Introduction

The Pre-hospital Treatment Guidelines were developed to establish standards of care which are consistent throughout the State of South Dakota, and to provide the EMS provider with a quick field reference. Users of these guidelines are assumed to have knowledge of the more detailed and basic patient care principles found in EMS textbooks and literature appropriate to the EMS provider's level of certification. These guidelines are intended to reflect the current treatment guidelines for the EMT. These guidelines are not intended to be absolute treatment doctrines, but rather guidelines which have sufficient flexibility to meet the complex cases presented to the Emergency Medical Technician in the field.

The South Dakota Pre-hospital Treatment Guidelines for the Emergency Medical Technician, Third Edition, was developed and updated by the South Dakota Office of Emergency Medical Services and members of the State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee.

These South Dakota Pre-Hospital Treatment Guidelines were developed using current National Highway Traffic Safety Administration guidelines, with reference and assistance provided by the State of Minnesota BLS guidelines and Commonwealth of Kentucky State Protocols and Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support Guidelines.
# South Dakota General Patient Care Guidelines

## Table of Contents

**August 2010**

### Adult Medical Emergencies

- Abdominal Emergencies ................................................. 1005
- Allergic Reactions ...................................................... 1010
- Altered Mental Status .................................................. 1015
- Cardiac Arrest .............................................................. 1020
- Chest Pains ................................................................. 1025
- Congestive Heart Failure/Pulmonary Edema ................. 1030
- Diabetic Emergencies ................................................... 1035
- Environmental: Heat Emergencies ................................. 1040
- Environmental: Cold Emergencies ............................... 1045
- Frostbite and Frozen Emergencies .............................. 1050
- Obstetrical and Gynecological Emergencies-Normal Delivery ........ 1055
- Obstetrical and Gynecological Emergencies-Breech and Prolapsed Cord .............................................. 1060
- Poisonings and Overdose ............................................. 1065
- Respiratory Distress .................................................... 1070
- Seizures ........................................................................ 1075
- Strokes and Transient Ischemic Attacks ...................... 1080

### Adult Trauma Emergencies

- Abdominal Trauma ...................................................... 2005
- Amputations, Bleeding and Shock ................................. 2010
- Burns – Chemical and Electrical ................................. 2015
- Chest Trauma ............................................................... 2020
- Drowning and Near-Drowning .................................... 2025
- Extremity Injuries – Fractures, Dislocations, Sprains .... 2030
- Head Trauma ............................................................... 2035
- Sexual Assault ............................................................. 2040
- Spinal Injuries ............................................................. 2045
- Triage – START ............................................................ 2050
- Triage – START/JumpSTART ....................................... 2055

### Pediatric Emergencies

- General Assessment ................................................... 3005
- Allergic Reaction ....................................................... 3010
- Altered Mental Status .................................................. 3015
- Breathing Difficulty .................................................... 3020
- Burns .......................................................................... 3025
- Cardiac Emergencies .................................................. 3030
- Child Abuse and Neglect .......................................... 3035
- Diabetic Emergencies ................................................ 3040
- Drowning and Near Drowning .................................... 3045
- Environmental Emergencies: Cold Emergencies ......... 3050
- Environmental Emergencies: Heat Emergencies ........ 3055
- Frostbite and Frozen Emergencies .............................. 3060
- Newborn Resuscitation .............................................. 3065
- Poisonings and Overdoses .......................................... 3070
- Seizures ........................................................................ 3075
- Special Needs Children ............................................. 3080
- Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) ...................... 3085
- Triage – JumpSTART ................................................... 3090
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medications</th>
<th>Reference Guides</th>
<th>Special Circumstances and Laws</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activated Charcoal</td>
<td>Combitube</td>
<td>Baby Moses Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dextrose – Oral Glucose</td>
<td>Epinephrine Auto Injector</td>
<td>Bloodborne Pathogens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epinephrine</td>
<td>Glasgow Coma Scale &amp; Revised Trauma Score</td>
<td>Comfort One/DNR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitroglycerin</td>
<td>Metered Dose Inhaler</td>
<td>Crime Scenes/Evidence Preservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxygen</td>
<td>PASG/MAST Pants</td>
<td>Critical Incident Stress Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pulse Oximetry</td>
<td>Dead on Arrival – DOA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vital Signs</td>
<td>Emergency Traffic Laws</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- The page contains sections on medications, reference guides, and special circumstances and laws.
- Each section lists various items, such as Activated Charcoal, Epinephrine, and Baby Moses Law.
- The page appears to be a table of contents or an index.
All levels of providers should complete an initial, rapid and/or focused assessment on every patient and should use approved necessary skills and treatments in order to maintain a patient’s health and well-being.

