

BLS ROUTINE MEDICAL CARE

PURPOSE

To ensure that all Basic Life Support (BLS) providers provide routine medical care to all patients regardless of their complaint.

AUTHORITY

State of California Title 22, Division 2.5, Health and Safety Code, Sections 1797.220 & 1798

INDICATION

To define Basic Life Support Routine Medical Care in the pre-hospital setting.

PROCEDURE

Standard precautions:

1. Application of body substance isolation precautions including the use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) shall apply to all patients receiving care, regardless of their diagnosis or presumed infectious status.
2. Body substance isolation precautions apply to:
 - a. Blood;
 - b. All bodily fluids, secretions, and excretions except sweat, regardless of whether or not they contain visible blood;
 - c. Non intact skin; and
 - d. Mucous membranes. Standard precautions are designed to reduce the risk of transmission of microorganisms from both recognized and unrecognized sources of infection in the pre-hospital setting.

Ensure an ALS resource and order additional resources.

Patient Assessment

1. Assess Patient (C-A-B)
2. Pulseless
 - a. Begin C P R in accordance with 2010 AHA Guidelines for CPR, C-A-B. (refer to B-3, BLS Cardiac Arrest Resuscitation)
3. Apneic
 - a. Begin assisting ventilations (refer to B-2, BLS Oxygen Therapy)
 - b. Optional Scope EMT's, King Tube Placement (refer to King Airway Policy)
4. Patient breathing with pulse present:
 - a. Administer oxygen per the Airway/Oxygen protocol (refer to B- 2, BLS Oxygen Therapy); using airway adjuncts indicated for signs and symptoms

BLS ROUTINE MEDICAL CARE

5. Control significant external bleeding
6. Check vital signs – repeat q 5 min. for emergent patients and q 10 min. for non-emergent patients.
7. Obtain:
 - a. Chief complaint
 - b. History of current event
 - c. Past medical history
 - d. Medications
 - e. Allergies
8. Perform full secondary patient exam. (Refer to G-3, Secondary Patient Assessment).
9. If indicated, initiate spinal precautions, (refer to T-3, Spinal Injury Assessment).
10. Place patient in position of comfort or in other positions as needed to maintain adequate breathing and/ or circulation.
11. Give first arriving ALS resource a verbal patient care turn over report.

Basic Life Support (BLS) certified Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) shall complete a patient care report regarding all treatment they provided prior to ALS arrival. All patient care reports are subject to audit by Yolo County EMS Agency.

RELATED POLICIES/ PROCEDURES

B-2, BLS Oxygen Therapy

B-3, BLS Cardiac Arrest Resuscitation

G-3, Secondary Patient Assessment

T-3, Spinal Injury Assessment