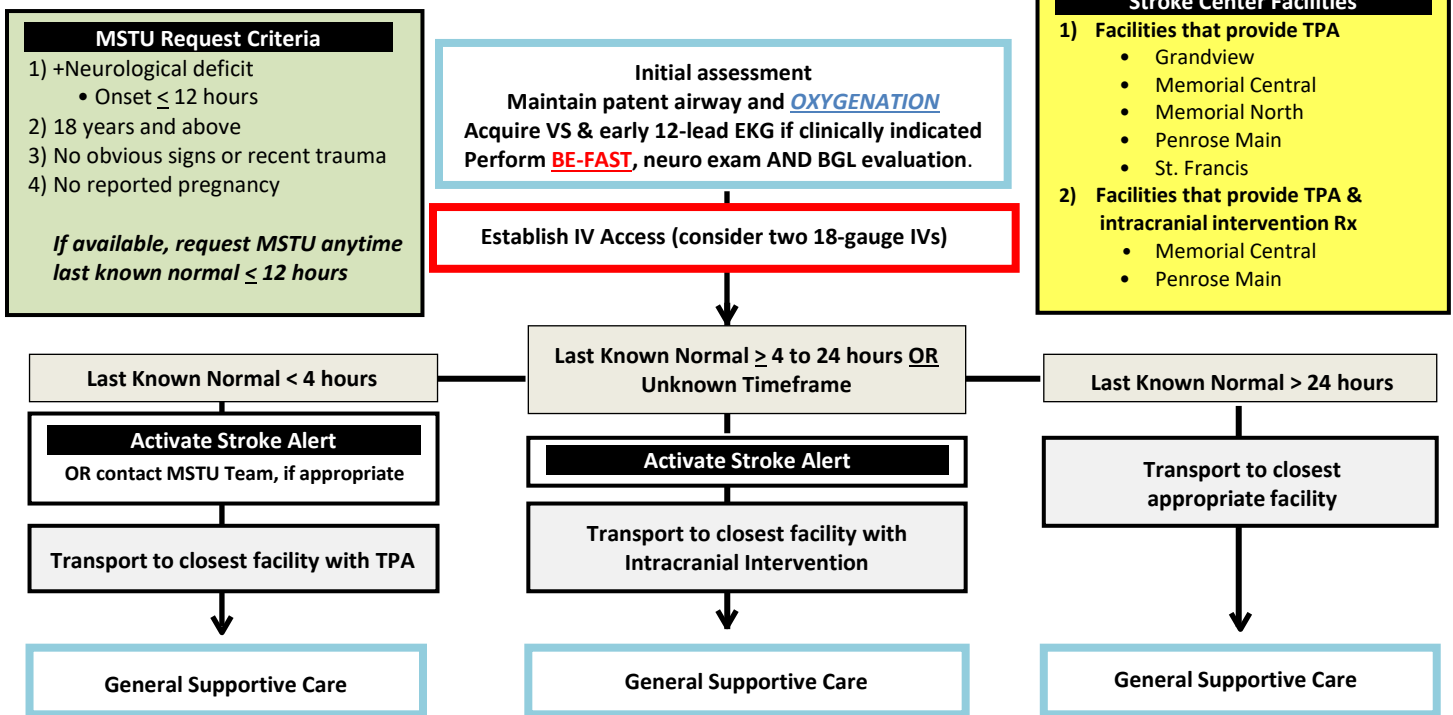
**ADULT** and **PEDIATRIC:** Slow IV/IO push 0.3 mL of 10 mcg/mL concentration every 1-5 minutes.

- Administer to desired hemodynamic effect with goal of SBP > 90, and/or return of distal pulses, and/or improved mental status. Continuously reassess BP until titrated to effect

# Suspected Stroke

## Stroke Screening

- 1) Utilize the **BE-FAST** stroke screening in conjunction with a neurological assessment
- 2) If there are any positive findings during the exam, consider a stroke alert.
  - **B**alance: Is the person experiencing a sudden loss of balance or coordination?
  - **E**yes: Is the person having a sudden change in vision or trouble seeing, or abnormal pupils?
  - **F**ace: Does one side of the face droop?
  - **A**rms: Does one arm drift?
  - **S**peech: Is their speech slurred or strange?
  - **T**ime: What time did symptoms begin? When was patient last known "normal"?



## Special Considerations

- Be mindful of airway compromise, see [AIRWAY MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE](#)
- If possible, elevate the head of the bed 30° during transport
- If possible, continually monitor ECG
- If possible, establish two 18G or larger IV access sites
- Not all neurologic deficits are caused by stroke. Look for treatable medical conditions such as hypoglycemia, hyperglycemia, hypothermia, hypoxia, hypotension, encephalopathy, infection, seizure, and/or hyperthermia
  - Treat hypoglycemia per [DIABETIC EMERGENCY GUIDELINE](#)
  - Treat seizures per [SEIZURE GUIDELINE](#)
  - Treat infection per [SEPSIS/INFECTION GUIDELINE](#)
  - Treat hyperthermia per [HEAT EMERGENCIES GUIDELINE](#)
- There is no substantial evidence for treating acute hypertension due to acute stroke, therefore hypertension should only be monitored in the prehospital setting; avoid excessive fluid administration

EMR

EMT

EMT-IV

AEMT

Intermediate

Paramedic

# COVID-19 Screening

## Description

- a. This guideline helps prehospital providers evaluate, screen for, and decide whether or not to transport a suspected or known Novel Coronavirus 19 (COVID 19) Patient.

Dispatch should utilize the Emerging Infectious Disease (EID) Surveillance Tool with the "Breathing Problem" and "Sick Person" EMD protocols and notify responding agencies if a patient has a positive screen

NO

POSITIVE Screening Questions

YES

Do NOT solely rely on EMD to identify a potential exposure patient:

- EMD may be constrained by time and caller information
- Obtain your own history and assess for clinical signs and symptoms
- Limit the number of providers to those necessary for care (2 in/2 Out)

- One provider enters in full PPE and assesses the need for additional resources
- If the patient can self-apply a mask, give him/her one from a distance. Otherwise, place a mask on the patient.
- When possible, avoid Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGPs)

### Box 1 – Does the patient have or complain of:

- Fever, chills, severe fatigue, loss of taste/smell, S/Sx of respiratory illness (e.g. cough, congestion, shortness of breath, sore throat), headache, muscle/body aches, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea.

### Box 2 – Any person in the last 14 days:

- Who has had close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 patient
  - With a history of travel
  - Who has been hospitalized
  - Who lives in a residential facility/nursing home
  - With close contact with a healthcare provider who has had DIRECT contact with pts with S/S of respiratory illness or clinical specimens
- AND/OR

Any person:

- With high risk for severe illness (age $\geq$ 65, compromised immune system, diabetes, cancer, and/or heart/lung/kidney disease)
- Who is under investigation for respiratory illness by Public Health officials

DOES THE PATIENT MEET AT LEAST 1 CRITERIA FROM **BOTH BOX 1 AND BOX 2?**

NO

Exit to Appropriate Guideline

YES

Patient:

- Place surgical mask on the patient, if they not already wearing one
  - If unable or unwilling to wear a mask, have the patient cover their mouth and nose when coughing
- Use NRB mask, if oxygen is needed

Prehospital providers utilize contact, droplet, and airborne precautions

- Eye protection (goggles or face shield)
- N95 Mask (or higher) or PAPR (any provider in the ambulance cab)
- Gloves and gowns

Notify the receiving facility as soon as possible to allow for room and equipment preparation. Remain in the ambulance bay until escorted to a room by facility staff.

### NON-TRANSPORT Criteria:

- RR  $>8$  or  $<22$
- O<sub>2</sub> Saturation  $>88\%$
- HR  $<110$  (or normal for age)
- SBP between 100-180 (or normal for age)
- GCS of 15
- EtCO<sub>2</sub> between 30-55 mmhg

### Risk Factors/ TRANSPORT Criteria:

- Provider discretion
- Age  $>55$
- CP other than with mild coughing
- Syncope
- Significant respiratory distress
- Diaphoresis
- Inability to care for themselves/not safe to leave at home

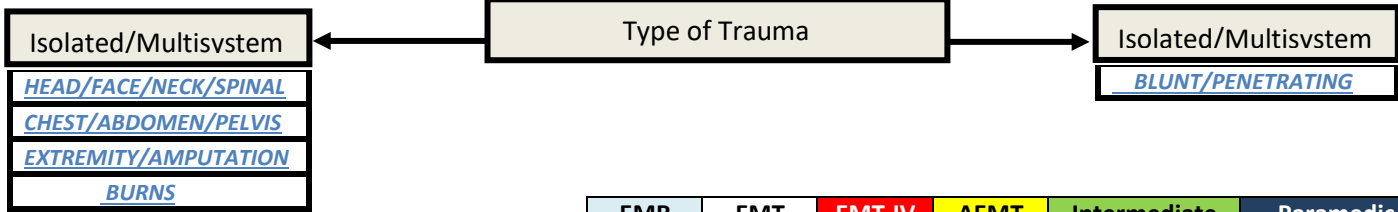
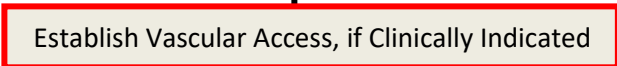
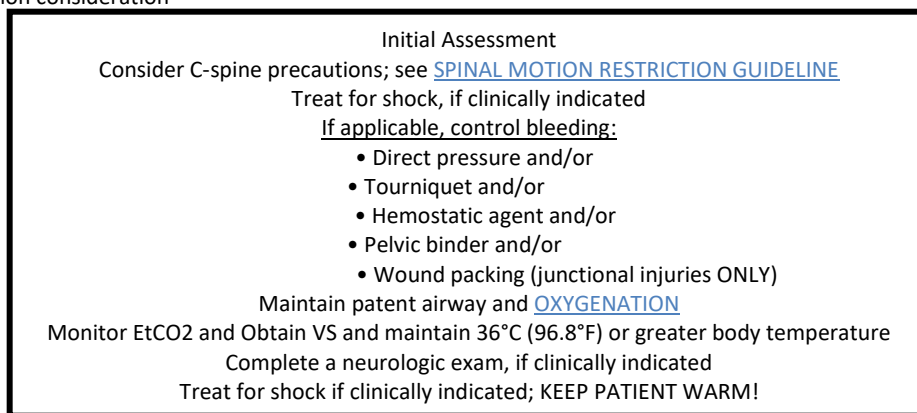
# General Trauma Care

## Description

- 1) Traumatic injuries require prompt care and transportation
- 2) Any chest or abdominal injuries, and all head injuries that result in a change or loss of consciousness, **SHOULD** receive an emergency department evaluation unless refused by a decisional patient or guardian, see [PATIENT REFUSAL GUIDELINE](#)
- 3) Always have a high index of suspicion for injury based on mechanism of injury; evaluate trauma patient in conjunction with their pertinent medical history
- 4) All trauma treatment guidelines cover both adult and pediatric injuries
- 5) For pediatrics, reference a [GENERAL PEDIATRIC GUIDELINE](#), Pediatric Field Guide, Broselow Tape, Handtevy Guide or approved resource

## Special Considerations

- 1) EtCO<sub>2</sub> **SHOULD** be utilized in any major trauma to help identify early signs of hypoperfusion
  - a) **MUST** be used (if available) in all severe TBI patient to avoid hyper-or-hypoventilation
- 2) Certain trauma situations call for assessment and treatment that goes beyond the standard treatment given for the patient's presenting complaints and injury
- 3) Prompt recognition of compensated shock/injuries, and rapid transport to the closest appropriate facility will most likely improve outcomes
  - a) Scene times in traumatic injuries should be **10 minutes or less**, if possible
  - b) All invasive treatments should be performed en route
  - c) Early Trauma Activation notification to an appropriate receiving facility will allow time to prepare for appropriate in-hospital personnel and equipment
- 4) Consider potential medical causes of trauma or if trauma was possibly caused aggravation of underlying medical issues
- 5) Trauma in pregnancies can complicate assessment and treatment. Patients with any thoracic, abdominal, or pelvic complaint/injury may require prolonged fetal monitoring in the facility; this is true even if asymptomatic or seemingly minor mechanism. Encourage transport of all patients
  - a) Avoid supine position, place in left lateral recumbent >30°
  - b) Interpret VS with caution due to increased heart rate, decreased blood pressure, and increased blood volume
  - c) Traumatic cardiac arrest with suspected gestation >23 weeks indicates rapid transport to closest appropriate facility for peri-mortem c-section consideration

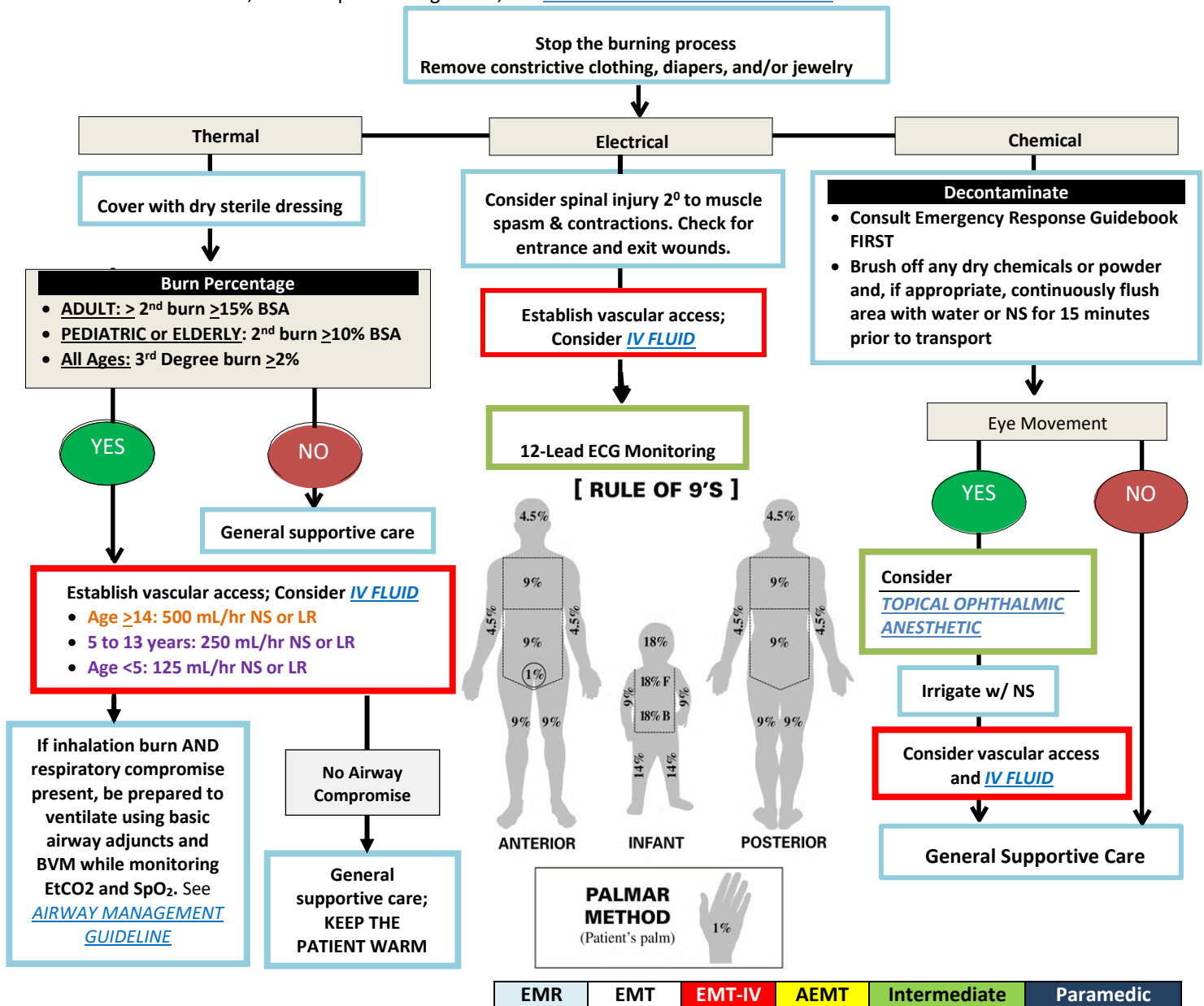




# Burn Injuries

## Description

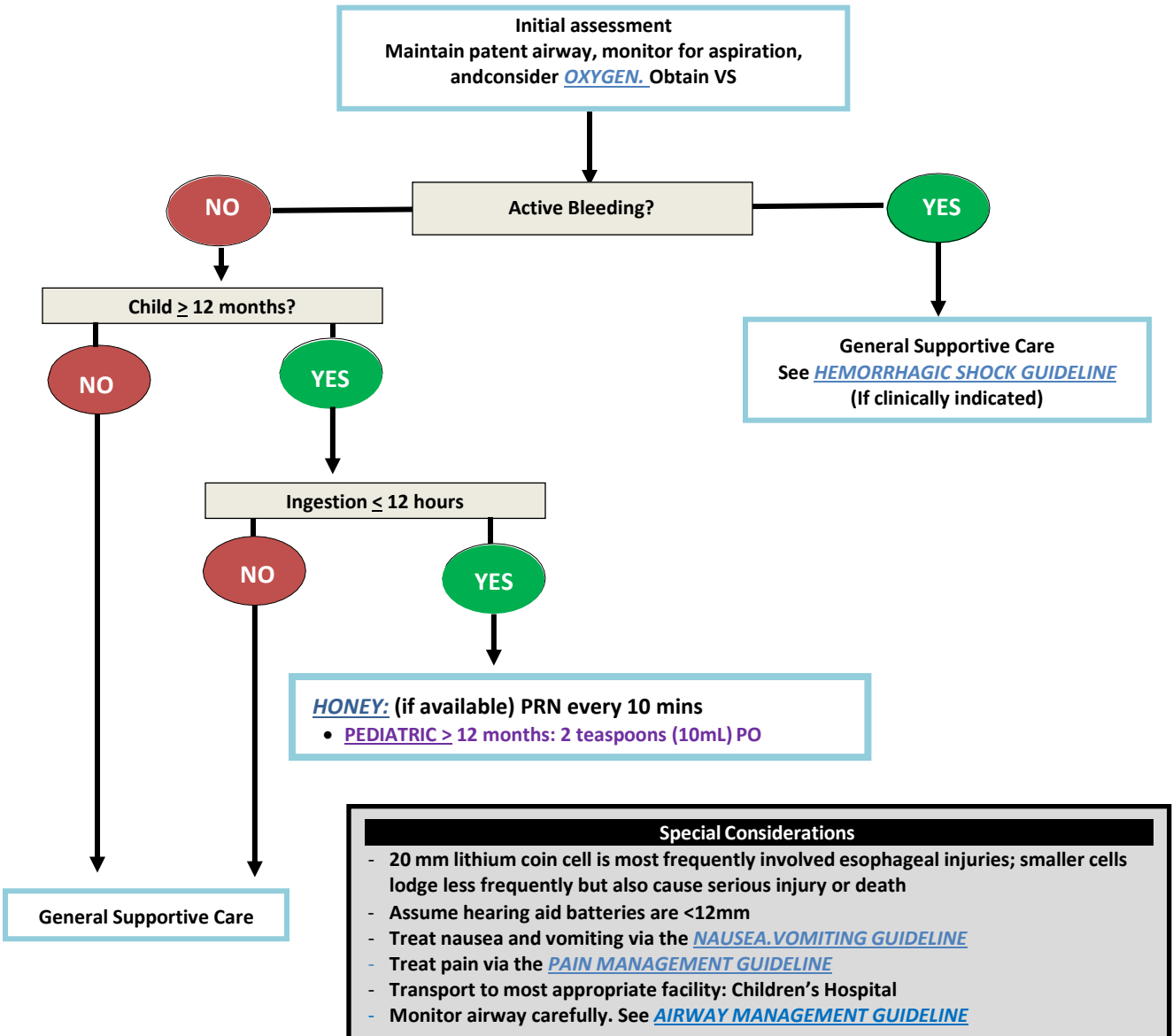
- Monitor airway closely with any suspected airway or inhalation burns. Edema may become severe but **NOT** usually in the 1<sup>st</sup> hour. Advanced airway placement **SHOULD** be performed for any concerns of worsening airway
- Consider carbon monoxide/cyanide poisoning if victim was in a confined space, see [POISONING OVERDOSE GUIDELINE](#)
- Circumferential burns to extremities and/or trunk are dangerous due to potential vascular compromise secondary to soft tissue swelling
- Burn patients are prone to hypothermia. **DO NOT** cool burns that involve  $\geq 10\%$  body surface area (BSA)
- DO NOT** overlook the possibility of multi-system trauma or child abuse with burn injuries
- The patient's palm represents 1% of their BSA, use the "rule-of-9's" as a reference
- If shock present or the patient is unconscious, consider underlying causes
- Use appropriate personal protective equipment when treating patients with chemical burn
- If stable, consider pain management, see [PAIN MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE](#)



# Button Battery Ingestion

## Description

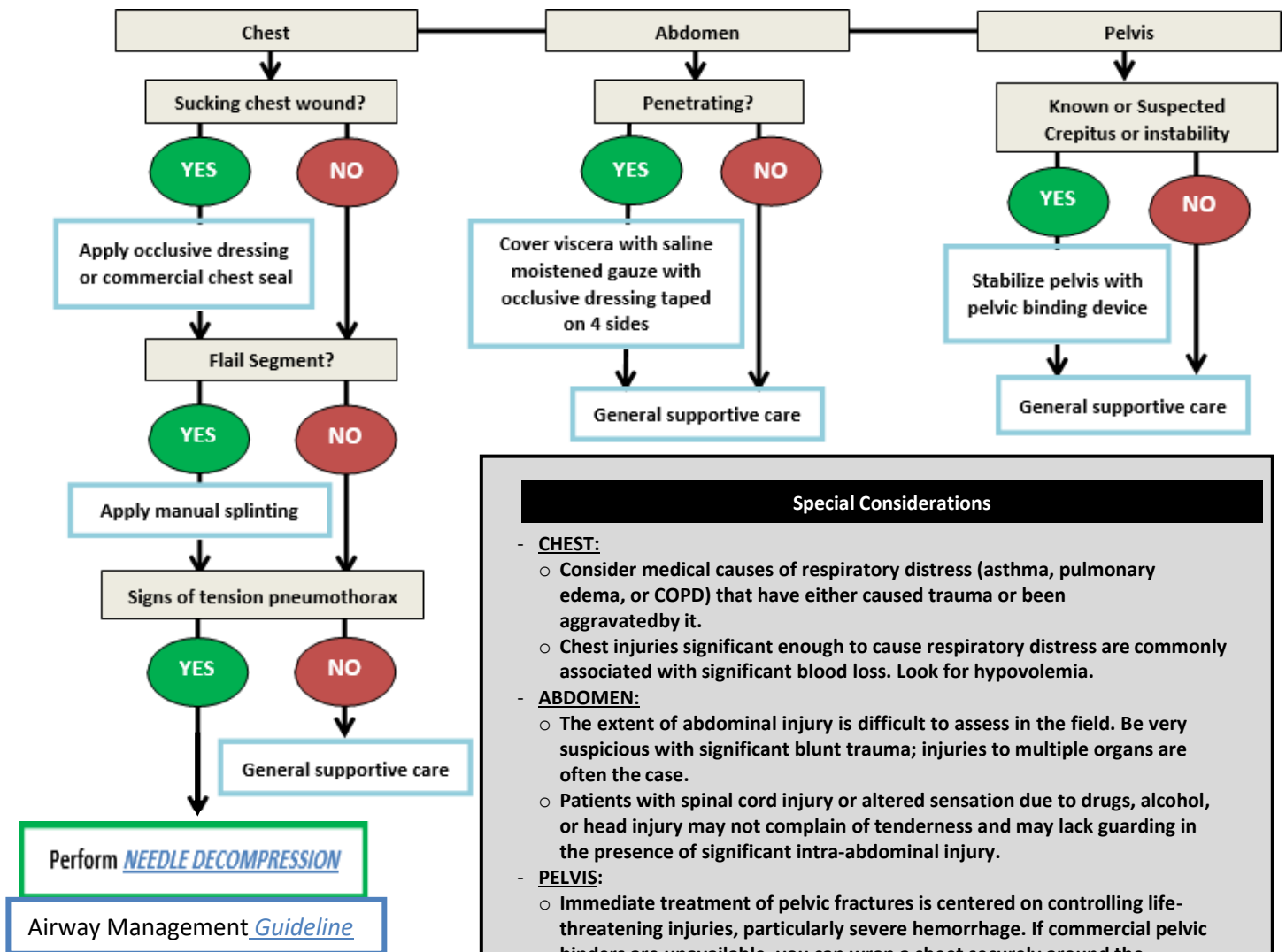
- There is a very rapid onset of tissue injury and injury continues for days to weeks after removal.
- The orientation of the battery within the esophagus may be helpful in predicting the anatomic direction of tissue necrosis and thus the extra- esophageal structures at highest risk of injury.
- When using honey, utilize **commercially-produced honey** rather than specialized or artisanal honey.
- Be sure to notify the receiving facility as soon as possible.