**Initial Assessment**

**Scene Size-Up**
- Assess scene safety, look for mechanism of injury/nature of illness, number and locations of patients
- Assess need for proper body substance isolation (BSI)
- Request additional resources and assistance as needed
- General impression of the patient
- Consider cervical spinal precautions
- Check level of consciousness using AVPU scale
- Determines life threats or chief complaint

**Airway**
- Assess patient for patent airway
- Open airway using head-tilt, chin-lift or jaw thrust according to nature of incident or call
- Suction as needed
- Place oropharyngeal or nasopharyngeal airways as needed

**Breathing**
- Assess patient breathing noting rate, rhythm, and quality of respirations
- Assess lung sounds
- Apply oxygen as necessary according to patient presentation and/or chief complaint
  - Nasal Cannula 1-6 LPM
  - Non-Rebreather 10-15 LPM
  - Bag-Valve Mask 12-15 LPM

**Circulation**
- Assess patient’s pulse noting rate, rhythm and quality
- Look for and control any major/life-threatening bleeds
- Assess patient’s skin color, temperature, condition

**History and Vital Signs**
- Obtain pulse, respirations, blood pressure
- Blood glucose as necessary
- Gather history using SAMPLE and OPQRST
  - S: Signs/Symptoms
  - A: Allergies
  - M: Medications (Over-the-counter, prescribed, vitamins, etc)
  - L: Last Oral Intake
  - E: Events Leading Up To Event/Injury
  - O: Onset
  - P: Provokes/Provocation
  - Q: Quality
  - R: Radiates/Radiation
  - S: Severity
  - T: Time
**Rapid Trauma/Detailed/Focused Assessment**

This assessment should be done systematically, placing emphasis on the chief complaint, nature of illness or mechanism of injury presented. Any life-threatening injuries should be treated as found, if not done so in the initial assessment. The standard DCAP-BTLS should be used in the physical exam.

**DCAP-BTLS**

- D: Deformities
- C: Contusions
- A: Abrasions
- P: Punctures/Penetrations
- B: Burns
- T: Tenderness
- L: Lacerations
- S: Swelling

**Head and Eyes**
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS
- ✓ Check for Raccoon Eyes
- ✓ Check pupils for responsiveness, size and equality
- ✓ Check ears for Battle’s Signs and cerebrospinal fluid or blood

**Neck**
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS
- ✓ Check for tracheal deviation
- ✓ Check for jugular vein distention (JVD)

**Chest**
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS
- ✓ Check for paradoxical motion
- ✓ Check for open chest wounds
- ✓ Auscultate lung sounds

**Abdomen**
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS
- ✓ Assess all four quadrants for rigidity and distention

**Pelvis**
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS
- ✓ Assess for stability
- ✓ Assess genitalia, as needed

**Upper/Lower Extremities**
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS
- ✓ Check Circulatory, Motor, Sensation (CMS)
- ✓ Check range of motion, as necessary

**Back**
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS

**Ongoing Assessment**

A patient’s airway, breathing, circulation, interventions/treatments and vitals should be checked regularly.

- ✓ Stable patients should have vitals taken every 15 minutes
- ✓ Unstable patients should have vitals taken every 5 minutes
Adult Medical Emergencies
- Abdominal Emergencies
- Allergic Reactions
- Altered Mental Status
- Cardiac Arrest
- Chest Pains
- Congestive Heart Failure/Pulmonary Edema
- Diabetic Emergencies
- Environmental Emergencies
- Obstetrical
- Poisonings/Overdose
- Respiratory Distress
- Seizures
- Strokes
This guideline is to only be used in situations where the patient has no indication or history of trauma. In addition to standard assessment, specific questions should be asked during the patient history.

