

Subject: Treatment – All Providers
General Medical Care – Patient Assessment Policy

I. PURPOSE

To establish a standardized, systematic approach to the assessment of medical patients to ensure early recognition of life-threatening conditions and appropriate intervention.

II. SCOPE

Applies to all EMS personnel assessing medical patients across all age groups.

III. POLICY

All patients shall receive a Primary Assessment, Secondary Assessment, and Ongoing Reassessment.

IV. PROCEDURE – All Providers

- A. PPE, Scene Size-Up and ensure safety for responders and patients.
- B. Identify Nature of Illness
- C. Request resources if needed.
- D. Primary Assessment – Assess for Life Threats
- E. General Impression LOC (AVPU/GCS)
- F. Airway Breathing Circulation
- G. Secondary Assessment
 - 1. SAMPLE history
 - 2. OPQRST
 - 3. Focused or full exam
- H. Vital Signs:
 - 1. Blood Pressure, Heart Rate, Respiratory Rate, SpO2(when available), and Temperature
- I. Pain Assessment
- J. Obtain blood glucose if trained to do so.

PROCEDURE – ALS

- A. ECG, EtCO2 and/or SpO2 when indicated.
- B. Reassessment:
 - 1. Unstable every 5 minutes
 - 2. Stable every 15 minutes

V. DOCUMENTATION

Assessment findings, vitals, trends, interventions, response.

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VI. QIP TRIGGERS

- A. Failure to perform/document primary assessment
- B. Failure to recognize high-acuity patient
- C. Missing/incomplete vital signs Failure to reassess
- D. Inconsistent clinical impression