# Chest, Abdomen, & Pelvis Injuries

## Description

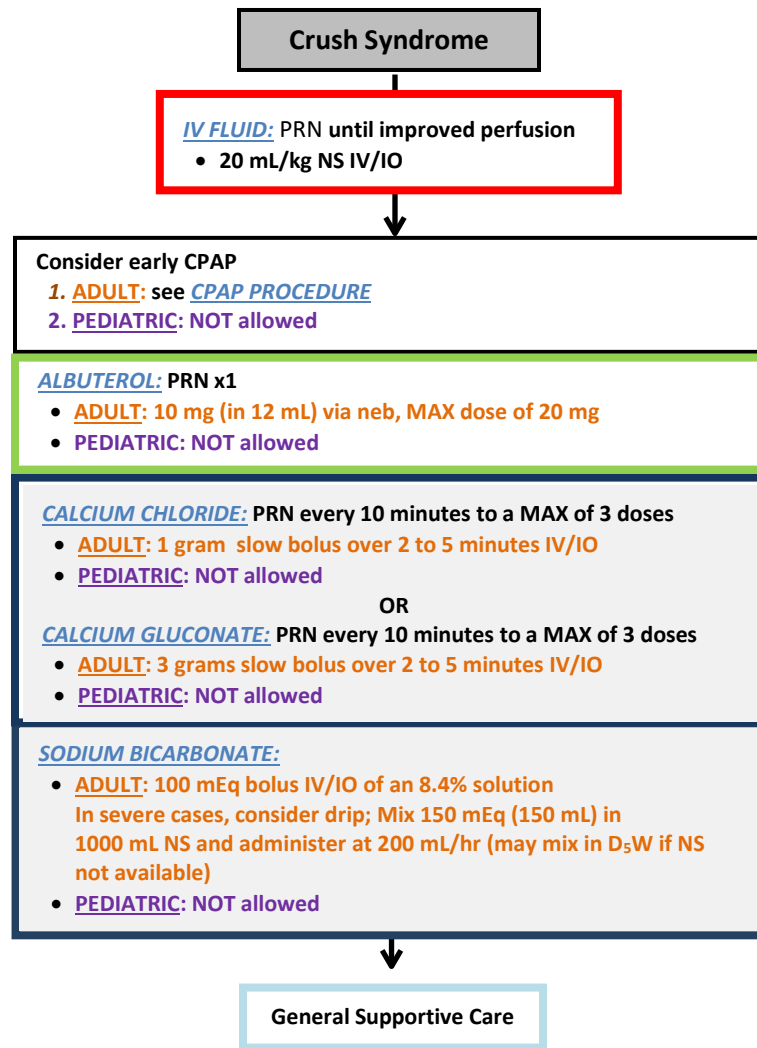
- 1) Although there are some nuances to each individual injury, the general treatment is the predominantly the same and includes: controlling all major bleeding, maintaining airway patency, considering spinal motion restriction, treating for shock when clinically indicated, and expedited transport to the closest appropriate facility.
- 2) If the injured patient is stable, consider pain management, see [PAIN MANAGEMENT](#).



# Crush Injuries

## Description

- [IV FLUID](#) therapy and medication administration is preferred **PRIOR TO** extrication whenever possible
- Large volume resuscitation prior to removal of the crush object and extrication is critical to preventing secondary renal failure, cardiac dysrhythmias, and death
- Consider pain management, see [PAIN MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE](#)
- If suspected major bleeding, see [HEMORRHAGIC SHOCK GUIDELINE](#)



### Special Considerations

- Crush syndrome may cause profound hyperkalemia resulting in dysrhythmias. Monitor ECG, if possible.
- Crush syndrome is usually seen with compression of 4-to-6 hours but may occur in as little as 20 minutes.
- If possible monitor patient for signs of compartment syndrome (pain, pallor, paresthesia, pulselessness).
- Monitor IV fluid administration. Crush injury victims can 3<sup>rd</sup> space > 12 ltrs fluid in the first 48 hrs.
- Do not overlook treatment of additional injuries, airway compromise, hypothermia/ hyperthermia.

EMR

EMT

EMT-IV

AEMT

Intermediate

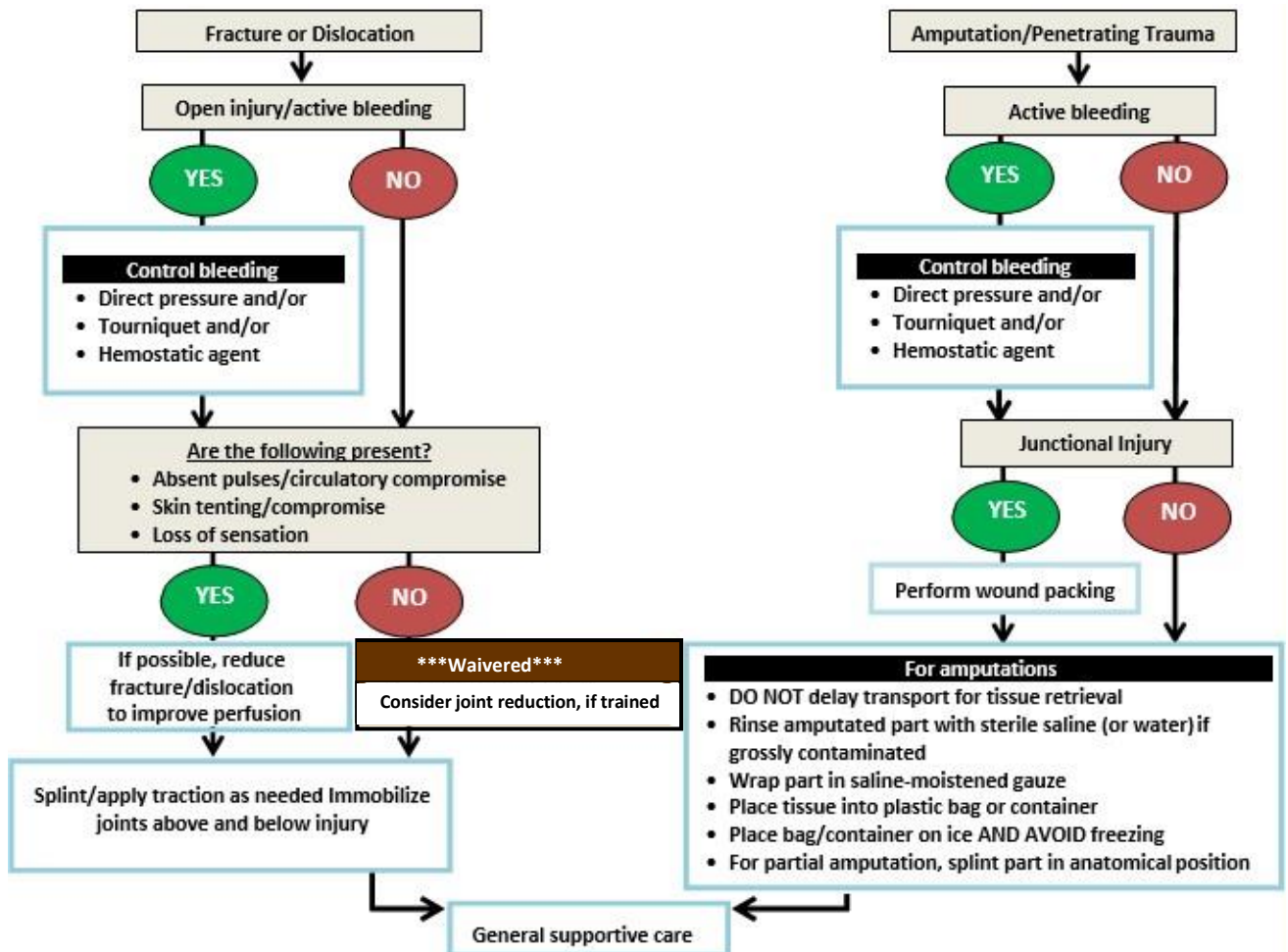
Paramedic



# Extremity/Amputation Injuries

## Description

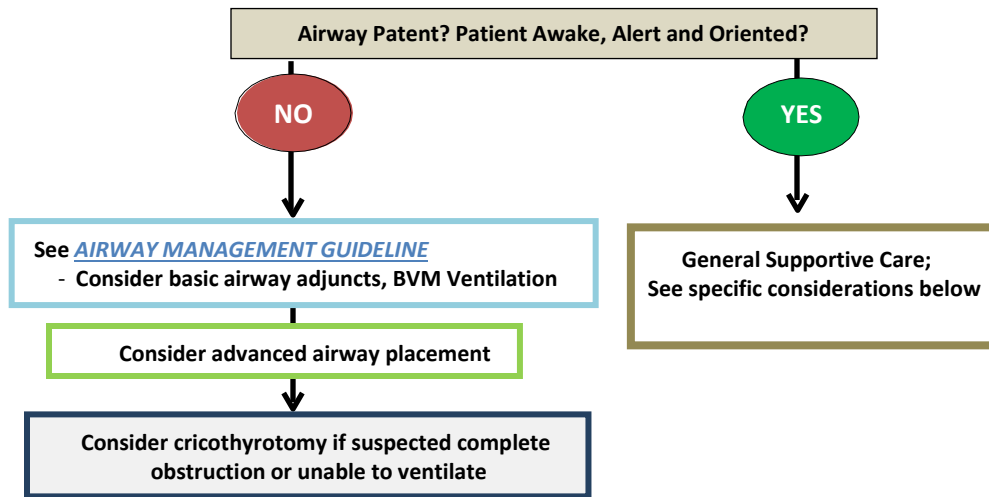
- 1) Although there are some nuances to each individual injury, the general treatment is predominantly the same and includes controlling major bleeding, maintaining airway patency, considering cervical spine precautions, pain management, treatment for shock, when clinically indicated, and expedited transport to the closest appropriate facility.
- 2) For signs of poor perfusion due to suspected bleeding, see [HEMORRHAGIC SHOCK](#).
- 3) If injured patient is stable, consider pain management, see [PAIN MANAGEMENT](#).
- 4) Peripheral neurovascular status **SHOULD** be documented on all extremity injuries before and after treatment procedures.
- 5) Document approximate time of injury.
- 6) **DO NOT** allow severely angulated, open, bloody fractures to distract you from life-threatening injuries.
- 7) If waived, reduction locations **WITHOUT** neurovascular compromise are limited to the **shoulder, patella, and digits**.
- 8) Reduction of the ankle is **ONLY** allowed in the setting of neurovascular compromise (i.e. absent pulse, loss of sensation, blanching skin, mottled appearance.).
  - a) If attempt to relocate injury is unsuccessful after 2 attempts, splint in position found and transport.
- 9) Reduction of OPEN dislocations is NOT ALLOWED.
- 10) Consider [ANCEF](#) with suspected open extremity fracture or amputation proximal to the hand or foot.



# Face, Neck, & Spine Injuries

## Description

- Although there are some nuances to each individual injury, the general treatment is predominantly the same and includes: controlling all major bleeding, maintaining airway patency, considering cervical spine precautions, treating for shock, when clinically indicated, and rapid transport to the closest appropriate facility.
- If injured patient is stable, consider pain management, see [PAIN MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE](#)



## Special Considerations

- **HEAD and FACE INJURIES:**
  - Treat seizures per [SEIZURE](#)
  - Treat agitation per [BEHAVIORAL EMERGENCY](#)
  - Obtain BGL value
  - Cover/protect both eyes as clinically indicated
  - Do not try to block drainage from ears or nose
  - Save avulsed teeth in saline-soaked gauze, do not scrub clean
  - See [TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES](#)
- **NECK and SPINAL INJURIES:**
  - Consider occlusive dressing for penetrating neck wounds
  - If hypotension is unresponsive to simple measures, it is likely due to other injuries. Neurologic deficits make these other injuries hard to evaluate. Cord injury above the level of T-8 removes tenderness, rigidity, and guarding as clues to abdominal injury.
  - Spinal Motion Restriction (SMR) NOT indicated for penetrating trauma.
- **HYPOTENSION:**
  - If signs of poor perfusion due to suspected bleeding, see [HEMORRHAGIC SHOCK](#)
  - If signs of poor perfusion unresponsive to fluid therapy and HIGH suspicion of neurogenic shock, consider [EPINEPHRINE INFUSION](#)
- **ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT:**
  - DO NOT remove helmet or shoulder pads prior to EMS transport for short transports unless they are interfering with the management of acute life-threatening injuries.
    - Consider removing equipment for long transports
    - The helmet and pads should be considered one unit. Therefore, if one is removed, then the other should be removed as well to assure neutral spinal alignment.
  - All athletic equipment is NOT the same and athletic trainers on scene should be familiar with equipment

EMR

EMT

EMT-IV

AEMT

Intermediate

Paramedic

# Hemorrhagic Shock

## If applicable, control bleeding

Detect any sources of bleeding with a blood sweep. Control bleeding with:

- Direct pressure and/or
- Tourniquet and/or
- Wound packing - kerlex or hemostatic gauze (3 mins. direct pressure for hemostatic gauze, 10 mins. direct pressure for kerlex) and/or
- Pelvic binder

Pediatric Blood Pressure Chart

Age	Weight	Systolic BP
Neonate	3-5 kg	67-84
4 Months	6-7 kg	65-105
6 Months	8-9 kg	65-105
1 Year	10-11 kg	70-110
2 Years	12-14 kg	75-110
3-4 Years	15-18 kg	75-110
5-6 Years	19-22 kg	90-115
7-9 Years	23-28 kg	90-115
10-13 Years	29-36 kg	95-120

Establish Vascular Access

Signs and symptoms of AMS and/or poor perfusion

YES

NO

Manage Heat Loss  
Apply Blanket/Space Blanket

General supportive care  
**Keep the patient WARM!**  
Reassess every time the patient is moved

**FLUID THERAPY:** PRN until restoration of distal pulses, improved mental status and/or permissive hypotension levels reached (**Adult 80 to 100** systolic or **> Peds Guide recommendation**)

- 10 mL/kg NS IV/IO

EPCSAR and NETCO: Suspected Shock < 3 Hours AND NO Contraindications for TXA Found

YES

NO

General Supportive Care

**TRANEXAMIC ACID:** NOT REPEATED  
EPCSAR and NETCO only

- **ADULT:** Mix 2 Grams TXA in 50 mL NS and infused over 10 minutes IV/IO
- **PEDIATRIC < 13 years old:** NOT

## Special Considerations

- These patients should be transported to a designated trauma center (see [DESTINATION GUIDELINE](#))
- Poor perfusion in the trauma patient includes the "fatal five"
  1. Tachycardia
  2. Altered mental status
  3. Respiratory compromise
  4. Decreased or absent peripheral pulses
  5. Delayed capillary refill (> 2 seconds)
- Be mindful of the "Triad of Death" which includes
  1. Hypothermia
  2. Coagulopathy
  3. Acidosis
- If patient meets [TRAUMA ACTIVATION CRITERIA](#), interventions SHOULD be performed en route to the hospital to minimize scene time
- Make sure to maintain the blood pressure between 80 and 100 mmHg systolic (permissive hypotension)

EMR

EMT

EMT-IV

AEMT

Intermediate

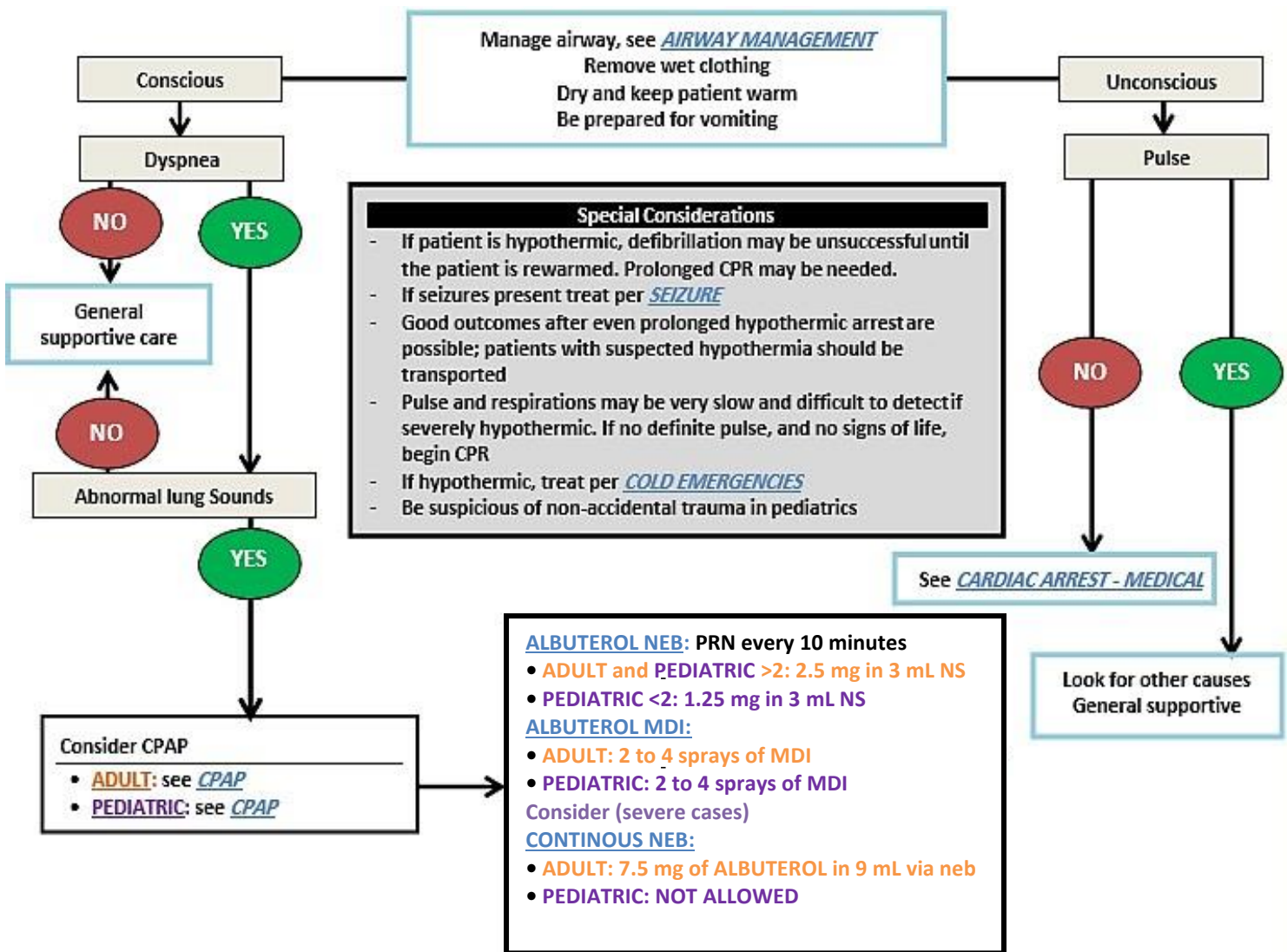
Paramedic



# Submersion Injuries

## Description

- 1) Drowning refers to submersion injuries.
- 2) Predisposing factors for drowning include alcohol abuse, drug intoxication, barotrauma and syncope secondary to a medical condition (MI, Seizures, Diabetes, Cerebrovascular accident, Arrhythmias, etc.).
  - a) Spinal motion restrictions **SHOULD** be used when a suspected or known traumatic event preceded the drowning.
  - b) Closed head injury **SHOULD** be suspected in any near drowning victim who is unconscious or demonstrates changing mental status.
- 3) Consider aeromedical evaluation to an ECMO or bypass capable center for cold water cardiac arrests.
- 4) Barotrauma is associated with SCUBA diving, with the worst cases being air embolism or Bends, and can occur within 3 hours of surfacing. Any SCUBA diver who is a near-drowning victim and exhibits AMS and/or dyspnea with clear lung sounds **SHOULD** be assumed to have barotrauma.
- 5) **ALL submersions should be transported.** Even if patients initially appear fine, they can deteriorate.
  - a) Monitor closely, pulmonary edema often occurs due to aspiration, hypoxia, and other factors. It may not be evident for several hours after near-drowning.
  - b) If patient refuses transport, verify carefully that the patient is fully aware of the risk of future decompensation and document thoroughly.



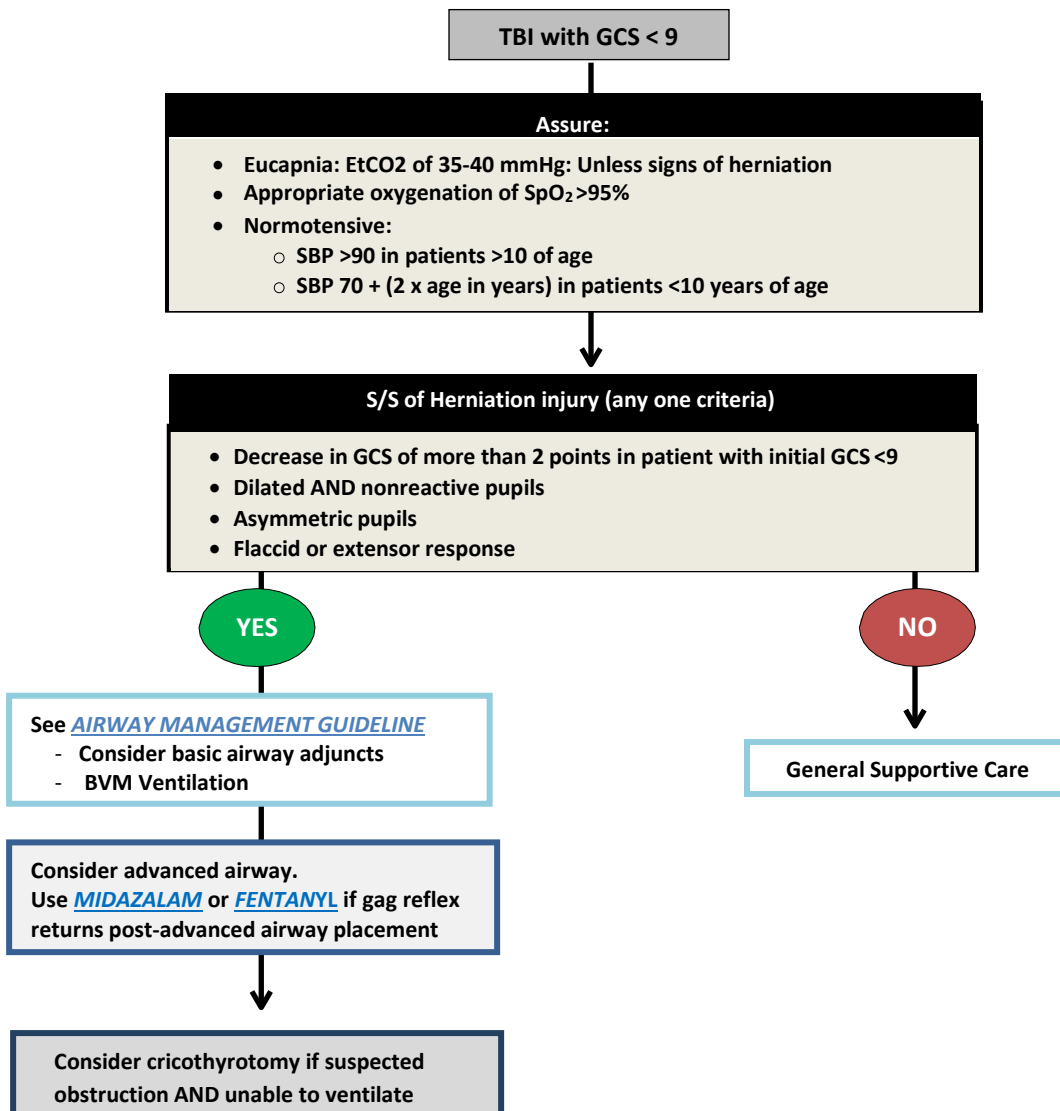
EMR   EMT   **EMT-IV**   AEMT   Intermediate   Paramedic



# Traumatic Head Injury (TBI)

## Description

- In the setting of a traumatic brain injury, obtain BGL, elevate head of bed 30°, if possible and ensure c-collar is properly fitted and not too tight, to avoid obstructing vascular drainage from the head into the jugular veins
- Treat seizures per [SEIZURE](#)
- Treat agitation per [BEHAVIORAL EMERGENCY](#)
- Consider using an **I-Gel** for airway management for severe TBI. See [AIRWAY MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE](#)

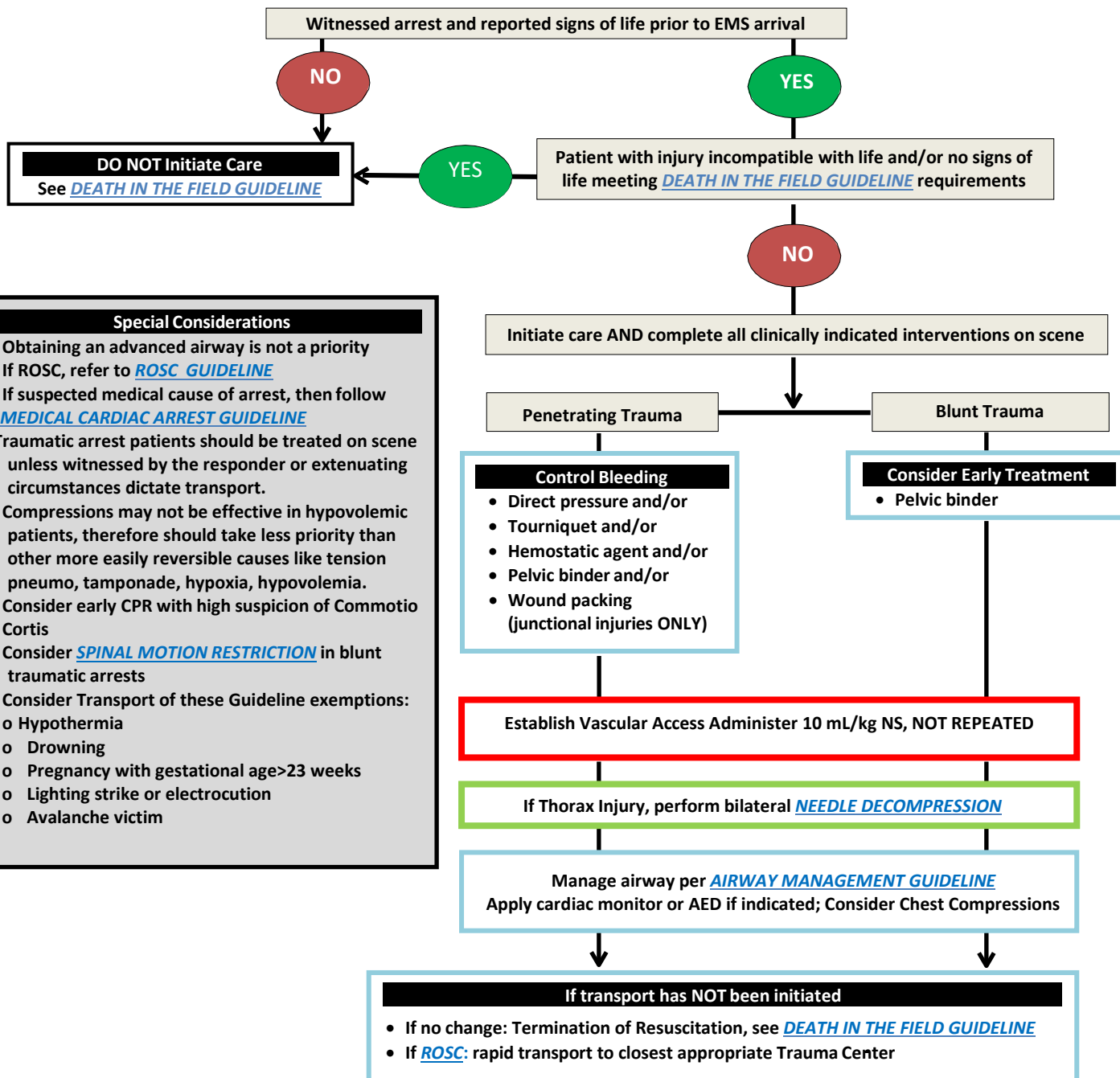


# Traumatic Cardiac Arrest

## Description

Treatment of traumatic cardiac arrest.