**Abdominal Physical Assessment and History**

- ✅ Ask patient to point to area of pain and palpate that region last
- ✅ Gently palpate all four quadrants for tenderness, rebound tenderness, and pulsating masses.
- ✅ Ask patient for history of nausea/vomiting
  - ▪ Color, blood tinged, coffee ground
- ✅ Ask patient for history of bowel movement
  - ▪ Diarrhea, tarry, bloody
- ✅ Ask patient for history of urine output
  - ▪ Painful, color, blood present

**EMT**

- ✅ Complete patient assessment
- ✅ Give nothing by mouth
- ✅ Consider oxygen, as condition warrants
- ✅ Transport patient in position of comfort
- ✅ Consider ALS Intercept if condition warrants or available
Allergic reaction should be suspected when the patient has been exposed to an allergen and shows signs and symptoms consistent with an allergic reaction. Allergic reactions can be classified as mild, moderate, and severe.

**Moderate Allergic Reaction:** Difficulty swallowing, edema, facial swelling, hives, etc., with stable vital signs blood pressure $\geq 90$ mmHg

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Sign or Symptom</strong></th>
<th><strong>Moderate Reaction</strong></th>
<th><strong>Severe Reaction</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Itching</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hives</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flushed Skin</td>
<td>Localized</td>
<td>Widespread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyanosis</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edema</td>
<td>Mild</td>
<td>Severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart Rate</td>
<td>Normal or slightly increased</td>
<td>Significantly increased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood Pressure</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Decreased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Status</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Decreased to unresponsive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respirations</td>
<td>Normal or slightly increased</td>
<td>Severely increased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheezing</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Present in all lung fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stridor</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
South Dakota Medical Guidelines
Altered Mental Status – Medical
Guide 1015
August 2010

EMT
✓ Complete patient assessment
✓ Maintain airway
✓ Administer O2, as condition warrants
  • Be prepared to assist with ventilations
✓ If there is indication of trauma, treat as trauma patient
✓ Obtain blood glucose level, if available
✓ Transport patient in recovery position
✓ Consider ALS intercept, if available
✓ Consider possible causes and refer to appropriate guideline

Glasgow Coma Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Infant</th>
<th>Child/Adult</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eye Opening</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Spontaneously</td>
<td>Spontaneously</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>To speech</td>
<td>To command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>To pain</td>
<td>To pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___1</td>
<td>No response</td>
<td>No response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Best Verbal Response</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Coos, babbles</td>
<td>Oriented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Irritable cries</td>
<td>Confused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cries to pain</td>
<td>Inappropriate words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Moans, grunts</td>
<td>Incomprehensible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___1</td>
<td>No response</td>
<td>No response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Best Motor Response</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Spontaneous</td>
<td>Obeys commands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Localizes pain</td>
<td>Localizes pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Withdraws from pain</td>
<td>Withdraws from pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Flexion (decorticate)</td>
<td>Flexion (decorticate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Extension (decerebrate)</td>
<td>Extension (decerebrate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___1</td>
<td>No response</td>
<td>No response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Follow current American Heart Association CPR/AED guidelines
- Ensure patient is not touching metal, water and that all medicine patches are removed
- Move patient to area that allows space for airway, CPR (manual or mechanical) and AED operation
- Establish and maintain airway utilizing airways and ventilations with O2 @ 15 LPM
  - Bag-valve mask
  - Flow Restricted Ventilation Device
- Place patient on backboard or other hard surface for patient transport
- Consider ALS intercept, if available
South Dakota Medical Guidelines
Cardiac Arrest
Guide 1020
August 2010

No movement or response

Open AIRWAY, check BREATHING

If not breathing, give 2 BREATHS that make chest rise

If no response, check pulse:
Do you DEFINITELY feel pulse within 10 seconds?

Definite Pulse

• Give 1 breath every 5 to 6 seconds
• Recheck pulse every 2 minutes

No Pulse

Give cycles of 30 COMPRESSIONS and 2 BREATHS
until AED/defibrillator arrives, ALS providers take over, or victim starts to move
Push hard and fast (100/min) and release completely
Minimize interruptions in compressions

Check Rhythm
Shockable rhythm?

