

Subject: Treatment Guidelines – General Medical Treatment Policy

I. Definition

- A. All levels of provider will complete the following as part of providing general medical care for every patient:
 - 1. Perform initial and focused assessment.
 - 2. Maintain patient's airway, breathing, and circulation.
- B. This protocol applies to every patient contact and is the basis from which other treatment protocols build upon.
 - 1. Scene size-up:
 - a. Assess scene safety.
 - b. Use standard/universal precautions.
 - c. Determine the number of patients, activate MCI if indicated per North Coast *MCI Policy*.
 - d. Determine nature of illness/mechanism of injury.
 - 2. Primary assessment:
 - a. Identify and treat immediate life threats.
 - b. If cardiac arrest suspected, begin cardiac arrest management per *Cardiac Arrest Management Policy*.
 - c. Systemic assessment of major body systems (medical).
 - d. Systemic assessment for injuries (trauma).
 - e. Obtain vital signs.
 - 3. Obtain the following information from patient or historian if patient unable to provide:
 - a. Chief complaint.
 - b. History of current complaint.
 - c. Past medical history.
 - d. Medications.
 - e. Allergies.
 - 4. Initiate treatment based on assessment findings as indicated by appropriate protocol.

II. Basic Life Support – All Providers

- A. Primary assessment:
 - 1. Assess airway patency:
 - 2. If airway is not patent, utilize BLS maneuvers, adjuncts, and suctioning if indicated to clear the airway.
- B. Assess quality of breathing:
 - 1. Initiate SpO2 monitoring if available.
 - 2. For readings under 94% initiate oxygen therapy.
 - 3. Adjust oxygen device and flow to maintain a SpO2 between 94% -99%.
 - 4. If in respiratory distress with signs of hypoxia, consider BVM and/or CPAP device as appropriate.
 - 5. Consider oxygen therapy as appropriate to the nature of illness/mechanism of injury.

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- C. Assess quality of pulse:
 - 1. Weak and rapid or slow pulse:
 - a. Assess for and treat for signs of shock.
 - 2. Strength, rate, and rhythm normal.
- D. Assess mental status:
 - 1. Administer Naloxone if indicated and approved to do so.
 - 2. Obtain blood glucose if indicated and approved to do so.
- E. Ensure ALS response as appropriate.

III. Advanced Life Support – Paramedic

- A. Primary assessment:
 - 1. Airway/Breathing:
 - 2. Maintain airway using BLS maneuvers.
 - 3. Place EtCO₂ monitoring device when available.
 - 4. If BLS maneuvers are unsuccessful or ineffective, I-GEL or oral intubation are indicated.
- B. Circulation:
 - 1. Establish vascular access.
 - 2. Fluid resuscitation with appropriate crystalloid as indicated by general impression and/or to maintain an age appropriate SBP.
 - 3. Cardiac monitor if indicated.
 - 4. Obtain 12-Lead EKG early when indicated by complaint.

IV. Special Considerations:

- A. All pediatric patients receiving advanced life support interventions will be placed on a length-based tape.