- If ROSC is NOT achieved, consider Termination of Resuscitation

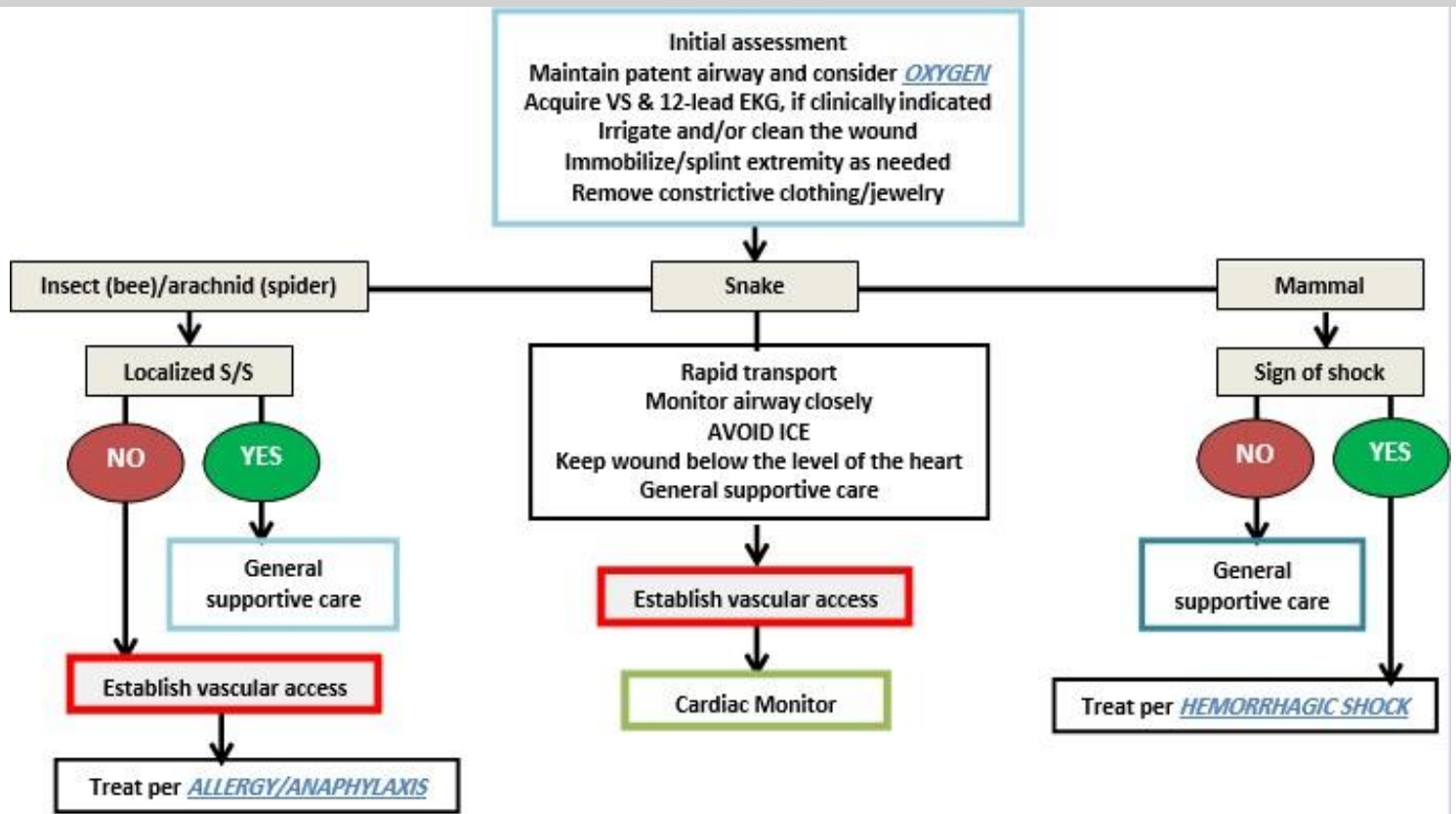


### Special Considerations

- Obtaining an advanced airway is not a priority
- If ROSC, refer to [ROSC GUIDELINE](#)
- If suspected medical cause of arrest, then follow [MEDICAL CARDIAC ARREST GUIDELINE](#)
- Traumatic arrest patients should be treated on scene unless witnessed by the responder or extenuating circumstances dictate transport.
- Compressions may not be effective in hypovolemic patients, therefore should take less priority than other more easily reversible causes like tension pneumo, tamponade, hypoxia, hypovolemia.
- Consider early CPR with high suspicion of Commotio Cortis
- Consider [SPINAL MOTION RESTRICTION](#) in blunt traumatic arrests
- Consider Transport of these Guideline exemptions:
  - o Hypothermia
  - o Drowning
  - o Pregnancy with gestational age > 23 weeks
  - o Lightning strike or electrocution
  - o Avalanche victim

EMR    EMT    **EMT-IV**    AEMT    Intermediate    Paramedic

# Bites and Stings



## Special Considerations

- Consider contacting the US Poison Control Center for guidance. **1-800-222-1222**
- If stable, consider pain management, see [PAIN MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE](#)
- **INSECT (bee)/ARACHNID (spider):**
  - o Remove stinger mechanism by scraping with a straight edge and do not squeeze venom sac
  - o If possible, try to bring the spider for identification and determine if there is a prior history of allergy to bite/sting
  - o Black Widow spider bites have minimal pain initially but may develop muscular pain and severe abdominal pain
  - o Brown Recluse spider bites are painless to minimally painful. Little reaction is noted initially but tissue necrosis at the site of the bite may develop over the next few days
- **SNAKE:**
  - o Venomous snakes in this area are generally of the pit viper family, i.e., rattlesnake, copperhead, etc.
  - o A "dry bite" without envenomation occurs in a significant percentage of cases (50% in coral snake, 25% from pit viper).
  - o Mark a spot above and below the bite, note the time and repeat the measurement every 10 to 15 minutes during transport
  - o Contact closest facility regarding available anti-venom
  - o **DO NOT** apply tourniquets
- **MAMMAL:**
  - o Human bites have a very high risk of infection due to oral bacteria
  - o Carnivore bites are much more likely to become infected and some may have risk of Rabies exposure
  - o Cat and/or dog bites may rapidly progress to infection due to a specific bacteria
  - o Anyone bitten by or in close contact with a bat should be evaluated for consideration of rabies vaccinations

EMR

EMT

**EMT-IV**

AEMT

Intermediate

Paramedic



# Cold Emergencies

**Initial assessment**  
 Maintain patent airway and OXYGENATION  
 Obtain VS and 12-lead EKG, if clinically indicated  
 Obtain blood glucose level  
 Obtain patient temperature, if possible  
 Remove wet clothing, dry and insulate the patient, if applicable

**Frost Bite**

**Moderate to Severe Hypothermia**

**Rewarm extremity**

- Warm ambient air and/or
- Warm pack (wrapped in towel)

If applicable, loosely wrap/splint the injury and elevate above the heart

Consider pain management  
 See PAIN MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE

General supportive care

Pulse Present (Assess for 60 seconds)

**NO**

**YES**

**Initiate warming measures**

- Warm ambient air and/or
- Apply warm pack to groin, armpit, AND neck
- Use care in moving and transporting the patient

Cardiac Monitor

Establish Vascular Access

FLUID THERAPY: PRN until improved perfusion

- 20 mL/kg NS IV/IO, warm if available

**General Supportive Care**

- Treat bradycardia passively
- Transcutaneous pacing and/or epi pressor can be ineffective or harmful, withhold treatment

Treat per CARDIAC ARREST GUIDELINE (With Below Modifications)

- VF/VT: Defibrillate x1 time as needed and withhold repeat defibrillation attempts and medication administration until the patient is  $\geq 30^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
- Obvious death: Asystole or a rigid/frozen chest wall that is not compressible, consider TOR, See DEATH in the FIELD
- EtCO<sub>2</sub>: NOT a reliable guide for resuscitation in severe hypothermia

**Special Considerations**

- FROSTBITE:  
 o Thawing is extremely painful and should be deferred until controlled conditions, preferably in the facility. Careful monitoring, pain medication, prolonged re-warming, and sterile handling are required.  
 o DO NOT directly apply heat packs or begin the rewarming process if there is risk of refreezing

- HYPOTHERMIA:  
 o Shivering does not occur below 90 °F (32°C). Below this the patient may not feel cold, and occasionally will even undress and appear vasodilated.  
 o The hypothermic myocardium is very sensitive to movement and sudden movements may precipitate ventricular fibrillation with temperature less than 88°F (30°C).

EMR    EMT    **EMT-IV**    AEMT    Intermediate    Paramedic

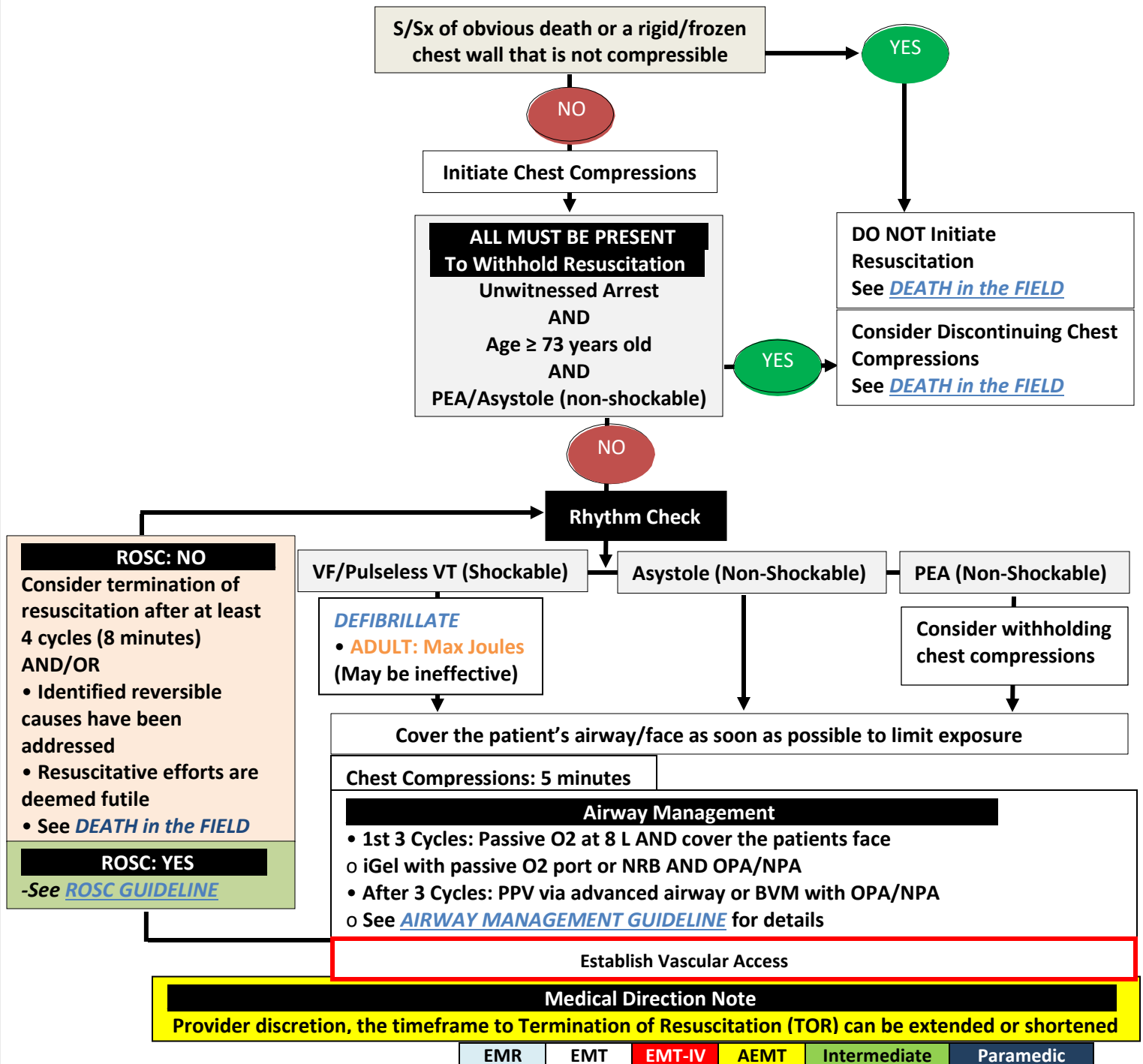


# Cold Emergencies

## Hypothermia Cardiac Arrest Algorithm

### Special Considerations:

- No studies have identified effective pharmacological therapy for humans in the setting of hypothermic cardiac arrest
  - If there is a specific indication for medication administration, administer the medication(s)
- Apparent rigor mortis is **NOT** a contraindication to starting chest compressions in the hypothermic patient
- EtCO<sub>2</sub> is NOT a reliable guide for resuscitation in severe hypothermia
  - Case series have demonstrated a significant discrepancy between ETCO<sub>2</sub> and PaCO<sub>2</sub>
- BLS Termination of Resuscitation criteria **DOES NOT** apply in this patient population



EMR   EMT   **EMT-IV**   AEMT   Intermediate   Paramedic

G002

# Heat Emergencies

**Initial assessment**  
 Maintain patent airway and consider **OXYGEN**  
 Obtain VS and 12-lead EKG, if clinically indicated  
 Obtain blood glucose level  
 Obtain patient temperature, if possible  
 Remove from heat source, if applicable

Heat Cramps

General supportive

Hyperthermia/or Heat Stroke

**Initiate cooling measures**

- Remove clothing and/or
- Cool ambient air and/or
- Apply ice pack to groin, armpit AND neck

Establish vascular access

**IV SOLUTIONS:** PRN until improved perfusion

- 20 mL/kg NS IV/IO

Cardiac Monitor

Severe shivering?

NO

General Supportive Care

YES

Discontinue Cooling Measures

**FENTANYL:** PRN every 10 minutes

- **ADULT:** 50 to 100 mcg bolus IV/IO administered over 1 to 2 minutes or IM/IN.
- **PEDIATRIC:** 1 mcg/kg IV/IO over 1 to 2 minutes or IN/IM.

**Special Considerations**

- Extremes of age are more prone to heat emergencies
- If suspected Excited Delirium treat per **BEHAVIORAL EMERGENCY**
- Treat hypoglycemia per **DIABETIC EMERGENCY**
- Treat seizures per **SEIZURE**
- Treat nausea or vomiting per **NAUSEA/VOMITING**
- If the temperature is unable to be measured, treat the patient based on the suspected temperature

**- HEAT CRAMPS:**

- o Heat Cramps consist of benign muscle cramping due to dehydration and usually is not associated with an elevated temperature
- o Signs and symptoms include normal or slightly elevated body temperature, warm, moist skin, generalized weakness, and/or diffuse muscle cramping

**- HEAT EXHAUSTION:**

- o Heat Exhaustion consists of dehydration and salt depletion
- o Signs and symptoms include elevated body temperature cool, diaphoretic skin, generalized weakness, anxiety, headache, tachypnea, and/or possible syncope

**- HEAT STROKE:**

- o Heat Stroke is present with a patient who demonstrates altered mental status or seizure, temporal temp >103°F
- o Signs and symptoms include hot, dry skin w. cessation of sweating, hypotension, altered mental status, seizure and/or coma

**- OTHER CAUSES:**

- o Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS) or Serotonin Syndrome: patients taking antipsychotic medications
- o Sympathomimetic overdose: cocaine, methamphetamine
- o Anticholinergic toxidrome: overdose; common with ODs on psych meds, OTC cold medications, Benadryl, Jimson weed, etc.
- o Infection: fever (sepsis)
- o Thyrotoxic Storm: enlarged thyroid (goiter)

# High Altitude Emergencies

## Description

- a. Acute exacerbations of chronic medical illness at altitude are more common than altitude illness
- b. Although there are some nuances to each individual sickness, the general treatment is predominantly the same and includes: maintaining airway patency, considering an antiemetic, descent to lower altitude, and if needed, transport to the closest appropriate facility
  - a) The mainstay of treatment is descent from altitude. Even a loss of 2,000-3,000 feet makes enough difference in the O<sub>2</sub> content of air that symptoms may be relieved or stop progressing.
  - b) Oxygen administration can also relieve symptoms and may allow more time for orderly evacuation
- c. Recognition of the problem is the most critical part of treating high altitude emergencies and usually is out of proportion to those being experienced by the rest of the party. Healthy individuals are at a high risk for the following:

### Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS):

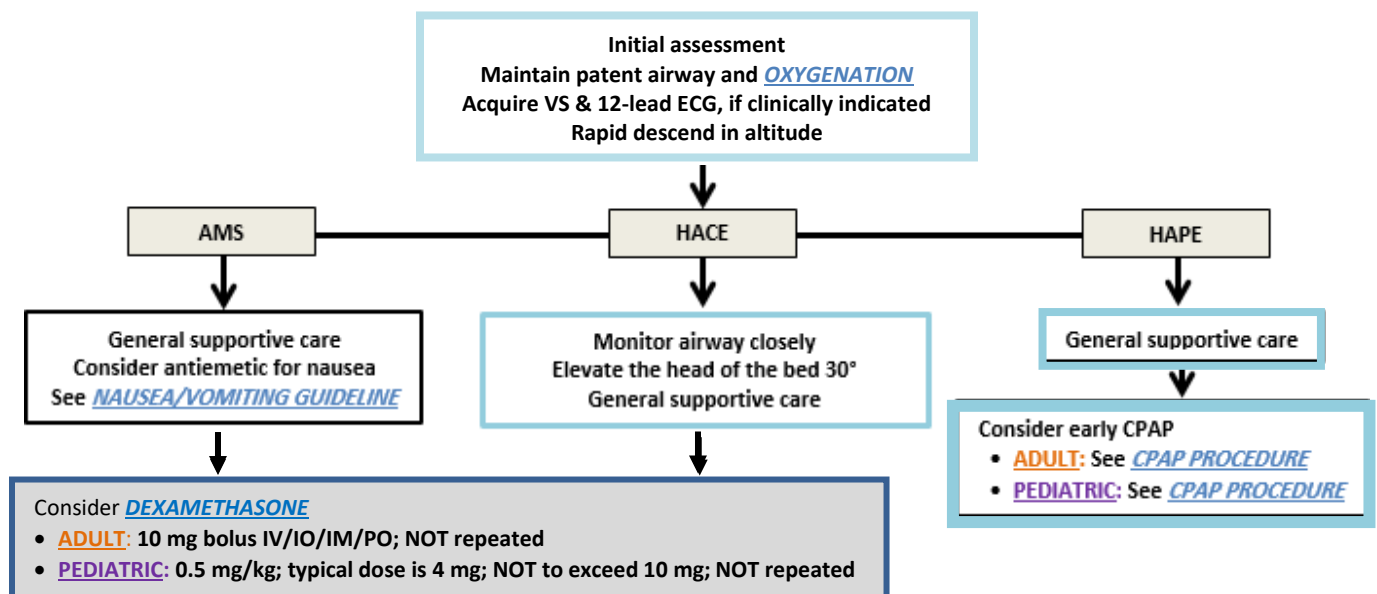
- a) This is the most common type of altitude sickness encountered and can begin to appear at around 6,500 ft. above sea level, although most people will tolerate up to 8000 ft. without difficulty
- b) Altitude illness should **NOT** be suspected below 6,500 ft
- c) Symptoms often manifest themselves and generally subside in one to two days, but they occasionally develop into the more serious conditions
- d) AMS is a diagnosis of exclusion; **ALL** other possible causes of symptoms should be evaluated
- e) Symptoms include headache, insomnia, anorexia, nausea, and fatigue

### High Altitude Cerebral Edema (HACE):

- f) This is rare at elevations in Colorado; always consider alternative cause of altered mental status
- g) Symptoms include ataxia, confusion; headache, neurological deficits, seizures, and coma
- h) Cerebral edema may present with confusion and stroke-like symptoms, including focal neuro deficits

### High Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE):

- i) The most effective and reliable treatment is immediate descent and administration of supplemental oxygen as well as CPAP.
- j) Symptoms include dyspnea, cough, headache, nausea, and/or fever



EMR   EMT   **EMT-IV**   AEMT   Intermediate   Paramedic

# Medication Overview



## Description

- a) For a list of the Medical Director-approved medications and routes of administration allowed for each certification level, see the Scope of Practice [QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE](#). See Appendix A.
- b) All care, assessment, and performance of procedures associated with the administration of medications, shall be provided in accordance with the practitioner’s scope of practice, defined by the most recent version of the [COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT 6CCR 1015-3, CHAPTER 2](#).