Shockable

Give 1 shock
Resume CPR immediately for 5 cycles

Not Shockable

Resume CPR immediately for 5 cycles
Check rhythm every 5 cycles; continue until ALS providers take over or victim starts to move
EMT

☑ Complete patient assessment
☑ Administer O2, as condition warrants
☑ Give patient 2 to 4–81mg aspirin tablets **IF ALLOWED BY YOUR LOCAL PROTOCOLS**
☑ Assist in administration patient’s own Nitroglycerin (0.4 mg)
  - Ensure systolic BP ≥ 90
  - Repeat dose up to a total of 3 times, one every 5 minutes
  - Do not administer if patient has taken Viagra, Cialis or Levitra or any phosphodiesterase inhibitors within 48 hours.
☑ Transport patient in position of comfort
☑ Consider calling for ALS intercept, if available
Congestive Heart Failure/Pulmonary Edema: Dyspnea, tachycardia, fatigue, crackles, cyanosis, ↓O2 sats, distended neck veins, pedal edema, frothy sputum

**EMT**

- Complete patient assessment
- Place patient in sitting or upright position
- Allow legs to drop/hang over edge of stretcher, if possible
- Administer O2, as condition warrants
- Consider ALS intercept, if available
## South Dakota Medical Guidelines
### Diabetic Emergencies
#### Guide 1035
August 2010

**Hypoglycemia**: Altered mental status, pale, diaphoretic, may appear intoxicated, usually missed meal, usually glucose level < 70 mg/dl

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMT</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Complete patient assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Consider O2 administration, as situation warrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Obtain blood glucose level, if available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Administer 15-25 grams oral glucose (1 tube)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Patient is symptomatic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Patient is able to swallow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Transport patient in position of comfort or recovery position to protect airway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Consider ALS intercept, if available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hyperglycemia**: Altered mental status, warm, dry skin, acetone breath, usually missed insulin dose, usually glucose level > 350 mg/dl

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMT</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Complete patient assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Obtain blood glucose level, if available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Administer O2, as condition warrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Transport patient in position of comfort or recovery position to protect airway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Consider ALS intercept, if available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signs and Symptoms</td>
<td>Diabetic Coma (Ketoacidosis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appearance</td>
<td>Extremely ill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skin</td>
<td>Red and dry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mouth</td>
<td>Dry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirst</td>
<td>Intense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunger</td>
<td>Absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory</td>
<td>Exaggerated air hunger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Kussmaul's respirations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breath Odor</td>
<td>Acetone (sweet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood Pressure</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulse</td>
<td>Rapid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental State</td>
<td>Restless, decreasing level of consciousness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tremors</td>
<td>Absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onset</td>
<td>Gradual, over hours or days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rate of Improvement</td>
<td>Gradual: 6-12 hours following administration of insulin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Heat Exhaustion & Heat Cramps: Severe muscle cramps, weak, pale, diaphoretic skin, fatigue, headache, dizziness, nausea/vomiting

EMT
- Complete patient assessment
- Remove patient from heat source and place in cool environment
- Cool patient with moist towels
- Apply cold packs to neck, groin and armpits (avoid direct skin contact)
- Consider O2, as condition warrants

Heat Stroke: Hot and dry or moist skin, weakness, little or no perspiration, altered mental status, dilated pupils, possible seizure

EMT
- Complete patient assessment
- Remove patient from heat source and place in cool environment
- Remove clothing as necessary and practical
- Administer O2, as condition warrants
- Began cooling patient
  - Pour cool water over patient
  - Place cold packs in groin, side of neck, armpits, and behind knee (avoid direct skin contact)
  - Fan aggressively
  - If shivering occurs, discontinue active cooling
- Consider ALS intercept, if available
General Hypothermia

**Core Body Temperature**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Core Body Temperature</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>99°F-96°F</td>
<td>37.0°C-35.5°C</td>
<td>Shivering.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95°F-91°F</td>
<td>35.5°C-32.7°C</td>
<td>Intense shivering, difficulty speaking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90°F-86°F</td>
<td>32.0°C-30.0°C</td>
<td>Shivering decreases and is replaced by strong muscular rigidity. Muscle coordination is affected and erratic or jerky movements are produced. Thinking is less clear, general comprehension is dulled, possible total amnesia. Patient generally is able to maintain the appearance of psychological contact with surroundings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85°F-81°F</td>
<td>29.4°C-27.2°C</td>
<td>Patient becomes irrational, loses contact with environment, and drifts into stuporous state. Muscular rigidity continues. Pulse and respirations are slow and cardiac.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80°F-87°F</td>
<td>26.6°C-20.5°C</td>
<td>Patient loses consciousness and does not respond to spoken words. Most reflexes cease to function. Heartbeat slows further before cardiac arrest occurs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EMT**