## Special Considerations

- 1) The appropriate process for safe medication administration includes:
  - a) Closed loop communication
  - b) Double-checking with another prehospital provider on scene to verify appropriateness of medication, including route
- 2) For pediatrics, reference Pediatric Field Guide, Broselow tape, Handtevy application or other approved apps
- 3) There are several types of errors that can occur when administering medications; these are related to the prehospital providers misuse, underuse, and/or overuse of a medication
  - a) EMS agencies should work to establish a system of **Just Culture**; this is an approach to work-place safety that assumes humans, despite their best intentions to do the right thing, will make mistakes
  - d) Self-reporting of medication and/or procedure errors will be reviewed through the EMS Agency’s CQA/CQI process. The provider reporting the mistake should be treated with respect and the focus of any investigation should be on identifying a root cause and preventing future errors
- 4) Medications that are on back order or considered to be on a “shortage” will be dealt with on a case by case basis, including potential alternatives and/or use of the medication past its expiration date See [MEDICATION EXPIRATION GUIDELINE](#)
- 5) The prehospital provider can lower the recommended dose of any medication at any time, as long as it is justified in the patient care report
  - a) Potential reasons include but are not limited to liver or kidney failure, age, weight, and/or potential interactions with other medications
- 6) Specialized prescription medications to address an acute medical crisis may be administered after obtaining verbal orders from Medical Control by an EMS provider at the EMT level or higher
- 7) An EMT-IV and higher-level provider may, under the supervision and authorization of the medical director, administer medications and classes of medications which exceed those listed in Appendices B and D of the Chapter Two Rules under the **DIRECT VISUAL SUPERVISION** of a paramedic WHEN the following conditions have been established:
  - a) The patient **MUST** be in cardiac arrest or in extremis (defined as imminent death)
  - b) At no time can the EMT provider administer controlled substances, even if delegated by the Paramedic

Example of How Medication Tab Reads:

**Waivered Medication**	
Provider Level	One Dose Only
EMR	SO
EMT	SO
EMT-IV	SO
AEMT	SO
Intermediate	SO
Paramedic	SO

EMR	EMT	EMT-IV	AEMT	Intermediate	Paramedic	Waivered
-----	-----	--------	------	--------------	-----------	----------



# Acetaminophen (Tylenol®)

Provider Level	One Dose Only
EMR	SO
EMT	SO
EMT-IV	SO
AEMT	SO
Intermediate	SO
Paramedic	SO

---

## Description

- a) Acts on hypothalamus to produce antipyresis
- b) May work peripherally to block pain impulse generation; may also inhibit prostaglandin synthesis in CNS

---

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 30-60 minutes
- 2) Duration: Up to 4 hours

---

## Indications

- 1) Mild to moderate pain
- 2) Fever

---

## Contraindications

- 1) Hypersensitivity to acetaminophen
- 2) Hepatic Impairment/failure
- 3) Suspected suicide attempt using acetaminophen

---

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Angioedema
- 2) Stevens-Johnson syndrome
- 3) Oliguria
- 4) Pulmonary edema; use with caution in patients with CHF

---

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) **ADULT**: Adult: 500 – 1000 mg PO; PRN every 6 hours.
- 2) **PEDIATRIC > 6 months**: 15 mg/kg PO; PRN every 6 hours. MAX 1000 mgs.

---

## Special Considerations

- a). Consider other medications that the patient is taking and if Acetaminophen is part of that medication and the dose they have received in the day. (MAX daily dose Adult 4,000 mg, Pediatric 60 mg/kg)
- b). Chronic alcoholic is at a higher risk for developing hepatotoxicity from Acetaminophen

# Adenosine (Adenocard)

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	VO	VO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Adenosine transiently blocks conduction through the AV node thereby terminating reentrant tachycardias involving the AV node. It is the drug of choice for AV nodal reentrant tachycardia (AVNRT, often referred to as PSVT). It will not terminate dysrhythmias that do not involve the AV node as a reentrant limb (e.g. atrial fibrillation)

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Immediate
- 2) Duration: 10 seconds

## Indications

- 1) Narrow complex supraventricular tachyarrhythmia

## Contraindications

- 1) Patients with second- or third-degree A–V block or sick sinus syndrome; underlying blocks or conduction defects can be associated with prolonged sinus arrest when using adenosine
- 2) Any irregular tachycardia. Specifically, never administer to an irregular wide-complex tachycardia, which may be lethal

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Chest, jaw or throat pain and shortness of breath
- 2) Flushing lightheadedness, and palpitations

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) **ADULT**: 12 mg rapid bolus IV/IO, combined with a 20 mL NS flush. May repeat once at 12 mg rapid bolus IV/IO
- 2) **PEDIATRIC**: 0.2 mg/kg rapid bolus IV/IO (max of 12 mg), combined with a 20 mL NS flush. May repeat once at 0.2 mg/kg (max of 12 mg) rapid bolus IV/IO

## Special Considerations

- 1) Carbamazepine (Tegretol®) may potentiate the AV-nodal blocking effect of adenosine
- 2) Continuous EKG monitoring and a 12-lead EKG should be performed and documented before and after administration
- 3) Transient asystole and AV blocks are common at the time of administration
- 4) Adenosine is not effective in atrial flutter or atrial fibrillation
- 5) Adenosine is safe in patients with a history of Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome, if the rhythm is regular and QRS complex is narrow
  - a) Never administer adenosine to patients with Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome associated with atrial fibrillation, instead move to direct **CARDIOVERSION**
- 6) May precipitate bronchospasm in patients with reactive airway disease
- 7) May not be effective in heart transplant patients, consider ½ the initial dose to avoid potential

# Albuterol Sulfate



Provider Level	Bronchospasm First dose	Bronchospasm Repeat doses or continuous neb	Duo-Neb (Albuterol & ATROVENT)	HyperK+/Crush Injury
EMR	SO – MDI only	SO – MDI only	NO	NO
EMT	SO	SO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	SO	SO	NO	NO
AEMT	SO	SO	VO	NO
Intermediate	SO	SO	VO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Albuterol is a selective  $\beta$ -2 adrenergic receptor agonist. It is a bronchodilator and positive chronotrope. Because of its  $\beta$  agonist properties, it causes potassium to move across cell membranes and into cells and makes albuterol an effective temporary treatment for unstable patients with hyperkalemia

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 5 to 15 minutes
- 2) Duration: 3 to 4 hours

## Indications

- 1) Bronchospasm
- 2) Unstable patients with known or suspected hyperkalemia with ECG changes (i.e. peaked T waves, QRS widening)
- 3) Submersion injury

## Contraindications

- 1) Severe tachycardia (Relative contraindication)

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Tachycardia, palpitations, tremors, anxiety, dysrhythmias

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) MDI – Use with spacer, if available
  - a) **ADULT**: 2 to 4 puffs of MDI q 10 minutes PRN
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: 2 to 4 puffs of MDI q 10 minutes PRN
- 2) Single Dose Nebulizer
  - a) **ADULT & PEDIATRIC >2**: Albuterol sulfate solution 0.083% (2.5 mg in 3 mL) by nebulizer, repeat as needed q10 minutes.
  - b) **PEDIATRIC <2**: 1.25 mg (half of one premixed dose) in 3 mL NS. Repeat as needed every 10 minutes
- 3) Continuous Nebulizer
  - a) **ADULT and PEDIATRIC >2**: In more severe cases, place 3 premixed containers of albuterol (2.5 mg/3mL) for a total dose of 7.5 mg in 9 mL, into an oxygen-powered nebulizer and run a continuous neb at 6-8 lpm
  - b) **PEDIATRIC <2**: Only to be considered if patient has no fever and a strong history of asthma in their immediate family and/or previous diagnosis of asthma
- 4) Hyperkalemia, Crush Injury
  - a) **ADULT**: Continuous nebulizer 10 mg to a **MAX** dose of 20 mg
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: Continuous nebulizer 10 mg to a **MAX** dose of 20 mg

## Special Considerations

- 1)  $\beta$ -blockers may antagonize albuterol
- 2) Consider in-line nebulized albuterol for patients requiring endotracheal intubation, supraglottic airways, or CPAP due to severe respiratory distress or respiratory failure
- 3) In more severe cases: If within scope, combine albuterol and **ATROVENT**: administer Duo-neb 2 times and resume with continuous albuterol neb as needed

# Amiodarone

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	VO	VO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Amiodarone has multiple effects with a quick onset. It is a complex, wide-spectrum medication which is typically categorized as a Class III antiarrhythmic due to its lengthening of the effective refractory period by prolongation of the action potential duration. However, it also demonstrates strong sodium channel antagonism, some calcium and potassium channel inhibition, and noncompetitive blockade of alpha and beta-adrenergic receptors

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Within minutes
- 2) Duration: Serum concentrations drop to 10% within 30 to 45 minutes and half-life of up to 50 days

## Indications

- 1) Pulseless arrest in patients **≤18** with shock-refractory or recurrent VF/VT
- 2) Regular Wide Complex tachycardia (WCT) refractory to cardioversion

## Contraindications

- 1) 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> degree AV block
- 2) Cardiogenic shock
- 3) Ventricular escape beats or accelerated idioventricular rhythms
- 4) Irregular wide complex tachycardia of unknown origin

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Hypotension
- 2) Bradycardia

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) VF/VT Cardiac Arrest
  - a) **PEDIATRIC: >13 to ≤18**: 300 mg IV/IO bolus
    - i. May give additional 150 mg IV/IO bolus, after 3 to 5 minutes if recurrent VF/VT.
    - ii. **MAX** dose 450 mg
  - b) **PEDIATRIC <13**: 5 mg/kg IV/IO bolus;
    - i. Repeat every 3 to 5 minutes up to a **MAX** of 15 mg/kg
- 2) Refractory WCT with a pulse
  - i. **Adults**: Mix 150 mg in a 50 mL NS for ease of delivery. 1. NOT repeated
  - ii. **Pediatrics**: **NOT ALLOWED**

## Special Considerations

- 1) Amiodarone causes prolongation of the QT interval and may induce Torsade de Pointes. This effect may be exacerbated by other medications that cause QT prolongation (i.e., procainamide, etc.)
- 2) Consider continuous 12-lead ECG monitoring, when possible



# Ancef (Cefazolin)

**Waivered Medication**		
Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	NO

## Description

- a) Cefazolin is a first-generation cephalosporin and binds to and inactivates penicillin-binding proteins (PBP) located on the inner membrane of the bacterial cell wall. Inactivation of PBP's interferes with the cross-linkage of peptidoglycan chains necessary for bacterial cell wall strength and rigidity. This results in the weakening of the bacterial cell wall and causes cell lysis.

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Approximately 1-2 hours
- 2) Duration: Approximately 8 hours

## Indications

- 1) Suspected open extremity fracture (indicated by visible bone, deformity with a break in overlying/adjacent skin)
- 2) Amputation proximal to the hand or foot
- 3) Suspected open nasal bone fractures

## Contraindications

- 1) Known cephalosporin allergy
- 2) Age < 1 years old

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- 2) Itching, skin rash, anaphylaxis

## Dosage & Administration

- a) **ADULT**: 1 gram in 50 mL NS or D5W over 10 minutes IV/IO, **NOT** repeated
- b) **PEDIATRIC ≥ 1**: 30 mg/kg in 50 mL NS or D5W over 10 minutes IV/IO, **NOT** repeated
- c) **PEDIATRIC < 1**: **NOT ALLOWED**

## Special Considerations

- 1) Be alert for hypersensitivity reaction
- 2) IV incompatible with Amiodarone
- 3) Seizures may occur if appropriately high doses are administered to patients with impaired renal function
- 4) Known penicillin allergy is not considered a contraindication

# Aspirin

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	SO	NO
EMT	SO	NO
EMT-IV	SO	NO
AEMT	SO	NO
Intermediate	SO	NO
Paramedic	SO	NO

## Description

- b) Aspirin (Acetylsalicylic Acid) inhibits platelet aggregation and blood clotting and is indicated for treatment of acute coronary syndrome in which platelet aggregation is a major component of the pathophysiology
- c) It is also an analgesic and antipyretic

## Onset & Duration

- 3) Onset: 5 to 30 minutes
- 4) Duration: 3 to 6 hours

## Indications

- 1) Symptoms secondary to suspected acute coronary syndrome

## Contraindications

- 1) Patients who have experienced signs of severe allergic reaction or anaphylaxis with the use of aspirin

## Adverse Reactions

- 3) Rash, gastrointestinal ulcerations, abdominal pain, upset stomach, heartburn, drowsiness, headache, cramping, nausea, gastritis, and bleeding.

## Dosage & Administration

- a) **ADULT**: 2 to 4 chewable tablets (162 to 324 mg) to a total dose 324 mg PO, **NOT** repeated
- b) **PEDIATRIC**: **NOT** Allowed

## Special Considerations

- 5) Patients with suspected acute coronary syndrome taking warfarin (Coumadin), clopidogrel (Plavix) or other oral anticoagulants may still be given aspirin

# Atropine Sulfate

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	VO	VO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Atropine is an endogenous antimuscarinic, anticholinergic substance. It is the prototypical anticholinergic medication with the following effects:
- Increased heart rate and AV node conduction
  - Decreased GI motility and Urinary retention
  - Pupillary dilation (mydriasis)
  - Decreased sweat, tear and saliva production

## Onset & Duration

- Onset: Immediate
- Duration: 4 hours

## Indications

- As an antidote for certain insecticide exposures (i.e., organophosphates) or suspected nerve gas with symptoms of excess cholinergic stimulation
- Extreme salivation post-ketamine administration

## Contraindications

- None in the emergency setting

## Adverse Reactions

- Anticholinergic toxidrome in overdose

## Dosage & Administration

- Extreme salivation post **KETAMINE** administration
  - ADULT**: 0.5 mg bolus IV/IO; **NOT** repeated
  - PEDIATRIC**: 0.02 mg/kg bolus IV/IO with **MAX** single dose of 0.5 mg; **NOT** repeated
- Organophosphate poisoning
  - ADULT**: 2 mg bolus IV/IO, repeat every minute as needed for **SLUDGE-M** symptom resolution
  - PEDIATRIC**: 0.05 mg/kg bolus IV/IO, repeat every minute as needed for **SLUDGE-M** symptom resolution

## Special Considerations

- Maybe ineffective in patients with a heart transplant
- Contact receiving facility early if suspected chemical exposure

# (Atrovent) Ipratropium Bromide

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	VO	VO
Intermediate	VO	VO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

---

- a) An anticholinergic agent which inhibits interaction of acetylcholine at parasympathetic receptor sites on the bronchial smooth muscle

## Onset & Duration

---

- 1) Onset: Within 3 minutes
- 2) Duration: 6 hours

## Indications

---

- 1) Adjunct bronchodilator for asthma, chronic bronchitis, and emphysema which is not being adequately controlled by a beta-adrenergic agent such as [ALBUTEROL](#)
- 2) Allergy/Anaphylaxis

## Contraindications

---

- 1) Patients with history of hypersensitivity to the drug

## Adverse Reactions

---

- 1) Anticholinergic symptoms

## Dosage & Administration

---

- 1) Adult: 0.5 mg; given in combination with [ALBUTEROL](#) via nebulizer. Repeat as needed every 15 minutes
- 2) Pediatric: 0.5 mg; given in combination with [ALBUTEROL](#) via nebulizer. Repeat as needed every 15 minutes

## Special Considerations

---

- 1) Not to be administered alone. Should be combined with [ALBUTEROL](#) in the same nebulizer treatment
- 2) It is safe to administer to patients with known or suspected peanut and soy allergy in the nebulized form



# Calcium

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Calcium is a cardioprotective agent in the setting of severe hyperkalemia:
  - i. Causes increased contractility
  - ii. May increase ventricular automaticity
  - iii. Decreases heart rate
  - iv. Produces effects similar to, and intensifies the effects of, digitalis

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Calcium Chloride 10%
  - a) Onset: 5 to 15 minutes
  - b) Duration: Dose dependent up to 4 hours
- 2) Calcium Gluconate 10%
  - a) Onset: Immediate
  - b) Duration: 30 minutes to 2 hours

## Indications

- 1) Hyperkalemia
- 2) Severe crush injuries
- 3) Adult pulseless arrest associated with any of the following clinical conditions:
  - a) Known hyperkalemia
  - b) Renal failure with or without hemodialysis history
  - c) Calcium channel blocker toxicity with hypotension and bradycardia
  - d) Calcium is not indicated for routine treatment of pulseless arrest, other than the causes listed here
- 4) Hydrofluoric Acid burns (calcium gluconate)
- 5) Calcium channel with hypotension and bradycardia
- 6) Beta blocker overdose with hypotension and bradycardia REFRACTORY to **GLUCAGON** AND a vasopressor

## Contraindications

- 1) Known hypercalcemia
- 2) Not indicated for routine treatment of pulseless arrest
- 3) In the setting of digoxin toxicity, calcium may worsen cardiovascular function

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Extravasation will cause necrosis of tissue
- 2) Rapid injection of calcium gluconate may cause vasodilatation, decreased blood pressure, bradycardia, cardiac arrhythmias, syncope, and cardiac arrest. Administer slowly (no faster than 2 mL/min) and stop if patient complains of distress
- 3) Avoid combining or administering with epinephrine or sodium bicarb within the same vascular access line (incompatible), it will precipitate if mixed with sodium calcium
- 4) Multiple vascular access sites preferred, but if not available, flush catheter thoroughly before administering one medication after another

# Calcium

## Dosage & Administration

### 1) Calcium Chloride 10%

#### a) **ADULT:**

- i. Hyperkalemia or Calcium Channel/Beta Blocker Overdose: 1 Gram slow bolus over 2 to 5 minutes IV/IO.
  - a) May repeat dose every 10 minutes for total of 3 doses
- ii. Severe Crush Injury and/or Cardiac Arrest from Suspected Hyperkalemia: 1 Gram rapid bolus IV/IO

#### b) **PEDIATRIC:**

- i. Calcium Channel/Beta Blocker Overdose: 20 mg/kg slow bolus over 2 to 5 minutes IV/IO, **MAX** 3 Grams
  - a) May repeat every 10 minutes for total of 3 doses
- ii. Severe Crush Injury and/or Cardiac Arrest from Suspected Hyperkalemia:
  - a) **NOT ALLOWED**

### 2) Calcium Gluconate 10%

#### a) **ADULT:**

- i. Hyperkalemia or Calcium Channel/Beta Blocker Overdose: 3 Grams slow bolus over 2 to 5 minutes IV/IO
  - a) May repeat dose every 10 minutes for total of three (3) doses
- ii. Severe Crush Injury and/or Cardiac Arrest from Suspected Hyperkalemia: 3 Grams rapid bolus IV/IO
- iii. Hydrofluoric burn: Commercially prepared or mixed with water soluble lubricant. Apply topically to affected area
  - a) First line treatment in hydrofluoric acid burns

#### b) **PEDIATRIC:**

- i. Calcium Channel/Beta Blocker Overdose: 60 mg/kg, **NOT** to exceed 1 Gram slow bolus over 2 to 5 minutes IV/IO.
  - a) May repeat every 10 minutes for total of 3 doses
- ii. Severe Crush Injury and/or Cardiac Arrest from Suspected Hyperkalemia:
  - a) **NOT** Allowed
- iii. Hydrofluoric burn: Commercially prepared or mixed with water soluble lubricant. Apply topically to affected area. First line treatment in hydrofluoric acid burns

## Special Considerations

- 1) Calcium chloride contains three times the amount of elemental calcium in the same volume as calcium gluconate
- 2) Monitor vascular access patency closely, make sure to flush after every medication administration with a bolus of normal saline

# Dexamethasone (Decadron)

Provider Level	1 <sup>ST</sup> Dose	Repeat Dose
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	VO	NO
Paramedic	SO	NO

## Description

It is a synthetic steroid that suppresses acute and chronic inflammation and may alter the immune response. In addition, it potentiates vascular smooth muscle relaxation by beta-adrenergic agonists and may alter airway hyperactivity

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Within 5 to 10 minutes
- 2) Duration: Up to 72 hours

## Indications

- 1) Moderate to severe allergic reaction or anaphylaxis
- 2) Severe asthma
- 3) COPD Exacerbation
- 4) Suspected Croup (with stridor at rest ONLY)
- 5) Suspected Addisonian crisis (cardiovascular collapse in patient at risk for adrenal insufficiency)
- 6) Acute Mountain Sickness and HACE

## Contraindications

- 1) Known hypersensitivity

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Gastrointestinal bleeding (in oral doses only)
- 2) Hypertension
- 3) Hyperglycemia

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) **ADULT**: 10 mg bolus IV/IO/IM/PO; **NOT** repeated
- 2) **PEDIATRIC**: 0.5 mg/kg; typical dose is 4 mg; **NOT** to exceed 10 mg; **NOT** repeated

## Special Considerations

- 1) It is not considered a first line drug; do not delay transport to administer this drug
- 2) If administering orally, consider mixing with juice or water

# Dextrose (Intravenous)

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	SO	SO
AEMT	SO	SO
Intermediate	SO	SO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- Glucose is the body's basic fuel and is required for cellular metabolism
- Glucose is distributed in the tissues and provides a prompt increase in circulating blood sugar
- Glucose use is regulated by insulin, which stimulates storage of excess glucose from the bloodstream, and by glucagon, which mobilizes stored glucose into the bloodstream

## Onset & Duration

- Onset: 1 minute
- Duration: Varies on degree of hypoglycemia

## Indications

- Any clinical condition of concern for hypoglycemia and blood glucose reading less than 60 mg/dL

## Contraindications

- Intracranial or intraspinal hemorrhage with blood glucose reading  $\geq 60$  mg/dL (relative)
- Severe traumatic brain injuries with blood glucose reading  $\geq 60$  mg/dL

## Adverse Reactions

- Dextrose is generally free of side effects for most patients and should be used whenever a question of hypoglycemia exists
- Extravasation** of medication into surrounding tissue may cause severe necrosis; if extravasation does occur, immediately stop administration, and apply a cold compress

## Dosage & Administration

- ADULT**: 25 grams (250 mL of a 10% solution) IV/IO, slowly over 10 minutes or until patient condition improves
  - To make 10% dextrose: Add 25 grams of dextrose 50% solution to 250 mL (or 50 grams in 500 mL) of normal saline
  - You can also discard 40 mL of liquid from one amp of dextrose 50% solution, then draw 40 mL of NS or sterile water into the amp. Roll the syringe between the palms to mix solution
- PEDIATRIC <13**: 10 mL/kg of a 10% solution IV/IO, slowly over 10 minutes or until patient condition improves

## Special Considerations

- If newborn is exhibiting signs of hypoglycemia (BGL  $< 40$  mg/dL), consider breastfeeding as the initial treatment
- Effects of dextrose can be delayed in those with poor circulation or patients who have been hypoglycemic for an extended period
- If IV access is not readily attainable in the setting profound hypoglycemia, consider IO insertion
- Monitor IV/IO-line patency closely, make sure to flush after each bolus administration with normal saline
- If patient not being transported, make sure they eat complex carbohydrates prior to release of care
- Repeat BGL monitoring every 15-30 minutes, as needed



# Diazepam (Valium)

Condition	Seizures/Spasm/Anxiety/Sedation	
Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	VO	VO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a) It is a benzodiazepine central nervous system depressant that produces sedation

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 1 to 5 minutes
- 2) Duration: Up to 3 hours

## Indications

- 1) Seizures
- 2) Pain due to muscle spasms
- 3) Sedation of the severely anxious, agitated, and/or combative patients (second line to **MIDAZOLAM**)

## Contraindications

- 1) Known hypersensitivity
- 2) Procedural sedation

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Drowsiness, fatigue
- 2) Respiratory depression, including apnea
- 3) Hypotension and volume-related tachycardia

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) Comfort Measures: (anxiety, behavioral sedation, pain due to spasm)
  - a) **ADULT**: up to 5 mg IM/IV/IO repeat as needed every 10 minutes; MAX dose of 10 mg
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: Up to 0.25 mg/kg IM/IV/IO repeat as needed every 10 minutes; **MAX** single dose of 5 mg, **MAX** total dose of 5 mg
- 2) Active seizures
  - a) **ADULT**: 10 mg IM/IV/IO; may repeat as needed every 5 minutes
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: 0.5 mg/kg IM/IV/IO, **MAX** single dose of 5 mg, may repeat as needed every 10 minutes

## Special Considerations

- 1) Strongly consider ½ typical dosing in elderly patients or when combining with opioids
- 2) Use caution in patients considered hypotensive
- 3) Extreme care must be used in the elderly, very ill patients and to those with limited pulmonary reserve because of the possibility that apnea

# Diltiazem (Cardizem)

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Diltiazem is a calcium channel blocker used in the treatment of certain types of tachyarrhythmias. It relaxes the smooth muscles in the walls of arteries, causing systemic vasodilatation. Its' negative dromotropic properties at both the SA and AV node, coupled with its moderately negative inotropic effects make diltiazem a favorable medication for heart rate control with less severe side effects than those commonly demonstrated by other medications of this class.