- Complete patient assessment
- Handle patient carefully
- Prevent further heat loss
  - Remove patient from the environment
  - Remove any wet clothing
  - Apply heat packs to neck, armpits, chest and groin
  - Apply oxygen as condition warrants
  - Cover patient
  - Keep ambulance as warm as possible
- Transport
Frostbite: Loss of sensation to the area, skin is soft, but cold to touch and normal skin color does not return after palpation. The skin may begin to turn waxy gray or yellow color. As area thaws, patient may report tingling sensation to the area.

**EMT**

- Complete patient assessment
- Continue treatment of hypothermia and/or other injuries/medical conditions
- Protect frostbite injury from movement
- Handle gently and remove jewelry, clothing, etc. from the affected area or extremity
- Do not rub or allow friction to the injury
- Do not allow patient to walk
- Do not thaw the frostbite injury
- Transport

Frozen: The skin is white and waxy and area will be firm to completely solid, frozen feeling. Swelling with blisters may be present. As area thaws, it may become blotchy or mottled, with colors from white to purple to grayish-blue.

**EMT**

- Complete patient assessment
- Continue treatment of hypothermia and/or other injuries/medical conditions
- Protect frozen injury from movement
- Handle gently and remove jewelry, clothing, etc. from the affected area or extremity
- Do not rub or allow friction to the injury
- Cover injury with dressings or dry clothing
- Do not allow patient to walk
- Do not thaw the frozen injury
- Transport
**South Dakota Medical Guidelines**  
**Obstetrical and Gynecological Emergencies-Normal Delivery**  
**Guide 1055**  
August 2010

### EMT
- Complete patient assessment
- Administer O2 as condition warrants
- Gather specific information
  - Length of pregnancy
  - Number of previous pregnancies
  - Number of live births
  - Last menstrual period
  - Number of expected babies
  - Drug/alcohol use
  - Estimated due date
- Inspect for crowning, if present, prepare for delivery
  - Support head with one hand to prevent explosive delivery
  - Break amniotic sac if it has not already done so
  - Have mother stop pushing
  - Ensure umbilical cord is not around the neck
  - Suction the infant’s oral airway
  - Suction the infant’s nasal airway
  - Have mother continue pushing
  - Once infant delivered and umbilical cord stops pulsating, cut umbilical cord and dry infant
- Record APGAR score at 1 and 5 minutes, treat accordingly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>O Points</th>
<th>1 Point</th>
<th>2 Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appearance (Skin Color)</td>
<td>Blue, pale</td>
<td>Body: pink</td>
<td>Fully pink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Extremities: blue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulse Rate</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>Less than 100</td>
<td>More than 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grimace (Reflex Irritability When Feet Stimulated or suctioned)</td>
<td>No response</td>
<td>Some motion, facial grimace</td>
<td>Active motion/Cough, sneeze or cry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity (Muscle Tone)</td>
<td>Limp, No Movement</td>
<td>Some flexion of extremities</td>
<td>Active motion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Effort</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>Weak cry – Slow or irregular breathing</td>
<td>Strong cry – good breathing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- APGAR scores should be taken one and five minutes after birth.
- Infants with a score of 7-10 usually require supportive care only.
- Scores of 4-6 indicate moderate depression. (O2, stimulation)
- Infants with scores less than 4 require aggressive resuscitation. (O2 per BVM, possible CPR)
EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Administer O2 as condition warrants
- Gather specific information
  - Length of pregnancy
  - Number of previous pregnancies
  - Number of live births
  - Last menstrual period
  - Number of expected babies
  - Drug/alcohol use
  - Estimated due date
- If breech birth is present and delivery is unavoidable
  - Position mother with buttocks at edge of surface or bed
  - Have her hold her legs in a flexed position
  - As infant delivers, do not pull, but support the baby
  - If head cannot be delivered, insert fingers and form a “V” with fingers between baby’s mouth and nose
  - Transport as soon as possible.

EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Administer O2 as condition warrants
- Gather specific information
  - Length of pregnancy
  - Number of previous pregnancies
  - Number of live births
  - Last menstrual period
  - Number of expected babies
  - Drug/alcohol use
  - Estimated due date
- If prolapsed cord is present
  - Position mother with her head down in a “knee-chest” position or place pillows under buttocks
  - Insert sterile, gloved hand into the vagina and gently push the presenting part away from pulsating cord.
  - Cover the umbilical cord with a sterile dressing moistened with sterile saline solution.
  - Transport as soon as possible.
Inhaled Poisons

EMT

✓ Remove patient from environment, maintaining your own safety
✓ Complete patient assessment
✓ Maintain airway if patient has altered level of consciousness
✓ Administer O2, as condition warrants
✓ Contact Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222, for assistance if needed
✓ Bring containers, bottles, labels about poison to the facility, as appropriate
✓ Transport patient in position of comfort or recovery position

Ingested Poisons/Overdose

EMT

✓ Complete patient assessment
✓ Maintain airway if patient has altered level of consciousness
✓ Administer O2, as condition warrants.
✓ Review substance ingested and consider Activated Charcoal (25-50 grams)
  ■ Do not use if acid or alkali ingested (hydrochloric acid, bleach, ammonia)
  ■ Contact Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222, for assistance if needed
✓ Transport containers, bottles, labels with ingested substance information
✓ Transport patient in position of comfort or recovery position
EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway if patient has altered level of consciousness
- Administer O2, as condition warrants
- Remove stinger, if present, by scraping against it
- Remove constricting jewelry or objects
- Lower site below level of heart
- If injection results in allergic reaction, treat accordingly to allergic reaction guideline
- Contact Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222, for assistance if needed
- Transport patient in position of comfort or recovery position

Absorbed Poisons

EMT

- Remove patient from further exposure, maintaining your own safety
- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway if patient has altered level of consciousness
- Administer O2, as condition warrants
- Remove any clothing and decontaminate
  - Brush off any dry chemicals or solid toxins, irrigate for 20 minutes
  - If eyes are involved, irrigate for at least 20 minutes, with water running away from the unaffected eye
- Contact Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222, for assistance if needed
- Transport patient in position of comfort or recovery position
Differentiating Respiratory Diseases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Asthma</th>
<th>Bronchitis</th>
<th>Emphysema</th>
<th>Pneumonia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lung Sounds</strong></td>
<td>Wheezes, mostly expiratory</td>
<td>Rhonchi, wheezing</td>
<td>Wheezes</td>
<td>Rales, rhonchi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Onset</strong></td>
<td>Usually sudden</td>
<td>Acute: Rapid</td>
<td>Exacerbations</td>
<td>Gradual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chronic: Varies</td>
<td>sudden</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cough</strong></td>
<td>Dry, sometimes thick, white mucus</td>
<td>Productive yellow, green, light brown</td>
<td>Dry</td>
<td>Productive yellow, green, light brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fever</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Acute: Elevated</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Elevated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chronic: None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EMT**

- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway and administer O2, as condition warrants
- Assist patient with own inhaler
- Consider calling for ALS intercept if available
- Transport patient in position of comfort
- Be prepared to treat for respiratory failure
EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Protect patient from harming self
- Administer oxygen as condition warrants
  - Maintain patient’s airway post-seizure as necessary
- Obtain blood glucose level, if available
- Treat for additional medical or trauma conditions that may have caused or resulted from the seizure
- Transport in position of comfort or recovery position
- Consider ALS intercept, if available
South Dakota Medical Guidelines
Strokes and Transient Ischemic Attacks
Guide 1080
August 2010

EMT
✓ Complete patient assessment
✓ Maintain airway
✓ Administer O2, as condition warrants
✓ Obtain blood glucose level, if available
✓ Transport patient position of comfort or recovery position
✓ Consider ALS intercept, if available

Facial Droop
Have patient smile or show teeth

Normal
Both sides of face move equally

Abnormal
One side of face does not move or “droops”

Arm Drift
Have patient close eyes and hold arms straight out for 10 seconds

Normal
Both arms move the same or both arms do not move at all

Abnormal
One arm does not move or one arm drifts down

Speech
Have patient say “You can’t teach an old dog new tricks.”