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 2 to 5 minutes
- 2) Duration: Less than 8 hours

## Indications

- 1) Reentrant narrow complex supraventricular tachydysrhythmias
- 2) Atrial fibrillation or atrial flutter with a rapid ventricular response

## Contraindications

- 1) Patients with sick sinus syndrome or AV heart block in the absence of a functioning artificial pacemaker
- 2) Any wide QRS tachycardia resulting from a poisoning or drug overdose, ventricular tachycardia, or Wolf-Parkinson-White (WPW) syndrome associated with either atrial flutter or atrial fibrillation
- 3) Hypotension (<100 systolic)

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Transient drops in blood pressure are expected.
- 2) Patients with preexisting nodal disease can develop sinus arrest, increased AV block, complete heart block, and asystole
- 3) The administration of diltiazem to the patient in ventricular tachycardia may result in ventricular fibrillation and death

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) **ADULT**: 0.25 mg/kg IV/IO slow bolus over 2 to 5 minutes, **MAX** dose of 25 mg
  - a) May repeat after 15 minutes at 25 mg IV/IO slow bolus over 2 to 5 minutes, **MAX** repeat dose of 25 mg
- 2) **PEDIATRIC**: **NOT** allowed

## Special Considerations

- 1) Monitor patient closely in those patients who are taking oral beta-blockers
- 2) Should be used with great caution in patients prone to diminished cardiovascular preload

# Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)

Provider Level	Assist with PO Admin	IV/IO Admin
EMR	SO	NO
EMT	SO	NO
EMT-IV	SO	NO
AEMT	SO	VO
Intermediate	SO	VO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- Diphenhydramine is an antihistamine which blocks the action of histamines released from cells during an allergic reaction. It has direct CNS effects, which can be as a stimulant, or more commonly as a depressant, depending on the individual
- Diphenhydramine also has an anticholinergic and antiparkinsonian effect which is used to treat acute dystonic reactions to antipsychotic or antiemetic medications (e.g. Haldol®, Thorazine®, Reglan®, Compazine®, Inapsine®)

## Onset & Duration

- Onset: Within 1 minute (IV/IO), 15 minutes (PO)
- Duration: 6 to 12 hours (IV/IO/PO)

## Indications

- General allergic reaction
- Anaphylaxis
- Dystonic reactions or akathisia (agitation or restlessness)

## Contraindications

- None in the emergency setting

## Adverse Reactions

- Drowsiness
- Dilated pupils
- Dry mouth and throat
- Flushing

## Dosage & Administration

- ADULT**: 50 mg bolus IV/IO over 2 minutes or IM/PO
  - NOT** repeated
- PEDIATRIC > 2 years old**: 2 mg/kg bolus IV/IO over 2 minutes or IM/PO
  - NOT** to exceed 50 mg
  - NOT** repeated

## Special Considerations

- May potentiate the effects of alcohol or other depressants
- MAO inhibitors may prolong and intensify anticholinergic effects of antihistamines
- In high doses (overdose), prolonged QT, and seizures may occur

# Droperidol (Inapsine)

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	VO	VO
Paramedic	SO	VO

## Description

- a) Dopamine receptor blockade in brain, predominantly dopamine-2 receptor. When reuptake is prevented, a strong antidopaminergic, anti-serotonergic response occurs. Droperidol reduces motor activity, anxiety, and causes sedation; also possesses adrenergic-blocking, anti-fibrillatory, antihistaminic, and anticonvulsive properties

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Within 10 minutes after IV administration. IM within 20 minutes
- 2) Duration: 4 to 6 hours

## Indications

- 1) Sedation of severe agitation
- 2) Nausea/Vomiting

## Contraindications

- 1) Hypersensitivity to drug
- 2) Parkinson's Disease
- 3) Depressed mental status
- 4) Known or suspected prolonged QT interval
  - a) QTc interval > 460 msec in females or > 450 msec in males

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) QT prolongation
- 2) Extrapyramidal symptoms, hyperkinesia, tremors, dystonia
- 3) Drowsiness

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) Extreme Agitation:
  - a) **ADULT**:
    - i. 5mg IV/IO or 10mg IM. PRN every 10 minutes to a MAX total of 20 mg
  - b) **PEDIATRIC: NOT Allowed**
- 2) Nausea/Vomiting: PRN every 10 minutes up to 2 total doses
  - a) **Adult**: 2.5 mg IM or SLOW IV/IO
  - b) **Pediatric (2 to 12 years old)**: 0.01 mg/kg IM or slow IV/IO; **MAX** single dose of 1.25 mg

## Special Considerations

- 1) Use caution in elderly patients with dementia-related psychosis
- 2) Utilize caution if combined with other medications that may prolong the QT interval (ondansetron).



# Epinephrine 1:1000



Provider Level	EPI Auto Injector	Epinephrine (1:1,000) IM		Epinephrine (1:1,000) Nebulized	
	All doses	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	SO	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	SO	SO	SO	NO	NO
<b>EMT-IV</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>AEMT</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
Intermediate	SO	SO	SO	VO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO	SO	SO	NO

## Description

- a) Catecholamine with alpha ( $\alpha$ ) and beta ( $\beta$ ) effects

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Immediate (within seconds)
- 2) Duration: 3 to 5 minutes

## Indications

- 1) Anaphylaxis/ Severe Allergic Reaction
- 2) Severe Asthma (Intermediate & Paramedic ONLY)
- 3) Croup with resting stridor **ONLY**

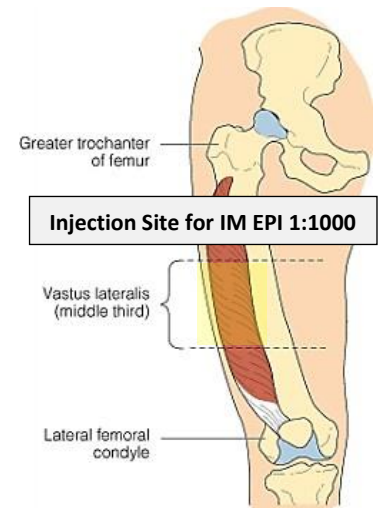
## Contraindications

- 1) Hypovolemic and/or hemorrhagic shock

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Angina pectoris or myocardial infarction
- 2) Anxiety, tremors, palpitation, and headache

## Dosage & Administration



INDICATION	CONCENTRATION AND ROUTE	ADULT DOSE	PEDIATRIC DOSE
<b>Severe Allergic Reaction/ Anaphylaxis</b>	Epi 1:1,000 IM	0.5 mg (0.5 mL) Repeat as needed every 5 minutes	0.01 mg/kg (0.01 mL/kg) <b>MAX</b> dose 0.5 mg (0.5 mL) Repeat as needed every 5 minutes
<b>Severe Asthma (Intermediate &amp; Paramedic ONLY)</b>	Epi 1:1,000 IM	0.5 mg (0.5 mL) Repeat as needed every 5 minutes	0.01 mg/kg (0.01 mL/kg) <b>MAX</b> dose 0.5 mg (0.5 mL) Repeat as needed every 5 minutes
<b>Croup</b>	Epi 1:1,000 Nebulized (may be diluted with 2-3mL NS)	5 mg ( 5 mL) Repeat as needed after 30 minutes	0.5 mg/kg (0.5 mL Epi/kg) <b>MAX</b> 5 mg (5 mL) Repeat as needed after 30 minutes

## Special Considerations

- 1) Patients with known or previous cardiac disease/illness should be reassessed often for signs of cardiac compromise.
- 2) **DO NOT** administer into the deltoid muscle; Administer in **LATERAL THIGH ONLY**

# Epinephrine 1:10,000



Epi 1:10,000 IV/IO - Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Brady			Pulseless Arrest IV/IO		IV Infusion	Push-Dose
Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses	Drip	Bolus
EMR	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>EMT-IV</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>AEMT</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
Intermediate	VO	VO	SO	SO	VO	VO
Paramedic	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO

## Description

- a. Catecholamine with alpha ( $\alpha$ ) and beta ( $\beta$ ) effects

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Immediate
- 2) Duration: 3 to 5 minutes

## Indications

- 1) Cardiac Arrest (Medical)
  - a) **PEDIATRIC**:  $\leq 18$  years old
- 2) Bradycardia with inadequate perfusion
- 3) Respiratory Cardiac Arrest
- 4) Uncompensated Shock (non-traumatic)
- 5) Anaphylaxis/Allergic Reaction/Severe Asthma
- 6) Pre-advanced airway hypoperfusion (systolic BP<90, EtCO<sub>2</sub><30, MAP<60 etc)

## Contraindications

- 1) Hypovolemic and/or hemorrhagic shock

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Angina Pectoris or Myocardial Infarction
- 2) Anxiety, Tremors, Palpitation, and Headache

## Dosage & Administration

INDICATION	CONCENTRATION AND ROUTE	DOSE	
Respiratory Cardiac Arrest $\geq 13$ years old	Epi 1:10,000 IV/IO	1 mg • Repeat every 3 to 5 minutes; <b>MAX</b> 3 doses for the entire arrest <b>OR</b> • 2 mg in 500 mL NS bag wide open on a pressure infusion pump ( <b>BP cuff at 300 mmHG humeral head IO site ONLY</b> ) - This can be either 1:1,000 or 1:10,000 concentration.	
Cardiac Arrest < 13 years old	Epi 1:10,000 IV/IO	0.01 mg/kg (0.1 mL/kg) • <b>MAX</b> single dose 1 mg (10 mL) Repeat every 3 to 5 minutes; <b>MAX</b> 3 doses for the entire arrest	
INDICATION	CONCENTRATION AND ROUTE	ADULT DOSE	PEDIATRIC DOSE
Anaphylaxis /Severe Allergic Reaction	Epi 1:10,000 slow IV/IO	0.1 mg (1 mL) Repeat as needed 5 minutes	0.01 mg/kg (0.1 mL/kg) Repeat as needed 5 minutes
Bradycardia w/ S/S of shock	Epi 1:10,000 IV/IO	N/A	0.01 mg/kg (0.1 mL/kg) Repeat every 3 to 5 minutes
<b>Epi Infusion</b> - Pre-advanced airway hypoperfusion - Severe Anaphylaxis/Asthma - Septic Shock - Cardiogenic Shock - Neurogenic Shock - ROSC	Inject 1 mg epinephrine (either concentration) into 1000 mL NS or 0.5 mg in 500 mL NS • 1.0 mcg/mL concentration: • Attach to a macro-drip (15gtt) set	IV/IO infusion wide open to gravity. - Titrate to desired hemodynamic effect with goal BP of $\geq 90$ systolic, and/or return of distal pulses, and/or improved mental status	IV/IO infusion wide open to gravity. - Titrate to desired hemodynamic effect See <a href="#">PEDS GUIDE</a> recommendation, and/or return of distal pulses, and/or improved mental status

# Epinephrine 1:10,000

INDICATION	CONCENTRATION AND ROUTE	ADULT DOSE	PEDIATRIC DOSE
<p><b>“Push Dose” or “Bolus Dose” Epinephrine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bradydysrhythmias</li> <li>- Septic Shock</li> </ul>	<p>To make draw 9 mLs of normal saline and 1 mL 1:10,000 epi into a 10 mL syringe; roll the syringe vigorously between the palms to mix. You now have a 10 mcg/mL concentration; this concentration is then administered slow IV/IO push.</p>	<p>Slow IV/IO push 0.3 mL of 10 mcg/mL concentration every 1-5 minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Administer to desired hemodynamic effect with goal of BP &gt; 90 systolic, and/or return of distal pulses, and/or improved mental status</li> </ul>	<p>Slow IV/IO push 0.3 mL of 10 mcg/mL concentration every 1-5 minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Administer to desired hemodynamic effect with goal of BP of &gt; 70 + 2 x age in years, and/or return of distal pulses, and/or improved mental status</li> </ul>

## Special Considerations

- 1) Bradycardias in the setting of an acute MI are common and may be beneficial. **DO NOT** treat unless there are signs of poor perfusion (systolic BP < 90,  $E_tCO_2$  < 30, MAP < 60 etc)
- 2) Pediatric bradycardias are most commonly secondary to hypoxia. Correct the ventilation first
- 3) Patient's over 40 years of age or with previous cardiac disease/illness should be reassessed often for signs of cardiac compromise
- 4) If administering 2 mg of epi in a 500 mL bag during cardiac arrest and ROSC is achieved, TKO and titrate to a BP of > 90 systolic
- 5) Avoid combining or administering with sodium bicarb or calcium within the same vascular access line (incompatible), it will precipitate if mixed with epinephrine
- 6) Multiple vascular access sites preferred, but if not available, flush catheter thoroughly before administering one medication after another
- 7) Reasoning for humeral head IO site: **ONLY** in OHCA is to achieve correct flow rate of epi

# Fentanyl (Sublimaze)

Condition	Pain Mgmt./Shivering		Post-Advanced Airway	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO	NO	NO
Intermediate	VO	VO	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO	SO	SO

## Description

- A potent, synthetic-opioid analgesic agent
- Depresses the central nervous system and sensitivity to pain

## Onset & Duration

- Onset: 60 to 90 seconds
- Duration: 30 to 60 minutes

## Indications

- An analgesic used the reduction of moderate to severe pain
- Treatment for shivering in the heat stroke/hyperthermic patients after rapid cooling
- Post-advanced airway placement with return of gag reflex

## Contraindications

- Known hypersensitivity

## Adverse Reactions

- Respiratory depression
- Bradycardia (rare)
- Chest wall rigidity has been reported with rapid administration of fentanyl

## Dosage & Administration

- Pain Reduction and Post-cooling Shivering
  - ADULT**: 50 to 100 mcg bolus IV/IO administered over 1 to 2 minutes; IM/IN
    - Repeat every 10 minutes as needed
  - PEDIATRIC**: 1 mcg/kg bolus IV/IO administered over 1 to 2 minutes; IM/IN
    - Repeat every 10 minutes as needed
- Post-Advanced Airway Placement
  - ADULT >13**: 100 mcg IV/IO
    - Repeat every 10 minutes as needed
  - PEDIATRIC < 12**: **NOT** allowed

## Special Considerations

- Use caution in patients with hemodynamic instability, respiratory depression, or shock
- Watch for synergistic effects when given with other CNS depressing medications
- May cause nausea and vomiting, administer slowly, and consider an antiemetic
- Strongly consider ½ typical dosing in elderly patients or when combining with benzodiazepines



# Glucagon



Condition	Hypoglycemia		Beta/Calcium Channel Blocker Overdose	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO	NO	NO
AEMT	SO	NO	VO	VO
Intermediate	SO	NO	VO	VO
Paramedic	SO	NO	SO	SO

## Description

- a. A naturally occurring hormone within the human body that works opposite from insulin and increases concentration of glucose in the bloodstream. Glucagon also causes smooth muscle relaxation and increases myocardial contractility

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset:
  - a) Within 20 minutes for hypoglycemia
  - b) Within 5 minutes for beta/calcium blocker overdose
- 2) Duration:
  - a) Varies depending on route administered; 15 minutes IV, 1 to 2 hours IM

## Indications

- 1) Hypoglycemic patient in which oral dextrose is contraindicated and an IV cannot be established
- 2) Calcium channel and/or beta blocker overdose with hypotension and bradycardia

## Contraindications

- 1) Known hypersensitivity

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Nausea and/or vomiting

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) Hypoglycemia
  - a) **ADULT:** 1 mg IM, **NOT** repeated
  - b) **PEDIATRIC:** 0.5 mg IM, **NOT** repeated
- 2) Calcium Channel / Beta Blocker OD
  - a) **ADULT:** **MAX** available dose up to 5 mg IV/IO, repeat x1 if symptoms do not resolve (if available)
  - b) **PEDIATRIC:** 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO, repeat once if symptoms do not resolve (if available)

## Special Considerations

- 1) Glucagon will not be effective in reversing hypoglycemia in a patient with no liver glycogen store due to conditions such as alcoholism or malnutrition

# Haloperidol (Haldol)

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	VO	VO
Paramedic	SO	VO

## Description

---

- 1) It blocks the effects of dopamine and increases its turnover rate; however, the precise mechanism of action is unknown

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Within 5 minutes
- 2) Duration: 4 to 6 hours

## Indications

---

- 1) Sedation of a severely agitated and/or combative patient.
- 2) Used for management of manifestations of psychotic disorders and for the treatment of agitated states in acute and chronic psychoses
- 3) Gastroparesis/Cyclic Vomiting Syndrome

## Contraindications

---

- 1) Parkinson's disease
- 2) Suspected myocardial infarction
- 3) Hypotension

## Adverse Reactions

---

- 1) Constipation, dry mouth, salivary hypersecretion
- 2) Tachycardia
- 3) Extrapyramidal disorder, hyperkinesia, tremors, dystonia

## Dosage & Administration

---

- 1) **ADULT**: Severely agitated and/or Combative
  - a. 5 to 10 mg IM  
Gastroparesis/Cyclic Vomiting Syndrome
  - b. 5mg IV/IM
- 2) **PEDIATRIC**: **NOT** Allowed

## Special Considerations

---

- 1) Since QT-prolongation has been observed during HALDOL treatment, caution is advised when prescribing to a patient with known QT-prolongation conditions (long QT-syndrome, hypokalemia, electrolyte imbalance) or to patients receiving medications known to prolong the QT-interval or known to cause electrolyte imbalance

# Honey



Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Dose
EMR	SO	SO
EMT	SO	SO
EMT-IV	SO	SO
AEMT	SO	SO
Intermediate-99	SO	SO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a) The goal is to create a barrier between the mucus membranes and the battery, specifically the esophagus. Honey will coat the stomach allowing the battery that has been ingested to slow down damage to the upper and lower Gastrointestinal system. Beyond coating the affected area and the battery to slow the overall leak of battery acid and help, neutralize the tissue pH. This decreases the burning process of the soft tissues and slows the adhering process of the battery

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Immediate
- 2) Duration: 10 to 15 min

## Indications

- 1) Suspected **BUTTON BATTERY INGESTION**  $\leq$  12 hours

## Contraindications

- 1) Inability to swallow or protect airway
- 2) Age  $<$ 12 months

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) None noted

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) **Adult and Pediatric  $>$  12 months**: 10 mL (2 teaspoons) PO every 10 minutes, no max dose

## Special Considerations

- 1) Utilize commercial honey rather than specialized or artisanal honey
- 2) Button/Coin Batteries have a very high mortality rate, administer and transport immediately to appropriate facility
- 3) Do not induce vomiting

# Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)



Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Opioid analgesics with desired effects of analgesia, euphoria, and sedation. Depresses the central nervous system and sensitivity to pain. Decreases venous return and produces mild peripheral vasodilation

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 3 to 5 minutes
- 2) Duration: 2 to 4 hours

## Indications

- 1) An analgesic used for the reduction of moderate to severe pain

## Contraindications

- 1) Known hypersensitivity

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Respiratory Depression
- 2) Bradycardia (rare)

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) **ADULT**: 0.5 mg bolus IV/IO administered over 1 to 2 minutes or IM/IN.
  - i. May repeat every 10 minutes as needed
  - ii. IV route is preferred IO/IN/IM are acceptable alternatives when IV access is not readily available
- 2) **PEDIATRIC**: **NOT** Allowed

## Special Considerations

- 1) Use caution in patients with hemodynamic instability, respiratory depression, or shock
- 2) Watch for synergistic effects when given with other CNS depressing medications
- 3) May cause nausea and vomiting, administer slowly, and consider an antiemetic
- 4) Strongly consider ½ typical dosing in elderly patients or when combining with benzodiazepines



# Hydroxocobalamin (Cyanokit)

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO*	NO
EMT	NO*	NO
EMT-IV	NO*	NO
AEMT	NO*	NO
Intermediate	SO	SO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Cyanide inhibits cytochrome oxidase, thereby arresting cellular respiration and forcing anaerobic metabolism, which leads to lactate production and acidosis and ultimately death. Hydroxocobalamin binds cyanide ions to form cyanocobalamin which is excreted in urine

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Rapid
- 2) Duration: Variable

## Indications

- 1) Known or suspected cyanide toxicity or exposure in extremis with altered mental status, respiratory failure, poor perfusion, dysrhythmias, chest pain, and/or seizures

## Contraindications

- 1) Known allergy to hydroxocobalamin or cyanocobalamin, but consider administration if life-threatening cyanide toxicity

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Hypertension, nausea, headache
- 2) Change in urine and secretion color as well as skin redness
- 3) CO-oximetry including carboxyhemoglobin levels can be inaccurate

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) **ADULT**: 5 grams IV/IO, may repeat once to a **MAX** of 10 grams  
Reconstitute the 5-gram vial of hydroxocobalamin with 200 mL of 0.9% normal saline (lactated ringers or D<sub>5</sub>W can be substituted if needed)
  - a) Use the spike on the hydroxocobalamin vial to introduce the normal saline INTO the hydroxocobalamin vial. The line on the hydroxocobalamin vial marks 200 mL
  - b) Following the addition of the diluent (normal saline) to the vial, the vial should be repeatedly inverted or rocked (**NOT** shaken) for at **LEAST** 60 seconds prior to infusion
- 2) **PEDIATRIC**: 70 mg/kg IV/IO, **MAX** initial dose of 5 grams; **NOT** repeated  
Reconstitute the calculated amount of hydroxocobalamin with 200 mL of 0.9% normal saline (lactated ringers or D<sub>5</sub>W can be substituted if needed)
  - a) Use the spike on the hydroxocobalamin vial to introduce the normal saline INTO the hydroxocobalamin vial. The line on the hydroxocobalamin vial marks 200 mL
  - b) Following the addition of the diluent (normal saline) to the vial, the vial should be repeatedly inverted or rocked (**NOT** shaken) for at **LEAST** 60 seconds prior to infusion

## Special Considerations

- 1) Assure separate IV line (this medication cannot be given in the same line as other medications)
- 2) \* EMT and above can administer, if they are at a mine and acting under the Mine Act

# Ibuprofen

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose
EMR	SO
EMT	SO
EMT-IV	SO
AEMT	SO
Intermediate	SO
Paramedic	SO

## Description

- a) Ibuprofen is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID)
- b) The anti-inflammatory mechanism is due to decreased prostaglandin synthesis. The analgesic activity is effective in cases where inflammation has caused sensitivity of pain receptors

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 30-60 minutes
- 2) Duration: Up to 4-6 hours

## Indications

- 1) Mild to moderate pain
- 2) Frostbite or frozen extremity

## Contraindications

- 1) Patients who have experienced signs of severe allergic reaction or anaphylaxis with the use of ibuprofen or other NSAIDs
- 2) Current or recent history of GI disease and/or bleeding
- 3) ACS
- 4) Patients on anticoagulant therapy (does not include aspirin)
- 5) Pregnancy

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Bradycardia
- 2) Oliguria (urinating only small amounts)
- 3) Bronchospasms
- 4) Angioedema
- 5) May enhance hypoglycemia
- 6) Blood thinning

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) **ADULT**: 600 mg PO; PRN every 6 hours
- 2) **PEDIATRIC > 6 months**: 10 mg/kg PO. MAX dose 600 mg.

## Special Considerations

- 1) Use caution with renal disease

# IV Fluids

Provider Level	Administration
EMR	NO
EMT	NO
EMT-IV	SO
AEMT	SO
Intermediate	SO
Paramedic	SO

## Description

- a) Volume Expanders (Normal Saline (NS) or Lactated Ringers (LR))
  - i. These contain sodium as the major cation and expand the intravascular fluid space
  - ii. Both NS and LR are isotonic solutions
- b) Water Solution (D<sub>5</sub>W)
  - i. Diffuses through three times the body space in comparison to NS and LR; poor volume expander
  - ii. D<sub>5</sub>W is a hypotonic Solution

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Immediate
- 2) Duration: Varies; dependent on situation

## Contraindications

- 1) Administer with caution in patients with underlying medical conditions that can lead to potential fluid overload

## Indications

- 1) NS /LR= Volume Expanders. Expand intravascular volume
- 2) D<sub>5</sub>W= Water Solution. Used in conjunction with certain IV medications

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Fluid overload, especially in patients with a history of renal insufficiency, cardiac compromise or congestive heart failure

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) Hypovolemia
  - a) **ADULT and PEDIATRIC**: 20 mL/kg for volume expansion, repeat as needed until improved perfusion
- 2) Hemorrhagic Shock
  - a) **ADULT and PEDIATRIC**: 10 mL/kg for volume expansion, repeat as needed until restoration of distal pulses, improved mental status and/or permissive hypotension levels reached (80 to 100 systolic)
- 3) Septic Shock
  - a) **ADULT**: 30 mL/kg for volume expansion, repeat as needed until improved perfusion
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: 10 mL/kg for volume expansion, repeat up to 2 doses (30mL/kg) reassess in between doses
- 4) Burn Therapy
  - a) **ADULT**: 500 mL/hr
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**:
    - I. Age ≥14: 500 mL/hr
    - II. Age 5 to 13: 250 mL/hr
    - III. Age < 5: 125 mL/hr
- 5) Fluid Challenge
  - a) **ADULT and PEDIATRIC**: 250 to 500 mL bolus with reassessment after each administration

## Special Considerations

- 1) Watch for pulmonary edema in cardiac compromise patient
- 2) Be cautious in any elderly patient history of renal insufficiency, or congestive heart failure
- 3) Watch for infiltration at the site of the IV or IO

# Ketamine (Ketalar)

## Pain Management



<b>**Waivered Medication**</b>		
<b>Provider Level</b>	<b>1<sup>ST</sup> Dose</b>	<b>Repeat Doses</b>
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO x 3 doses

### Description

- a) An anesthetic agent with potent analgesic properties and the ability to produce a cataleptic state often referred to as “dissociative analgesia”

### Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 30 seconds IV/IO; 3 to 4 minutes IM/IN
- 2) Duration: 10 to 15 minutes IV/IO; 15 to 30 minutes IM/IN

### Indications

- 1) Analgesia for severe pain

### Contraindications

- 1) Known hypersensitivity
- 2) <7 years old

### Adverse Reactions

- 1) Involuntary and tonic-clonic like movements (rare)
- 2) Extreme salivation

### Dosage & Administration

- 1) **ADULT** and **PEDIATRIC >7 yo:**
  - a) **20 mg IV/IO**
    - i. Repeat as needed every 10-15 minutes up to 3 **TOTAL** doses
    - ii. If time allows, add to a 50 mL NS or D<sub>5</sub>W bag, administered over 5 to 10 minutes and titrate to effect to reduce emergence delirium
  - b) **40 mg IN/IM**
    - i. Repeat as needed every 15-30 minutes up to 3 **TOTAL** doses
  - c) **Contact Medical Control** for additional doses

### Special Considerations

- 1) If extreme salivation after administration, consider administration of [ATROPINE](#)
- 2) Consider anti emetic prior to administration, see [NAUSEA/VOMITING GUIDELINE](#)



# KETORALAC (TORADOL)

Provider Level	1st Dose
EMR	NO
EMT	NO
EMT-IV	NO
AEMT	NO
Intermediate	NO
Paramedic	SO

## Description

a). It is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAIDs). This medication exhibits analgesic, anti-inflammatory, and antipyretic activity. It works by inhibiting the synthesis of prostaglandins. It does not have sedative properties and is a peripherally acting analgesic

## Onset & Duration

- 1). Onset: 1-3 minutes IV/IO; 30-60 minutes IM
- 2). Duration: Varies by age; adult 2-9 hours

## Indications

- 1). Mild to moderate pain

## Contraindications

- 1) Hypersensitivity
- 2) Allergy to other NSAIDs
- 3) Do Not Administer if patient had NSAID's in last 4 hours
- 4) Severe renal disease or kidney transplant
- 5) Bleeding disorders
- 6) Pregnancy

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Nausea, vomiting, bloating, gas, loss of appetite
- 2) Sweating, dizziness, drowsiness, blurred vision, dry mouth
- 3) Irritation at the injection site and abnormal tastes may also occur

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) a). **ADULT: 15mg IV/IO or 30mg IM**
  - Not Repeated
- b). **PEDIATRIC >2 Years: 0.5mg/kg IV/IO/IM, MAX dose 15mg, or 30mg IM**
  - Not Repeated

## Special Considerations

- 1). Increase risk of bleeding when combined with other NSAIDs

# Lidocaine

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses	2% IO Anesthetic 1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	2% IO Anesthetic Repeat Dose
EMR	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO	SO	SO
Intermediate	VO	VO	SO	SO
Paramedic	SO	SO	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Lidocaine is a local anesthetic that has analgesic, anti-hyperalgesic and anti-inflammatory properties

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 1 ½ min IV/IO
- 2) Duration: 10 to 20 min IV/IO (remains in body for up to 2 hours)

## Indications

- 1) Local anesthetic for relief of pain during intraosseous fluid administration
- 2) Alternative to Amiodarone for ventricular tachycardia

## Contraindications

- 1) Allergy or hypersensitivity to lidocaine
- 2) SA/AV/intraventricular heart block in the absence of artificial pacemaker
- 3) CHF, cardiogenic shock, second and third-degree heart block (if no pacemaker is present),
- 4) Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome (WPW)

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Lidocaine toxicity is possible with repeat dosing, which can cause CNS disturbances and hypotension

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) Lidocaine 2% Solution: Anesthetic prior to intraosseous infusion
  - a) **ADULT** and **PEDIATRIC**: 0.5 mg/kg IO bolus, slow push
    - i. **MAX** dose 50 mg
- 2) VT Regular Monomorphic ONLY
  - a) **ADULT**: 1.5 mg/kg, repeat q5-10 at half original, MAX 3 mg/kg

## Special Considerations

- 1) Elderly patients and those with liver disease or poor liver perfusion secondary to shock or congestive heart failure are more likely to experience side effects. Side effects can include seizures, drowsiness, tachycardia, bradycardia, confusion, hypotension, paresthesia, slurred speech, and nystagmus (early sign of toxicity)
- 2) Seizure from lidocaine toxicity is likely to be brief and self-limited. If prolonged, or status epilepticus, treat per [SEIZURE](#) guideline
- 3) Lidocaine is NOT recommended for monomorphic IRREGULAR wide complex tachycardias. If stable, **SUPPORTIVE CARE ONLY**
- 4) Lidocaine is no longer indicated in adult cardiac arrests
- 5) Lidocaine drips are no longer recommended

# Lorazepam (Ativan)

Condition	Anxiety/Sedation/Seizure/Pain	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	VO	VO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Sedative hypnotic with short onset of effects and relatively long half-life; by increasing the action of gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA), which is a major inhibitory neurotransmitter in the brain, lorazepam may depress all levels of the CNS, including limbic and reticular formation

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 1 to 3 minutes (IV), 15 to 30 minutes (IM)
- 2) Duration: Up to 8 hours

## Indications

- 1) Status epilepticus
- 2) Sedation of the severely anxious, agitated, and/or combative patient
- 3) To treat pain due to muscle spasms
- 4) Post-intubation sedation
- 5) Sedation for cardioversion

## Contraindications

- 1) Known hypersensitivity

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Respiratory depression, including apnea
- 2) Hypotension and volume-related tachycardia

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) Anxiety/ Agitation, Behavioral sedation, Pain due to spasm
  - a) **ADULT**: Up to 2 mg IV/IO/IM/IN over 1 to 2 minutes; may repeat every 10 minutes as needed
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO/IM/IN over 1 to 2 minutes, **MAX** single dose of 2 mg; may repeat q 10 mins as needed
- 2) Active seizure
  - a) **ADULT**: 2 mg IN/IM/IV/IO; may repeat every 10 minutes as needed
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: 0.1 mg/kg IN/IM/IV/IO, **MAX** single dose of 2 mg; may repeat q 10 minutes as needed
- 3) Post-intubation sedation
  - a) **ADULT**: 2 mg IV/IO; may repeat every 10 minutes as needed
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: **NOT** Allowed
- 4) Cardioversion sedation
  - a) **ADULT**: Up to 2 mg IV/IO/IM/IN over 1 to 2 minutes
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO/IM/IN over 1 to 2 minutes

## Special Considerations

- 1) Strongly consider ½ typical dosing in elderly patients or when combining with opioids
- 2) Use caution in patients believed to be hypotensive
- 3) Extreme care must be used in the elderly, very ill patients and to those with limited pulmonary reserve because of the possibility that apnea

# Magnesium Sulfate

Condition	Cardiac/Respiratory		Eclampsia	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO	NO	NO
Intermediate	NO	NO	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	NO	SO	NO

## Description

- a) Magnesium is a natural element found within the human body that is a cofactor for many enzymatic reactions. Magnesium is essential for the function of the sodium-potassium pump. It prevents or controls convulsions by blocking neuromuscular transmission. It has a depressant effect on the CNS, acts as a physiological calcium channel blocker, and may reduce the incidence of post-infarction ventricular dysrhythmias

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Immediate
- 2) Duration: 30 minutes

## Indications

- 1) Eclampsia
- 2) Polymorphic V-tach (Torsades)
- 3) Asthma not responsive to albuterol
- 4) COPD

## Contraindications

- 1) Should not be administered parenterally in patients with heart block

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) May produce heart block and diminish reflexes

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) **ADULT:**
  - a) Torsades de Pointes: 2 grams in 50 mL NS or D<sub>5</sub>W infused over 5 to 10 minutes IV/IO; rapid IV/IO push in cardiac arrest
    - i. **NOT** repeated
  - b) Status Asthmaticus/COPD: 2 grams in 50 mL NS or D<sub>5</sub>W IV/IO over 10 minutes IV/IO
    - i. **NOT** repeated
  - c) Eclampsia: 5 grams in 50 mL NS or D<sub>5</sub>W over 5 to 10 minutes (rapid IV/IO push in cardiac arrest)
    - i. **NOT** repeated
- 2) **PEDIATRIC:**
  - a) Status Asthmaticus: 50 mg/kg in 50 mL NS or D<sub>5</sub>W over 5 to 10 minutes IV/IO
    - i. **NOT** repeated

## Special Considerations

- 1) Pronounced respiratory depression possible, so be prepared to intervene
- 2) Pregnant patients **DO NOT** need to be actively seizing to administer; if there was a witnessed seizure or there is a high suspicion of seizure activity prior to arrival, the patient **SHOULD** receive magnesium



# Methylprednisolone (Solu-Medrol)

Provider Level	1 <sup>ST</sup> Doses	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	VO	NO
Paramedic	SO	NO

## Description

---

- a) It is a synthetic steroid that suppresses acute and chronic inflammation and may alter the immune response. In addition, it potentiates vascular smooth muscle relaxation by beta-adrenergic agonists and may alter airway hyperactivity
- b) May be used in place of dexamethasone if it is unavailable

## Onset & Duration

---

- 1) Onset: Within 20 minutes
- 2) Duration: 6 to 12 hours

## Indications

---

- 1) Moderate to severe allergic reaction or anaphylaxis
- 2) Severe asthma
- 3) COPD Exacerbation
- 4) Suspected Croup with resting stridor **ONLY**
- 5) Suspected Addisonian Crisis (cardiovascular collapse in patient at risk for adrenal insufficiency)

## Contraindications

---

- 1) Known hypersensitivity

## Adverse Reactions

---

- 1) Gastrointestinal bleeding (in oral doses only)
- 2) Hypertension
- 3) Hyperglycemia

## Dosage & Administration

---

- 1) **ADULT**: 125 mg bolus IV/IO slow over 2 minutes or IM; **NOT** repeated
- 2) **PEDIATRIC**: 2 mg/kg bolus IV/IO slow over 2 minutes or IM, **NOT** to exceed 125 mg; **NOT** repeated

## Special Considerations

---

- 1) Must be reconstituted and used immediately
- 2) It is not considered a first line drug; do not delay transport to administer this drug

# Midazolam (Versed)

Condition	Sedation/Seizures/Pain		Post-Advanced Airway	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO	NO	NO
Intermediate	VO	VO	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO	SO	SO

## Description

- a) It is a shorter-acting benzodiazepine central nervous system depressant that produces sedation and lack of recall

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 1 to 3 minutes
- 2) Duration: 2 to 6 hours

## Indications

- 1) Status epilepticus
- 2) Sedation of the severely anxious, agitated, and/or combative patient
- 3) Premedication prior to cardioversion
- 4) Post-advanced airway placement with return of gag reflex

## Contraindications

- 1) Known hypersensitivity
- 2) Procedural sedation

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Respiratory depression, including apnea
- 2) Hypotension and volume-related tachycardia

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) Comfort Measures: (cardioversion, post-intubation sedation, behavioral sedation)
  - a) **ADULT**: Up to 2.5mg IV/IO/IN/IM; repeat as needed every 10 minutes; **MAX** dose 5 mg
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO/IN/IM; repeat as needed every 10 minutes to a **MAX** of 10 mg; **MAX** single dose 5 mg
- 2) Active Seizures:
  - a) **ADULT**: 5 mg IV/IO/IN/IM; repeat every 10 minutes as needed
  - b) **Pediatric**: 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO/IN/IM; repeat every 10 minutes as needed; **MAX** single dose 5 mg
- 4) Post-Advanced Airway Placement Sedation
  - a) **ADULT**: Up to 5 mg IV/IO/IN/IM; repeat as needed every 10 minutes; **MAX** dose 10 mg
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: **NOT** Allowed

## Special Considerations

- 1) Strongly consider ½ typical dosing in elderly patients or when combining with opioids
- 2) Use caution in patients believed to be hypotensive

# Morphine

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	VO	VO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Opioid analgesics with desired effects of analgesia, euphoria, and sedation. Depresses the central nervous system and sensitivity to pain. Increases venous resistance, decreases venous return, and produces mild peripheral vasodilation
- b) Fentanyl is preferred for pain management, if available

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 1 to 2 minutes
- 2) Duration: 1 to 2 hours

## Indications

- 1) An analgesic used for the reduction of moderate to severe pain

## Contraindications

- 1) Known hypersensitivity
- 2) Hemodynamic instability, respiratory depression, or shock

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Respiratory Depression
- 2) Bradycardia (rare)
- 3) Bronchoconstriction, decrease cough reflex

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) **ADULT**: 2 to 4 mg bolus IV/IO administered over 1 to 2 minutes or rapid IM.
  - a) May repeat as needed every 10minutes.
- 2) **PEDIATRIC**: 0.1 mg/kg bolus IV/IO administered over 1 to 2 minutes or rapid IM
  - a) **MAX** single dose of 4 mg
  - b) May repeat as needed every 10 minutes

## Special Considerations

- 1) NOT indicated in treatment of pain secondary to acute coronary syndrome
- 2) Watch for synergistic effects when given with other CNS depressing medications
- 3) May cause nausea and vomiting, administer slowly and consider an antiemetic
- 4) Strongly consider ½ typical dosing in elderly or when combining with benzodiazepines

# Naloxone (Narcan)

Provider Level	Intranasal 1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Intranasal Repeat Doses	IV, IO, IM 1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	IV, IO, IM Repeat Doses
EMR	SO	SO	NO	NO
EMT	SO	SO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	SO	SO	SO	SO-IV/IO
AEMT	SO	SO	SO	SO
Intermediate	SO	SO	SO	SO
Paramedic	SO	SO	SO	SO

## Description

- a) It is a competitive receptor antagonist

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Within 5 minutes
- 2) Duration: 1 to 4 hours

## Indications

- 1) For reversal of suspected opioid-induced CNS respiratory depression
- 2) Coma from unknown cause **WITH** impaired reflexes and/or respiratory depression

## Contraindications

- 1) Known hypersensitivity

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Tachycardia
- 2) Nausea and/or vomiting
- 3) Pulmonary edema
- 4) Agitation

## Dosage & Administration

- a. **Adult**: Initial dose at 0.5 mg to 1 mg bolus IV/IO/IM/IN
  - i. 2<sup>nd</sup> dose PRN: 1 mg to 2 mg
  - ii. 3<sup>rd</sup> dose PRN: 2 mg to 4 mg
  - iii. If patient symptoms redevelop consider repeating at last therapeutic dose
  - iv. If symptoms do not improve at 4 mg, consider other causes
- b. **Pediatric**:
  - i. **>20 kg**: 0.5 mg bolus IV/IO/IM/IN and titrate to desired effect up to 2 mg total
  - ii. **<20 kg**: 0.01 mg/kg bolus IV/IO/IM/IN and titrate to desired effect up to 2 mg total
  - iii. **Neonate**: **NOT ALLOWED**

## Special Considerations

- 1) Not intended for use unless **respiratory depression or impaired airway reflexes** are present
- 2) Reversal of suspected mild to moderate opioid toxicity is **NOT** indicated in the field as it may greatly complicate treatment and transport as narcotic dependent patients may experience violent withdrawal symptoms
- 3) Patients who receive naloxone **SHOULD** be transported to the hospital for evaluation
- 4) Use with extreme caution in narcotic-dependent patients who may experience withdrawal syndrome
- 5) Administration of high doses of Narcan is strongly discouraged, however higher doses may be indicated in the setting of overdoses due to synthetic opioids (i.e. illegally manufactured fentanyl or Carfentanyl)



# Phenylephrine (Neosynephrine)

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	SO	SO
EMT-IV	SO	SO
AEMT	SO	SO
Intermediate	SO	SO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## **Description**

- a) Phenylephrine is an alpha-adrenergic agonist. When administered intranasally, it causes vasoconstriction in the nasal mucosa and subsequently decreased bleeding and nasal decongestion

## **Onset & Duration**

- 1) Onset: Rapid
- 2) Duration: 20 minutes

## **Indications**

- 1) Nosebleed (epistaxis)

## **Contraindications**

- 1) Known hypersensitivity

## **Precautions**

- 1) Avoid administration into the eyes, which will dilate pupil but not cause any damage

## **Dosage & Administration**

- 1) For patients experiencing an active nosebleed and able to follow commands
  - a) First have patient blow nose to expel clots.
  - b) Administer 2 sprays to each nostril with patient gently sniffing (if possible) until patient can taste the Neosynephrine
  - c) Apply digital pressure to the soft nasal portion or apply commercial nose clip for 20 minutes; repeat as needed

# Nitroglycerin (Nitrostat)

Route	Pt Assisted		Tablet/Spray		Topical Paste	Pulmonary Edema	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses	0.5-2" Dose	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	VO	VO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>EMT-IV</b>	<b>VO</b>	<b>VO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>AEMT</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>VO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
Intermediate	SO	SO	SO	SO	VO	SO	SO
Paramedic	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Short-acting peripheral vasodilator decreasing cardiac preload and afterload

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 1 to 3 minutes
- 2) Duration: 20 to 30 minutes, variable with paste (up to 12 hours)

## Indications

- 1) Hypertension control in congestive heart failure associated with pulmonary edema

## Contraindications

- 1) Hypotension; systolic blood pressure < 100
- 2) Recent use of erectile dysfunction (ED) medication within 24 hours of Viagra and or 48 hours with Cialis/Levitra

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Hypotension
- 2) Syncope
- 3) Headache
- 4) Tachycardia

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) Pulmonary Edema:
  - a) **ADULT:** Sublingual tablet or spray
    - i. **SBP 100 to 120:** 0.4 mg sublingual
    - ii. **SBP 121 to 200:** 0.8 mg sublingual
    - iii. **SBP >200:** 1.2 mg sublingual
    - iv. Repeat 0.4 mg sublingual every 5 minutes PRN titrated to symptoms and blood pressure
  - b) **PEDIATRIC: NOT Allowed**
  - c) **ADULT:** Nitroglycerin Paste (if available): 0.5" to 2" applied to skin, cover with plastic wrap/Tagaderm to prevent smearing
    - i. Monitor systolic blood pressure and wipe off paste if patient becomes hypotensive
  - d) **PEDIATRIC: NOT ALLOWED**

## Special Considerations

- 1) Therapeutic effect of NTG is enhanced, but adverse effects are increased, when patient is upright
- 2) NTG may be given, even to patients using their own paste, discs, or oral long-acting nitrate preparations
- 3) Ideally, IV access, cardiac monitoring and a 12-lead should be obtained prior to administration
- 4) NTG may be effective in relieving chest pain caused by food impaction

# Olanzapine (Zyprexa)



Route	Orally Dissolved Tablets (ODT)
Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose
EMR	NO
EMT	NO
EMT-IV	NO
AEMT	NO
Intermediate	NO
Paramedic	SO

## Description

- An atypical antipsychotic that has dopamine and serotonin 5-HT receptor antagonist that also has anticholinergic, antihistamine, and anti-alpha-adrenergic effects
- Provides a reduction in anxiety

## Onset & Duration

- Onset: 10-15 minutes
- Duration: 2-4 hours

## Indications

- Anxious patient with Mild Agitation (non-combative)
- To avoid the further escalation of the Mild Agitation

## Contraindications

- Known allergy
- Suspected alcohol intoxication
- Pregnancy
- Agitation requiring restraints
- Dementia related agitation

## Adverse Reactions

- Hypotension
- Bradycardia
- Extrapyramidal effects (rare)
- Prolonged QT syndrome (rare)

## Dosage & Administration

- ADULT**: 10mg ODT ages 18-65. Not Repeated.

## Special Considerations

- For Extrapyramidal effects treat with Diphenhydramine guideline

# Ondansetron (Zofran)



Route	Orally Dissolved Tablets (ODT)		IN/IV/IO/IM	
Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	SO	SO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	SO	SO	SO	SO – IV/IO
AEMT	SO	SO	SO	SO
Intermediate	SO	SO	SO	SO
Paramedic	SO	SO	SO	SO

## Description

---

- Serotonin 5-HT<sub>3</sub> receptor antagonist that
- Prevents nausea and vomiting by blocking serotonin

## Onset & Duration

---

- Onset: 10 minutes IV, 40 minutes IM, within 30 minutes ODT
- Duration: 4 hours

## Indications

---

- Nausea or vomiting stemming from any medical or traumatic complaint
- Prophylaxis treatment for opioid [PAIN MANAGEMENT](#), [CPAP](#), [SPINAL MOTION RESTRICTION](#)
- Prophylaxis treatment for any patient with high risk of motion sickness

## Contraindications

---

- Known allergy

## Adverse Reactions

---

- Headache, dizziness, drowsiness, fatigue
- Some patients experience transient blurred vision

## Dosage & Administration

---

- ADULT**: 4 mg ODT/IN/IV/IO/IM repeat as needed every 10 minutes
- PEDIATRIC**:  $\geq 40$  kg; 4 mg ODT/IN/IV/IO/IM, repeat as needed every 10 minutes
- PEDIATRIC**:  $< 40$  kg; 0.1 mg/kg ODT/IN/IV/IO/IM may repeat every 10 minutes

## Special Considerations

---

- Ondansetron can pass into breast milk and may harm nursing baby



# Oral Glucose (Instaglucoose)

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	SO	SO
EMT	SO	SO
EMT-IV	SO	SO
AEMT	SO	SO
Intermediate	SO	SO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Glucose is the body's basic fuel and is required for cellular metabolism
- b) After absorption from GI tract, glucose is distributed in the tissues and provides a prompt increase in circulating blood sugar

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 1 minute
- 2) Duration: Varies on degree of hypoglycemia

## Indications

- 1) Known or suspected hypoglycemia and able to swallow and has a patent airway

## Contraindications

- 1) Inability to swallow or protect airway
- 2) Unable to follow orders or take oral medications

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Nausea

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) **ADULT** and **PEDIATRIC**: 1 to 2 full tubes or 15 to 30 grams buccal, repeat as needed every 10 minutes

## Special Considerations

- 1) Due to gel thickness, there is a potential for airway obstruction or aspiration
- 2) Other sugar sources are acceptable, i.e., fruit juice, candy bar, soda (not diet), etc.
- 3) Assure that signs of altered mental status are present and that other causes for the patient's condition have been considered, including hypoxia, stroke, seizure, alcohol intoxication, drug overdose, head injury, etc.

# Oxygen

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	SO	SO
EMT	SO	SO
EMT-IV	SO	SO
AEMT	SO	SO
Intermediate	SO	SO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Oxygen added to the inspired air increases the amount of oxygen in the blood, and thereby increases the amount delivered to the tissue. Tissue hypoxia causes cell damage and death. Breathing, in most people, is regulated by small changes in the acid-base balance and CO<sub>2</sub> levels. It takes relatively large decreases in oxygen concentration to stimulate respiration

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: Immediate
- 2) Duration: Variable

## Indications

- 1) Moderate to severe medical illness or traumatic injury with suspected hypoxia

## Contraindications

- 1) None in the emergency setting

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Hyperoxemia to oxidative injury as well as coronary and cerebral artery constriction.

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) **ADULT and PEDIATRIC**: Dose is dependent on presentation and baseline O<sub>2</sub> saturation.
  - a) Increase oxygen concentration and delivery device to maintain recommended O<sub>2</sub> levels between 90% to 98%.

## Special Considerations

- 1) Do not withhold oxygen from a COPD patient out of concerns for loss of hypoxic respiratory drive
- 2) Hyperoxemia can be detrimental in the patient with: acute injury, moderate to severe illness, myocardial infarction, and/or stroke. It is important that the provider monitor SpO<sub>2</sub> and EtCO<sub>2</sub> closely

# Racemic Epinephrine

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- Inhalation causes local effects on the upper airway as well as systemic effects from absorption. Vasoconstriction may reduce swelling in the upper airway, and  $\beta$  effects on bronchial smooth muscle may relieve bronchospasm
- May be used instead of nebulized [1:10,000 EPINEPHRINE](#)

## Onset & Duration

- Onset: 1-5 minutes
- Duration: 1-3 hours

## Indications

- Stridor at rest

## Side Effects

- Tachycardia
- Palpitations
- Muscle tremors

## Dosage and Administration

- ADULT** and **PEDIATRIC**: 0.5 ml racemic epinephrine mixed in 3 mL saline, via nebulizer at 6-8 LPM to create a fine mist; administer over 15 minutes

## Special Considerations

- Racemic epi is heat and light-sensitive; store in cool, dark location
- Once removed from the refrigerator, the unopened package is stable at room temperature until the expiration date stated on the package

EMR	EMT	EMT-IV	AEMT	Intermediate	Paramedic
-----	-----	--------	------	--------------	-----------

# Sodium Bicarbonate

Condition	Cardiovascular		Antidote	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO	NO	NO
Intermediate	VO	VO	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO	SO	SO

## Description

- a) Sodium bicarbonate is an alkalotic solution, which neutralizes acids found in the body. Acids are increased when body tissues become hypoxic due to cardiac or respiratory arrest

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 10 to 15 seconds
- 2) Duration: 8 to 10 minutes

## Indications

- 1) Tricyclic or antihistamine overdose with arrhythmias, widened QRS complex or hypotension
- 2) Significant crush injury requiring prolonged extrication
- 3) Suspected hyperkalemia or hyperkalemic pulseless arrest: consider in patients with known renal failure/dialysis
- 4) Severe salicylate overdose

## Contraindications

- 1) Metabolic and/or respiratory alkalosis
- 2) Hypocalcemia
- 3) Hypokalemia

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) Metabolic alkalosis
- 2) Paradoxical cerebral intracellular acidosis
- 3) Sodium bolus can lead to volume overload

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) Suspected hyperkalemia or hyperkalemic pulseless arrest
  - a) **ADULT**: 100 mEq slow bolus over 2 to 5 minutes IV/IO of an 8.4% solution:
    - i. Repeat as needed until cessation of seizures or QRS shortens to <100 ms (if applicable)
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: **NOT** allowed
- 2) Antidote for Tricyclic overdose
  - a) **ADULT**: 100 mEq slow bolus over 2 to 5 minutes IV/IO of an 8.4% solution:
    - i. Repeat as needed until cessation of seizures or QRS shortens to <100 ms (if applicable)
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: 1 mEq/kg slow bolus over 2 to 5 minutes IV/IO of an 8.4% solution; MAX dose 100 mEq
    - i. Repeat as needed until cessation of seizures or QRS shortens to <100 ms (if applicable)
- 3) In severe cases, consider administering via drip
  - a) **ADULT**: Mix 150 mEq (150 mL) in 1000 mL NS or D<sub>5</sub>W and administer at 200 mL/hr
  - b) **PEDIATRIC**: **NOT** allowed

## Special Considerations

- 1) Avoid combining or administering with epinephrine or calcium within the same vascular access line (incompatible), it will precipitate if mixed with sodium bicarbonate
- 2) Multiple vascular access sites preferred, but if not available, flush catheter thoroughly before administering one medication after another
- 3) Alkalinization of urine may increase half-lives of certain drugs
- 4) Vasopressors may be deactivated by Sodium Bicarbonate



# Topical Ophthalmic Anesthetic

Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	SO	VO
Paramedic	SO	VO

## Description

---

- a) Proparacaine and tetracaine are local anesthetics approved for ocular administration for relief of eye pain caused by corneal abrasion or chemical injury

## Onset & Duration

---

- 1) Onset: 15 to 30 seconds
- 2) Duration: 15 to 20 minutes

## Indications

---

- 1) Pain secondary to eye injuries and corneal abrasions
- 2) Topical anesthetic to facilitate eye irrigation

## Contraindications

---

- 1) Known allergy to local anesthetics or to PABA (para-aminobenzoic acid)-containing products
- 2) Globe lacerations or rupture

## Adverse Reactions

---

- 1) Transient burning/stinging when initially applied

## Dosage & Administration

---

- 1) **ADULT** and **PEDIATRIC**: Instill 2 drops into affected eye; repeat as needed every 15 minutes

## Special Considerations

---

- 1) This medication is packaged for single patient use. Unused portions should be discarded, and only new bottles used
- 2) Topical ophthalmic anesthetics should never be given to a patient for self-administration
- 3) During the period of anesthesia, protect the patient's eyes from further injury
  - a) The patient will not be able to feel the introduction of new foreign bodies, chemicals, etc.
  - b) **DO NOT** allow the patient to rub their eyes. Protect the eye from dust and other hazards
- 4) Occasional burning/stinging, tearing, and photophobia may occur upon initial instillation of drops. This is usually a transient side effect and occurs less often with proparacaine

# Tranexamic Acid (TXA)

**Waivered Medication**				
Condition	Epistaxis		Hemorrhage	
Provider Level	1 <sup>ST</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses	1ST Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO	NO	NO
EMT	SO	SO	NO	NO
EMT-IV	SO	SO	NO	NO
AEMT	SO	SO	NO	NO
Intermediate	SO	SO	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO	SO	NO

## Description

a. Tranexamic acid competitively inhibits activation of plasminogen (via binding to the kringle domain), thereby reducing conversion of plasminogen to plasmin (fibrinolysin), an enzyme that degrades fibrin clots, fibrinogen, and other plasma proteins, including the procoagulant factors V and VIII

## Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 10 minutes
- 2) Duration: 3 hours

## Indications

- 1) Uncontrolled epistaxis
- 2) Hemorrhagic shock less than 3 hours old with suspected need for massive transfusion (>10 units PRBC) due to internal or external blood loss (as evidenced by hypotension and signs of poor perfusion) which includes post-partum hemorrhage

## Contraindications

- 1) Epistaxis
  - a. < 13 years old
- 2) Hemorrhage (non-epistaxis related)
  - a. Isolated traumatic head injury
  - b. Time of injury > 3 hours
  - c. Active intravascular clotting (known DVT or PE)
  - d. GI Bleed

## Adverse Reactions

- 1) CNS: Impaired color vision and other visual disturbances
- 2) Body as a Whole: Allergic reactions, thrombotic events
- 3) GI: Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

## Dosage & Administration

- 1) Epistaxis

**Adult:** 250 mg (2.5 mL) Topical or IN; Repeat PRN

  - a. Have the patient clear nostrils (blow nose)
  - b. Place TXA onto a 2x2 gauze pad or cotton ball
  - c. Insert TXA soaked pad into affected nostril(s)
  - d. Apply nose clamp

**Pediatric: NOT ALLOWED**
- 2) Hemorrhage

**Adult:** Mix 2 grams in 50 mL NS or D5W over 10 minutes, IV/IO; **NOT** repeated

**Pediatric:** < 13 years old: **NOT ALLOWED**

## Special Considerations

- 1) Use caution in patients with known renal insufficiency
- 2) Ensure receiving facility has been notified of the administration of TXA and document appropriately

# Vaccines

Provider Level	1 <sup>ST</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Hepatitis B Vaccine (recombinant)

---

- 1) Description
  - a) The vaccines currently in use in the United States are made with recombinant DNA technology and contain protein portions of HBV (usually parts of the outer protein or the surface antigen of HBV). Thus, the vaccines do not contain any live virus. More than 95% of children and adolescents and more than 90% of young, healthy adults develop adequate immunity following the recommended three doses. Persons who respond to the vaccine are protected from both acute hepatitis B infections as well as chronic infection
- 2) Indications
  - a) **Pre–employment/employment related**
- 3) Contraindications
  - a) Known hypersensitivity
- 4) Dosage & Administration
  - a) **ADULT:** 1.0 mL (10 mcg) IM, deltoid is the preferred site
    - i. 3 doses will be required. 1<sup>st</sup> on the elected date, 2<sup>nd</sup> 1 month later, and 3<sup>rd</sup> 6 months from the first dose.
  - b) **PEDIATRIC: NOT** allowed
- 5) General Considerations
  - a) Administered doses should be documented on a vaccination record and provided to the recipient as well as maintained in agency records. Documentation should include the manufacturer, lot number, expiration date, dose given, and site of injection. Recipient should read an information sheet and sign an authorization and consent form before administration
  - b) Pain in arm at the injection site, fever, chills, headache, muscle aches and or allergic reaction may occur
  - c) In the event of a presumed allergic reaction such as hives, angioedema, allergic asthma, or systemic anaphylaxis, see [ANAPHYLAXIS GUIDELINE](#)

## Influenza Virus Vaccine

---

- 1) Description
  - a) Influenza Virus Vaccine is an inoculation of antigens prepared from inactivated influenza virus stimulating the production of specific antibodies. Protection is afforded only against those strains from which the vaccine is prepared or against closely related strains
- 2) Indications
  - a) Any person who, because of age, underlying medical condition, or in close contact with high–risk persons, is at increased risk for complications of influenza
  - b) Persons who wish to reduce their risk of acquiring influenza
- 3) Contraindications
  - a) Known hypersensitivity or allergy to eggs or egg products
- 4) Dosage & Administration
  - a) **ADULT:** 0.5 mL IM
  - b) **PEDIATRIC: NOT** allowed

# Vaccines

## 5) Special Considerations

- a) Pregnant women **MUST** have a note from their Obstetrician
- b) **DO NOT** administer influenza vaccine within 3 days of pertussis vaccine or combined diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis (DPT) vaccine

## 6) General Considerations

- a) Administered doses should be documented on a vaccination record and provided to the recipient as well as maintained in agency records. Documentation should include the manufacturer, lot number, expiration date, dose given, and site of injection. Recipient should read an information sheet and sign an authorization and consent form before administration
- b) Pain in arm at the injection site, fever, chills, headache, muscle aches and or allergic reaction may occur
- c) In the event of a presumed allergic reaction such as hives, angioedema, allergic asthma, or systemic anaphylaxis, see [ANAPHYLAXIS GUIDELINE](#)

## Tetanus-Diphtheria Vaccine (Td)

---

### 2) Description

- a) Td is a tetanus–diphtheria vaccine given to adolescents and adults as a booster shot every 10 years, or after an exposure to tetanus under some circumstances. This vaccine works by exposing you to a small dose of the bacteria or a protein from the bacteria, which causes the body to develop immunity to the disease

### 3) Indications

- a) Pre–employment/employment related if lack of evidence of having received tetanus vaccine in the previous 10 years
- b) Recent deep and contaminated wound (e.g., contaminated with dirt, feces, saliva) and lack of evidence of having received tetanus toxoid–containing vaccine in the previous 5 years

### 4) Contraindications

- a) Known hypersensitivity or allergy
- b) Pregnancy

### 5) Dosage & Administration

- a) **ADULT >18:** 0.5 mL IM, deltoid is the preferred site
- b) **PEDIATRIC:** **NOT** allowed

### 6) Special Considerations

- a) A physician’s consultation is required if history of an unstable neurological condition or history of Guillain–Barré syndrome
- b) Persons with moderate or severe illness on the day any vaccine is scheduled should probably be delayed until full recovery

### 7) General Considerations

- a) At a physician’s discretion, either vaccine may be administered during the 2nd or 3rd trimester
- b) Administered doses should be documented on a vaccination record and provided to the recipient as well as maintained in agency records. Documentation should include the manufacturer, lot number, expiration date, dose given, and site of injection. Recipient should read an information sheet and sign an authorization and consent form before administration
- c) Vaccine should be refrigerated at 36–40 degrees F
- d) Pain in arm at the injection site, fever, chills, headache, muscle aches and or allergic reaction may occur
- e) In the event of a presumed allergic reaction such as hives, angioedema, allergic asthma, or systemic anaphylaxis, see [ANAPHYLAXIS GUIDELINE](#)



# Approved Abbreviations

@ = at	Clr = clear
≈ = approximately	cm = centimeter
≤ = less than or equal to	CMS = circulation, movement, sensation
≥ = greater than or equal to	CNS = central nervous system
Δ = change	CO = carbon monoxide
↓ = decreased or lower	CO <sub>2</sub> = carbon dioxide
1° = primary exam	COPD = chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
2° = secondary exam	CPR = cardiopulmonary resuscitation
ā = before	CSF = cerebrospinal fluid
A/P = anterior/posterior	CSM = carotid sinus massage
AAOx4 = Awake, alert, oriented to person, place, time & event	C-spine = cervical spine
ABC = airway, breathing, circulation	CT = computerized tomography (CAT scan)
Abd = abdomen	CTL-Spine = cervical, thoracic, lumbar spine
AC = antecubital fossa	Cx = chest
AICD = automated internal cardiac defibrillator	D50 = dextrose 50%
AKA = above knee amputation	D5W = dextrose 5% in water
ALS = Advanced Life Support	Defib = defibrillation
AMI = acute myocardial infarction	Dig = Digoxin, Lanoxin
Ant = anterior	DKA = diabetic ketoacidosis
APAP = acetaminophen	DOA = dead on arrival
ARD = acute respiratory distress	Dx = diagnosis
ASA = aspirin	ECG = electrocardiogram
AV = atrioventricular or arteriovenous	ED = Emergency Department
AVPU = alert, verbal, pain, unresponsive	EKG = electrocardiogram
B/P = blood pressure	EMS = Emergency Medical Services
BG = blood glucose	ER = Emergency Room
BGL = blood glucose level	ETA = estimated time of arrival
Bilat = bilaterally	EtCO <sub>2</sub> = End tidal carbon dioxide
BKA = below knee amputation	ETOH = beverage alcohol
BLS = Basic Life Support	ETT = endotracheal tube
bpm = beats per minute	Exp = expiration
BVM = bag-valve-mask	F = Fahrenheit
C = Centigrade	FA = forearm
c = with	FBAO = foreign body airway obstruction
c/o = complains of	Fx = fracture
C/P = chest pain	G or Gm = gram
C2 = code 2 (non-emergent)	GCS = Glasgow Coma Scale or Score
C3 = code 3 (emergent)	GERD = gastro-esophageal reflux disease
CA = cancer	GI = gastrointestinal
CABG = coronary artery bypass graft	GSW = gunshot wound
CaCl = calcium chloride	H/P = history and physical
CAD = coronary artery disease	HI = head injury
CC = chief complaint	Hosp = Hospital
cc = cubic centimeter	HR = heart rate
CCT = critical care transport	HTN = hypertension
CHB = complete heart block	Hx = history
CHF = congestive heart failure	ICP = intracranial pressure
CHI = closed head injury	ICS = intercostal space
	ICU = Intensive care unit
	IM = intramuscular

# Approved Abbreviations

IO = intraosseous	NSR = normal sinus rhythm
IV = intravenous	NTG = nitroglycerin
IVP = intravenous push	∅ = no, none
J = Joule	O <sub>2</sub> = oxygen
JVD = jugular venous distention	OAOB = odor of alcohol on breath
KCl = potassium chloride	OB = obstetrical
Kg = kilogram	Occ = occipital
L = left	OD = overdose
l = liter	OM = otitis media
LAD = left axis deviation or left anterior descending	OP = oropharyngeal
LAH = left anterior hemiblock	OPA = oral pharyngeal airway
lb = pound	oz = ounce
LBB = left bundle branch block	p = after
LLQ = left lower quadrant	P#/G# = para # / gravida # (P1G1)
LMP = last menstrual period	PAC = premature atrial contraction
LOC = loss of consciousness	Palp = palpation
LPH = left posterior hemiblock	PE = pulmonary embolus
lpm = liters per minute	PEA = pulseless electrical activity
LR = lactated ringer	PG = pregnant
LS = lung sounds	PJC = premature junctional contraction
LSB = long spine board	PMS = pulse, movement, sensation
LUQ = left upper quadrant	PN = pneumonia
mA = milliamps	PO = by mouth
mcg = microgram	POP = pain on palpation
MCL = mid-clavicular line	Post = posterior
meds = medications	PR = per rectum; rectally
mEq = milli-equivalent	PRI = P-R interval relating to ECG
mg = milligram	PRN = as needed
mg/dL = milligrams per deciliter	PSI = pounds per square inch
MgSO <sub>4</sub> = Magnesium Sulfate	PSVT = paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia
min = minute	Pt = patient
mL = milliliter	PTA = Prior to arrival
mmHG = millimeters of mercury	PTS = post-traumatic stress
MOI = mechanism of injury	PVC = premature ventricular contraction
MRI = magnetic resonance imaging	Px = pain
MVC = motor vehicle crash	q = every
N/V = nausea/vomiting	R = right
N/V/D = nausea/vomiting/diarrhea	Rad = radial pulse
NAD = no acute distress	RAD = right axis deviation
NaHCO <sub>3</sub> = Sodium Bicarbonate	RBB = right bundle branch block
NC = nasal cannula	RCA = right circumflex artery
NEB = nebulizer	Resp = respiration
NG tube = nasogastric tube	RLQ = right lower quadrant
NKDA = no known drug allergies	RR = respiratory rate
NL = non labored	RSI = rapid sequence induction or intubation
NP = nasopharyngeal	RUQ = right upper quadrant
NPA = nasal pharyngeal airway	Rx = prescribed for
NPO = nothing by mouth	s/p = status post
NRB = non re-breather mask	s/s = signs and symptoms
NS = normal saline	SaO <sub>2</sub> = oxygen saturation

# Approved Abbreviations

sec = second

SL = sublingual

SMOE = sensation, movement of extremity

SOB = shortness of breath

SQ = subcutaneous

ST = S-T segment relative to ECG

Sux - Succinylcholine

synch = synchronous

Sz = seizure

TB = tuberculosis

TCA = tricyclic antidepressant

TCP = transcutaneous pacemaker

Temp = temperature

TIA = transient ischemic attack

TKO = to keep open (minimum IV rate)

Tx = treatment

U/A = upon arrival

URI = upper respiratory infection

UTI = urinary tract infection

V. Fib. = ventricular fibrillation

V. Tach. = ventricular tachycardia

VF = ventricular fibrillation

VS = vital signs

VT = ventricular tachycardia

W/D/P = warm, dry, pink skin

W/O = without

WNL = within normal limits

WPW = Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome

μ = micro

μg = microgram

# Quick Reference Guide



**NA – Not Allowed**    **S= Standing Order**    **VO = Verbal Order**    **W = Waivered**

<b>Airway Procedures</b>	EMR	EMT	EMT-IV	AEMT	EMT-I	EMT-P
Capnography	NA	S	S	S	S	S
Supraglottic Airway Device	NA	S	S	S	S	S
Continuous Positive Airway Pressure	NA	S	S	S	S	S
Adult Oral Intubation (13 years & older)	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S
Pediatric Oral Intubation	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Nasal Intubation	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Rapid Sequence Induction (13 years & older)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bougie-assisted Surgical Cricothyrotomy	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S
Needle Cricothyrotomy	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S
Needle Thoracostomy for Tension Pneumothorax	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S
Nasogastric/ Orogastric Tube Insertion	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S

<b>Cardiovascular Procedures</b>	EMR	EMT	IV	AEMT	EMT-I	EMT-P
Cardiac Monitoring (Noninterpretive)	S	S	S	S	S	S
Cardiac Monitoring (Interpretive)	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S
12-Lead ECG (Interpretive)	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S
Automated External Defibrillator	S	S	S	S	S	S
Mechanical CPR Devices	S	S	S	S	S	S
Manual Defibrillation	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S
Synchronized Cardioversion	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S
Transcutaneous Pacing (TCP)	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S
Vagal Maneuvers	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S

<b>Monitoring Devices</b>	EMR	EMT	IV	AEMT	EMT-I	EMT-P
Blood Glucose Monitor	S	S	S	S	S	S
SpO <sub>2</sub> Monitor	S	S	S	S	S	S
EtCO <sub>2</sub> Monitor	S	S	S	S	S	S
SpCO Monitor	S	S	S	S	S	S

<b>Vascular Access/Wound Care</b>	EMR	EMT	IV	AEMT	EMT-I	EMT-P
Intravascular Access (Peripheral)	NA	NA	S	S	S	S
Intravascular Access (External Jugular)	NA	NA	NA	S	S	S
Intravascular Access (Umbilical Vein)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Intravascular Access (Arteriovenous Fistula)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Use of Established Central Line - Pt. in Extremis	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S
Intraosseous Access - Pt. in Extremis (Adult & Pediatric)	NA	NA	S	S	S	S
Intraosseous Access (All Other Patients)	NA	NA	NA	S	S	S
Spinal Motion Restriction	S	S	S	S	S	S
Extremity Splinting	S	S	S	S	S	S
Eye Irrigation (Non-Invasive)	S	S	S	S	S	S
Eye Irrigation Morgan Lens	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S
Hemostatic Agents	S	S	S	S	S	S
Occlusive Dressing	S	S	S	S	S	S
Pelvic Binder	S	S	S	S	S	S
Pressure Dressing	S	S	S	S	S	S

**EMR**    **EMT**    **EMT-IV**    **AEMT**    **Intermediate**    **Paramedic**    **Waivered**



# Quick Reference Guide



NA – Not Allowed    S= Standing Order    VO = Verbal Order    W = Waivered

Vascular Access/Wound Care	EMR	EMT	IV	AEMT	EMT-I	EMT-P
Traction Splint	S	S	S	S	S	S
Tourniquet	S	S	S	S	S	S
Wound Packing	S	S	S	S	S	S

General / Miscellaneous	EMR	EMT	IV	AEMT	EMT-I	EMT-P
Joint Reductions- shoulder, patella, fingers & toes	NA	S	S	S	S	S
Over-the-Counter-Medications (Includes PO Acetaminophen, PO Benadryl, and PO Ibuprofen)	S	S	S	S	S	S
Specialized Rx medications used to address acute crisis	VO	VO	VO	VO	VO	VO
Vaccine Administration – Public Health Related	NA	NA	NA	S	S	S

This is a quick reference for **Prehospital Medications and Administration Routes Allowed by Scope of Practice**. Certain medications have multiple indications; you are required to know which indications and dosages are in your scope of practice

Medication Administration Routes Allowed	EMR	EMT	IV	AEMT	EMT-I	EMT-P
Auto-injector	S	S	S	S	S	S
Buccal	S	S	S	S	S	S
Endotracheal Tube	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S
Extra-abdominal Umbilical Vein	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S
Intramuscular (IM) - 1:1000 epinephrine only	NA	S	S	S	S	S
Intramuscular (IM)	NA	NA	NA	S	S	S
Intranasal (IN) / Atomized	S	S	S	S	S	S
Intraosseous (IO)	NA	NA	S	S	S	S
Intravenous – IV Bolus/ IV Push	NA	NA	S	S	S	S
Nebulized	NA	S	S	S	S	S
Oral (ODT/ PO)	S	S	S	S	S	S
Nasogastric/ Orogastric	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S
Rectal	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S
Subcutaneous (SQ)	NA	NA	NA	S	S	S
Sublingual (SL)	NA	S	S	S	S	S
Mechanical Infusion Pumps	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S

Medications	EMR	EMT	IV	AEMT	EMT-I	EMT-P
Adenosine	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Acetaminophen (PO)	S	S	S	S	S	S
Albuterol Sulfate	NA	S	S	S	S	S
Amiodarone	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Ancef (Cefazolin)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S
Aspirin	S	S	S	S	S	S
Atropine	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Atrovent (Ipratropium Bromide)	NA	NA	NA	VO	VO	S
Calcium Chloride 10% & Calcium Gluconate 10%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S
Dexamethasone (Decadron)	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Dextrose (Intravenous)	NA	NA	S	S	S	S
Diazepam (Valium)	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Diltiazem (Cardizem)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S
Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)	NA	NA	NA	VO	VO	S

EMR    EMT    EMT-IV    AEMT    Intermediate    Paramedic    Waivered

# Quick Reference Guide



**NA – Not Allowed**    **S= Standing Order**    **VO = Verbal Order**    **W = Waivered**

Medications	EMR	EMT	IV	AEMT	EMT-I	EMT-P
Epinephrine (1:1,000 IM only)	NA	S	S	S	S	S
Epinephrine (1:10,000 IV/IO)	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Epinephrine (1:1,000 Nebulized)	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Epinephrine (Auto Injector)	S	S	S	S	S	S
Etomidate (Amidate)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Fentanyl (Sublimaze)	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Glucagon - Hypoglycemia	NA	NA	NA	S	S	S
Glucagon – Calcium Channel & Beta Blocker Overdose	NA	NA	NA	VO	VO	S
Haloperidol (Haldol)	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Droperidol (Inapsine)	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S
Hydroxocobalamin (Cyanokit)	NA	NA	NA	NA	S	S
Ibuprofen (PO)	S	S	S	S	S	S
Isotonic IV Solutions (NS, LR, D5W)	NA	NA	S	S	S	S
Ketalar (Ketamine)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S
Ketoralac (Toradol)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S
Lorazepam (Ativan)	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Lidocaine (Xylocaine)	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Lidocaine 2% Solution – Anesthetic for IO Insertion	NA	NA	NA	S	S	S
Magnesium Sulfate	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI)	S	S	S	S	S	S
Methylprednisolone (Solu-Medrol)	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Midazolam (Versed)	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Morphine	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Narcan (IN & Autoinjector)	S	S	S	S	S	S
Narcan (IO/ IV/ IM)	NA	NA	S-IV/IO	S	S	S
Neosynephrine (Phenylephrine)	NA	S	S	S	S	S
Nitroglycerin (Nitrostat) Patient Assisted	NA	VO	VO	S	S	S
Nitroglycerin (Nitrostat) Agency Supplied	NA	NA	NA	S	S	S
Nitroglycerin - Topical Paste	NA	NA	NA	VO	VO	S
Olanzapine (Zyprexa)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S
Ondansetron (Zofran) ODT	NA	S	S	S	S	S
Ondansetron (Zofran) IV/IO/IM	NA	NA	S-IV/IO	S	S	S
Oral Glucose (Instaglucoese)	S	S	S	S	S	S
Oxygen	S	S	S	S	S	S
Racemic Epinephrine	NA	NA	NA	VO	VO	S
Rocuronium Bromide (Zemuron)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sodium Bicarbonate	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Succinylcholine (Anectine)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Topical Ophthalmic Anesthetic	NA	NA	NA	NA	VO	S
Tranexamic Acid (TXA) Epistaxis	NA	S	S	S	S	S
Tranexamic Acid (TXA) Hemorrhage	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S
Vaccines	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	S
Vecuronium (Norcuron)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

**6 CCR 1015-3 CHAPTER TWO - RULES PERTAINING TO EMS PRACTICE AND MEDICAL DIRECTOR OVERSIGHT.**

EMR    EMT    **EMT-IV**    AEMT    Intermediate    Paramedic    Waivered

# Pikes Peak Regional Health



## **Pikes Peak Regional Health Specific Destination Guidelines**

Patients meeting any of the following criteria shall not be transported to Pikes Peak Regional Hospital, unless needed for stabilization at the discretion of the prehospital providers:

- 1) Cardiorespiratory arrest patients with return of spontaneous circulation
  - a) Pulseless patients should be taken to Pikes Peak Regional, if even transported
  - b) Hemodynamically abnormal or difficulty airway patients may be taken to Pikes Peak Regional for stabilization if the prehospital crew is concerned about management during transport
- 2) Surgical patients with any of the following:
  - a) Acute hypoxia with field-initiated oxygen  $\geq$  4lpm
  - b) Hemophiliacs or other bleeding disorders (does not include cirrhosis or patients on anti-coagulants)
  - c) Less than 15 years of age
- 3) Combative or significantly altered psychiatric or alcohol clients
- 4) 12-lead EKG confirmed STEMI\* or confirmed elevated troponin
- 5) Patients meeting trauma guidelines for transport to other destinations
- 6) Suspected aortic dissection or aneurysm
- 7) Patient intubated or on a ventilator
- 8) Orthopedic injury with vascular compromise after attempted field reduction
- 9) GI bleed with any of the following:
  - a) Active hemorrhaging
  - b) Anticoagulation (not including Aspirin, Plavix, Brillinta, other anti-platelets)
- 10) Ischemic extremities
- 11) Impending respiratory failure
- 12) Moderate to severe hypothermia (will accept isolated frozen extremity for tPA administration prior to transfer to burn center)
- 13) Complications of pregnancy  $\geq$  20 weeks gestation
- 14) Pediatric patients with any of the following\*\*:
  - a) Neonates up to 2 months post-gestation age
  - b) Depressed or deteriorating neurologic status
  - c) Persistent respiratory distress or failure
  - d) Requiring endotracheal intubation and/or ventilatory support
  - e) Suspected abuse (should be transported to Children's Hospital Colorado Springs)
  - f) Shock, uncompensated or compensated
  - g) Potential need for invasive monitoring (arterial and/or central venous pressure)
  - h) Potential need for intercranial pressure monitoring
  - i) Potential need for vasoactive medication

\*If, due to weather or other circumstances, a STEMI patient is expected to have transport time or longer than 60 minutes to a non-PCI facility, transport to the closest Emergency Department (Pikes Peak Regional or St. Thomas More) shall occur for consideration of administration of IV thrombolytics

\*\*Pediatric or neonatal patients requiring potential PICU or NICU care should be transferred to Children's Hospital Colorado Springs. Neonatal patients up to two months of age requiring potential NICU admission should be transferred to either Memorial Central, Children's Hospital Colorado Springs or St. Francis

\*\*\*BLS ambulances may transport any patient to Pikes Peak Regional Hospital even if any of the above criteria are met



# PULSARA TIP SHEET

Version: v24.7098

## ETA

This is a mandatory field. It will need to be adjusted to your estimated ETA, not what the system generates.

## DL (Drivers License) Scan

Scanning the drivers license can auto populate your patient information for you. Scan back side lengthwise.

The screenshot shows the 'New Patient' form with the following fields: Patient (DL Scan button circled in red), First Name (JANE), Last Name (DOE), Date of Birth (Month: 1, Day: 1, Year: 1999), Age (23), Gender (Female), and Height. There are also checkboxes for 'Unknown' and an 'ADD' button.

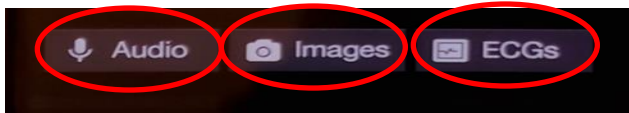
The screenshot shows the 'New Patient' form with the following fields: EMS (Select EMS Agency), First Contact (20:07), At Patient (Set), ETA (20:20, circled in red), and EMS Acuity (Select EMS Acuity).

## Vital Signs

Click the blue circle with + on it at the bottom of the page. It is best practice to get worst set of vitals and most recent.

## Audio/Images/ECGs

You have the option to add audio, which in times where you don't have time to fill out everything or need to clarify information can be quite handy. Images can be MVC, injuries, or anything you think would help with patient continuity of care. 1 ECG is great, more than 1 is even better for trends.



The screenshot shows the 'Add Patient Data' form with the following buttons: Audio Clip, Contact, ECG, Image, Labs, and Vitals (circled in red).

The screenshot shows the 'Patient Type' form with the following fields: Patient Type, Chief Complaint, Destination, and Select Destination. A large 'ACTIVATE' button is visible, and a blue circle with a '+' icon is circled in red at the bottom right.

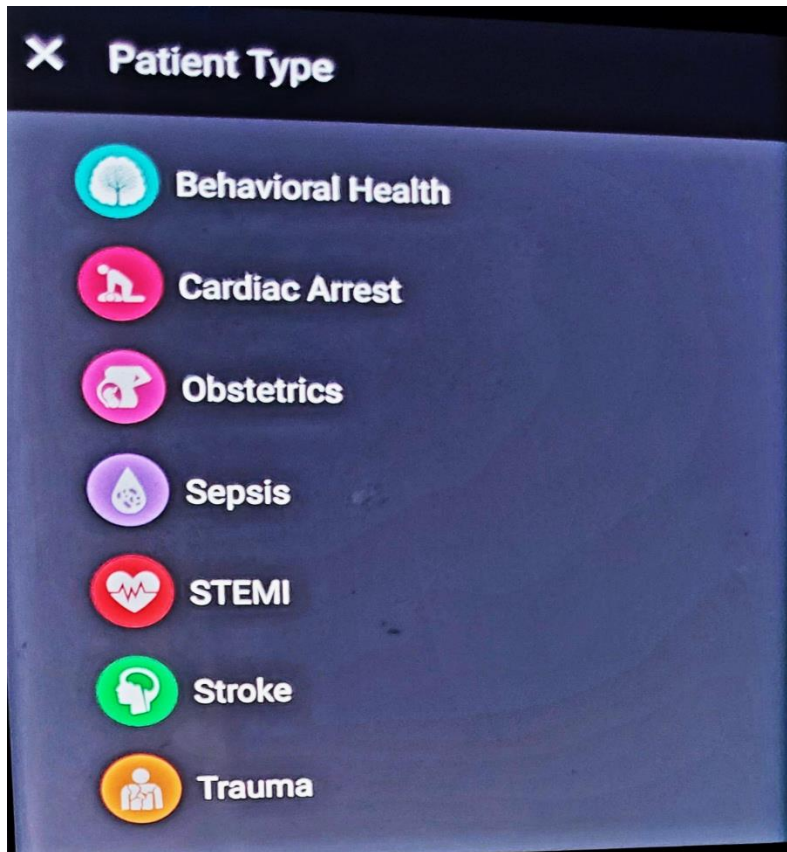


# PULSARA TIP SHEET



## **Patient Type Selection:**

This gives you more options for how to categorize your patient. Making it better for continuity of care and communication with the receiving hospital.



# Hakkarinen Specific



**Purpose:**

---

- a. This section is made for Dr. Hakkarinen's specific guidelines Only.
- b. Only agencies who have been approved and signed off can follow these guidelines.
- c. Do not perform these skills/medications if you have not been approved through your agency.
- d. Note: all medications that can be run on a pump are allowed for City of Fountain Fire Department.

# MEDICATION ASSISTED AIRWAY MANAGEMENT (MAAM)

## Description

- a. **ONLY** paramedics that have successfully completed an approved training program sponsored by the agency for which the provider intends to utilize MAAM are authorized users of this guideline
  - MAAM can be time consuming and is **NEVER** an emergent airway. It is a complex airway management technique that requires substantial organization and understanding on the part of the paramedic
- b. MAAM certified paramedics **MUST** maintain proficiency
  - The agency for which the paramedic provides MAAM services **MUST** possess a valid procedure waiver from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and the Emergency Medical Practice Advisory Council (EMPAC)
- c. All medications in this guideline will be given by standing order
  - Medications or dosages may **NOT** be changed in any way, including by on-line medical control
  - **ONLY** RSI waived paramedics are **ALLOWED** to administer MAAM specific medications

## Indications (general)

- a. Age of the patient **≥13 YEARS OLD**
- b. MAAM candidates include, but not limited to;
  - Combative closed head injury patients, with or without trismus; or suspected subarachnoid hemorrhage, intracranial masses, or ischemic strokes resulting in significant impairment of mental status with resultant combativeness and/or trismus
  - Glasgow Coma Scale  $\leq 8$
  - Status seizures
  - Severe respiratory failure and or impairment with an intact gag reflex or imminent respiratory arrest

## Selection Criteria

- a. Principles of good selection will result in avoidance of almost all of the common difficulties in failing to secure a tracheal intubation
- b. There are three (3) basic rules regarding patient selection that **MUST** be reviewed every time a MAAM procedure is considered. These rules incorporate and summarize the general concepts of selection criteria outlined in detail in the MAAM course and are formatted as questions
  - **Can I get a good facial seal with the Bag-Valve-Mask?**
  - **Is the airway patent?**
  - **Do I think I can place an advanced airway in this patient?**

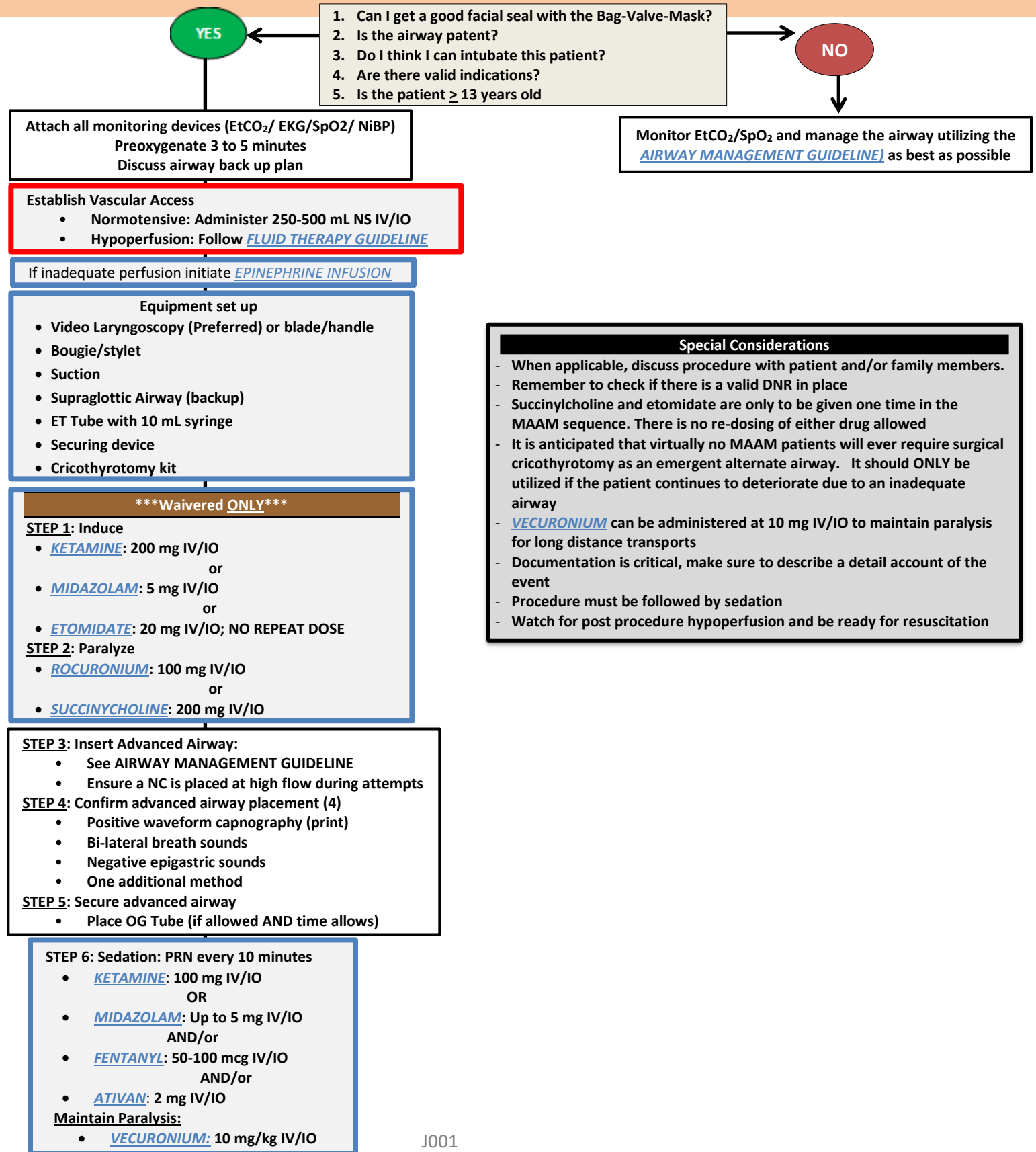
## Contraindications

- a. Any absolute contraindication to the induction agent or paralytic
- b. Patients who **DO NOT** meet the selection criteria for intubation as discussed above
- c. Patients who **DO NOT** possess a gag reflex, rendering MAAM medications unnecessary
- d. Age of the patient **<13 YEARS OLD**

## Complications

- a. Cardiac dysrhythmias related to the use of succinylcholine
- b. Malignant Hyperthermia or the suspected presence of pseudocholinesterase deficiency
- c. Failure to Intubate
- d. Unrecognized esophageal intubation
- e. Vomiting and aspiration
- f. Hypotension
- g. Excessive gagging on back-up airway when used in failed intubations

# MEDICATION ASSISTED AIRWAY MANAGEMENT (MAAM)





# Etomidate



***WAIVERED - FOUNTAIN FIRE ONLY***		
Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Dose
EMT	NO	NO
E <sup>MT-IV</sup>	NO	NO
A <sup>EMT</sup>	NO	NO
Intermediate-99	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	NO

## Description

---

- A hypnotic drug

## Onset & Duration

---

- Onset: 30 to 60 seconds
- Duration: 3 to 5 minutes

## Indications

---

- Induction for MAAM (MAAM Paramedic ONLY)
- Hypnotic agent used in conjunction with a paralytic to facilitate adult ( $\geq 13$  years of age) MAAM
- A sedative/hypnotic agent used in the case of patient's requiring urgent electrical cardioversion

## Contraindications

---

- Known hypersensitivity

## Adverse Reactions

---

- Transient myoclonic skeletal muscle movements noted in approximately 30% of patient
- Transient pain at site of injection has been reported
- Nausea/Vomiting when drug wears off

## Dosage & Administration

---

- Adult**: 30 mg/kg IV/IO, **NOT** repeated
- Pediatric**: 0.3 mg/kg IV/IO, **NOT** repeated

## Special Considerations

---

- Administration over 1 minute or more can reduce likelihood of myoclonic reaction or chest wall rigidity
- May cause hemodynamic changes or respiratory drive changes associated with its administration

# Ketamine (MAAM)

***WAIVERED - FOUNTAIN FIRE ONLY***		
Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Dose
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate-99	NO	NO
Paramedic	NO	NO
MAAM Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- An anesthetic agent with potent analgesic properties and the ability to produce a cataleptic state often referred to as “dissociative analgesia”

## Onset & Duration

- Onset: 30 seconds IV; 3 to 4 minutes IM
- Duration: 10 to 15 minutes IV; 15 to 30 minutes IM

## Indications

- Induction agent during Medication Assisted Airway Management (MAAM paramedics **ONLY**)
- Post MAAM sedation (MAAM paramedics **ONLY**)

## Contraindications

- Age < 13 years old in MAAM
- Known hypersensitivity

## Adverse Reactions

- Involuntary and tonic-clonic like movements (rare)
- Extreme salivation

## Dosage & Administration

- Adult > 13:**
  - MAAM Induction
    - 200 mg IV/IO
  - Post MAAM Sedation
    - 100 mg IV/IO
    - Repeat as needed every 10 minutes
- Pediatric < 13:**
  - NOT ALLOWED**

## Special Considerations

- If extreme salivation after administration, consider administration of **ATROPINE**
- Watch for infiltration at the site of the IV or IO

# Ketamine (Ketalar)

## Pain Management



**Waivered Medication**		
Provider Level	1 <sup>ST</sup> Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO x 3 doses

### Description

- a. An anesthetic agent with potent analgesic properties and the ability to produce a cataleptic state often referred to as “dissociative analgesia.”

### Onset & Duration

- 1) Onset: 30 seconds IV/IO; 3 to 4 minutes IM/IN
- 2) Duration: 10 to 15 minutes IV/IO; 15 to 30 minutes IM/IN

### Indications

- 1) Analgesia for severe pain

### Contraindications

- 1) Known hypersensitivity
- 2) <7 years old

### Adverse Reactions

- 1) Involuntary and tonic-clonic like movements (rare)
- 2) Extreme salivation

### Dosage & Administration

- 1) **ADULT** and **PEDIATRIC >7 yo**:
  - a) **30 mg IV/IO**
    - i. Repeat as needed every 10-15 minutes up to 3 **TOTAL** doses
    - ii. If time allows, add to a 50 mL NS or D<sub>5</sub>W bag, administered over 5 to 10 minutes and titrate to effect to reduce emergence delirium
  - b) **50 mg IN/IM**
    - iii. Repeat as needed every 15-30 minutes up to 3 **TOTAL** doses
  - c) **Contact Medical Control** for additional doses.

### Special Considerations

- 1) If extreme salivation after administration, consider administration of ATROPINE
- 2) Consider anti emetic prior to administration, see NAUSEA/VOMITING GUIDELINE

# Nitroglycerin Infusion

***WAIVERED - FOUNTAIN FIRE ONLY***		
Route	INFUSION DRIP Interfacility Transport ONLY	
Provider Level	1st Dose	Repeat Doses
EMR	NO	NO
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate	NO	NO
Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- a. Short-acting peripheral vasodilator decreasing cardiac preload and afterload

## Onset & Duration

1. Onset: 1 to 3 minutes
2. Duration: 20 to 30 minutes, variable with paste (up to 12 hours)

## Indications

- 1) Hypertension control in congestive heart failure associated with pulmonary edema
- 2) Chest pain of suspected cardiac origin, including symptomatic acute myocardial infarction

## Contraindications

1. Hypotension systolic blood pressure < 100
2. Contraindicated in right ventricular STEMI
3. Recent use of erectile dysfunction (ED) medication within 24 hours of Viagra and or 48 hours with Cialis/Levitra

## Adverse Reactions

1. Can cause profound hypotension and reflex tachycardia, especially in patients with inferior and/or right ventricular wall myocardial infarctions.
2. Syncope
3. Headache

## Dosage & Administration

1. Relief of chest pain in the suspected ACS patient
  - a. **ADULT:** Initial infusion rate 50 mcg/min. May increase by 10 mcg/min every 3 to 5 minutes until relief of pain or hypotensive MAX dose of 400 mcg/min.
    - a. **May be administered via mechanical infusion pump ONLY**
  - b. **PEDIATRIC:** NOT Allowed

## Special Considerations

2. Therapeutic effect is enhanced, but adverse effects are increased, when patient is upright
3. NTG may be effective in relieving chest pain caused by food impaction
4. NTG may be effective, even in patients using their own paste, discs, or
5. Oral long-acting nitrate preparations
6. Ideally, IV access, cardiac monitoring and a 12-lead should be obtained prior to administration



# Rocuronium

***WAIVERED - FOUNTAIN FIRE ONLY***		
Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Dose
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate-99	NO	NO
Paramedic	NO	NO
MAAM Paramedic	SO	SO

## Description

- It is a short-to-intermediate acting skeletal muscle relaxant. It initiates flaccid paralysis by blocking receptors of the motor end plate, rather than binding to them. Effectively, this action blocks neuromuscular transmission of impulses without depolarizing the muscle
- Due to the non-depolarizing nature of this drug, it has less adverse effects in relation to hyperkalemia and is also remarkably free of the traditional histaminic side effects that characterize most other non-depolarizing skeletal muscle relaxants

## Onset & Duration

- Onset: Flaccid paralysis within 2 minutes
- Duration: Typically 20 minutes but up to 80 minutes

## Indications

- First line paralytic agent for MAAM
- Maintain paralysis of an intubation patient

## Contraindications

- Known hypersensitivity

## Adverse Reactions

- Patients with severe renal failure and/or hepatic failure may experience prolonged paralysis when given standard doses of the medication
- There are few, if any, cardiovascular side effects with the administration of rocuronium

## Dosage & Administration

- Adult**: 100 mg IV/IO
  - Repeat as needed every 20 minutes (maintenance) up to **2 TOTAL** doses
- Pediatric**: **NOT ALLOWED**

## Special Considerations

- If administering for post MAAM maintenance, assure correctly placed endotracheal tube before this medication is administered
- It is important to remember that rocuronium has no ability to sedate or relieve pain, **SEDATION SHOULD BE ADMINISTERED**

# Succinylcholine

***WAIVERED - FOUNTAIN FIRE ONLY***		
Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Dose
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate-99	NO	NO
Paramedic	NO	NO
MAAM Paramedic	SO	NO

## Description

- It is an ultra short-acting depolarizing-type, skeletal muscle relaxant for intravenous (IV) administration

## Onset & Duration

- Onset: Flaccid paralysis within 1 minute
- Duration: 6 to 10 minutes

## Indications

- Paralytic agent for MAAM (when Rocuronium is **NOT** available)

## Contraindications

- Patients with personal or familial history of malignant hyperthermia and/or skeletal muscle myopathies (multiple sclerosis)
- Hypersensitivity

## Adverse Reactions

- Cardiac arrest, malignant hyperthermia, arrhythmias, hypertension, and hyperkalemia
- Muscle fasciculation, jaw rigidity, rhabdomyolysis, and excessive salivation

## Dosage & Administration

- Adult: 200 mg IV/IO
  - NOT** repeated
- Pediatric: **NOT ALLOWED**

## Special Considerations

- Succinylcholine **SHOULD** be administered with **GREAT CAUTION** to patients suffering from electrolyte abnormalities and/or those who may have massive digitalis toxicity,
  - In these circumstances it may induce serious cardiac arrhythmias or cardiac arrest due to hyperkalemia
- It is important to remember that succinylcholine has no ability to sedate or relieve pain, **SEDATION SHOULD BE ADMINISTERED**

# Vecuronium

***WAIVERED - FOUNTAIN FIRE ONLY***		
Provider Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Repeat Dose
EMT	NO	NO
EMT-IV	NO	NO
AEMT	NO	NO
Intermediate-99	NO	NO
Paramedic	NO	NO
MAAM Paramedic	SO	NO

## Description

- It is a short-to-intermediate acting skeletal muscle relaxant. It initiates flaccid paralysis by blocking receptors of the motor end plate, rather than binding to them. Effectively, this action blocks neuromuscular transmission of impulses without depolarizing the muscle
- Due to the non-depolarizing nature of this drug, it has less adverse effects in relation to hyperkalemia and is also remarkably free of the traditional histaminic side effects that characterize most other non- depolarizing skeletal muscle relaxants

## Onset & Duration

- Onset: Flaccid paralysis within 2 to 3 minutes
- Duration: Up to 60 minutes

## Indications

- Maintain paralysis in the intubated patient

## Contraindications

- Known hypersensitivity

## Adverse Reactions

- Patients with severe renal failure and/or hepatic failure may experience prolonged paralysis when given standard doses of the medication
- There are few, if any, cardiovascular side effects with the administration of vecuronium

## Dosage & Administration

- Adult**: 10 mg bolus IV/IO
  - NOT** repeated
- Pediatric**: **NOT ALLOWED**

## Special Considerations

- If administering for post MAAM maintenance, assure correctly placed endotracheal tube before this medication is administered
- It is important to remember that vecuronium has no ability to sedate or relieve pain, **SEDATION SHOULD BE ADMINISTERED**