Normal
Patient uses correct words with no slurring

Abnormal
Patient slurs words, uses the wrong words or is unable to speak
Adult Trauma Emergencies

- Abdominal Trauma
- Amputations, Bleeding and Shock
- Burns
- Chest Trauma
- Drowning and Near-Drowning
- Extremity Trauma
- Head Trauma
- Spinal Injuries
- Triage: START/JumpSTART
EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway as necessary
- Administer O2, as condition warrants
- Maintain c-spine precautions as necessary
- Evisceration should be treated by covering with saline moistened dressing
- Immobilize any impaled objects in place
- Be alert for and treat for shock
- Transport patient, in position of comfort if situation allows
- Consider ALS intercept if available
EMT

✓ Complete patient assessment
✓ Maintain airway
✓ Administer O2, as condition warrants
✓ Control severe bleeding with direct pressure, if unsuccessful, apply tourniquet
✓ In the event of amputation, treat for major bleed in addition:
  ▪ Cover stump with sterile dressing
  ▪ Flush gross contamination out with saline
  ▪ Place part in sterile, saline moistened gauze
  ▪ Place in bag and place on water and ice, without freezing part
✓ Keep patient warm
✓ Consider use of PASG
✓ Transport patient immediately if bleeding uncontrolled or signs of shock present
✓ Consider ALS intercept, if available
EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway
- Administer O2, as condition warrants
- Stop burning process
  - Flush with saline or sterile water for one (1) minute after burning stopped
  - Remove all jewelry and clothing from the burn area
  - Cover burns with sterile dry dressings
- Treat for other injuries that may be present
- Transport patient
- Consider ALS intercept, if available
EMT

- Ensure you are not contaminated
- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway
- Administer O2, as condition warrants
- Remove clothing and jewelry, flush skin with water or saline for at least 10 minutes
- If contaminant is dry powder, brush off BEFORE flushing
- Treat for other injuries that may be present
- Apply sterile dressings or burn sheet to burn area
- Transport patient
- Consider ALS intercept, if available

EMT

- Eliminate electrical contact or source
- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway
- Administer O2, as condition warrants
- Check for entry and exit wounds
- Treat for other injuries that may be present, watch for cardiac arrest
- Apply sterile dressings or burn sheet to burn area
- Transport patient
- Consider ALS intercept, if available
Comparison of Pneumothorax, Hemothorax and Pericardial Tamponade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signs/Symptoms</th>
<th>Tension Pneumothorax</th>
<th>Hemothorax</th>
<th>Pericardial Tamponade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presenting Symptoms</td>
<td>Difficulty breathing and then shock</td>
<td>Shock, then difficulty breathing</td>
<td>Narrowing pulse pressure, then shock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neck Veins</td>
<td>Distended</td>
<td>Flat</td>
<td>Distended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breath Sounds</td>
<td>Decreased or absent on side of injury</td>
<td>Decreased or absent on side of injury</td>
<td>Bilateral and clear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percussion of Chest</td>
<td>Hyperresonant</td>
<td>Dull</td>
<td>Normal Resonance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracheal Deviation</td>
<td>Away from side of injury</td>
<td>Usually not present</td>
<td>Not present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note that victims in cold water (below 68°F) can sometimes be resuscitated after 30 minutes or more in cardiac arrest.

**EMT**

- Complete patient assessment
  - If hypothermic, check breathing and pulse for 30-45 seconds
  - Note cleanliness of water, length of submersion, and water temperature
- Maintain airway as necessary with O2 @ 10-15 LPM
- Treat for other injuries that may be present
- Transport patient
- Consider ALS intercept, if available
EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway as necessary
- Maintain c-spine precautions as necessary
- Splint extremity in position of function, unless distal pulses are absent
  - If distal pulse absent, attempt to straighten by applying gentle traction
- Splint joints in the position found
- Apply cold packs to injured area to assist in controlling swelling
- Transport patient, in position of comfort if situation allows
- Consider ALS intercept, if necessary
## Comparison of Vital Signs in Shock and Head Injury

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vital Signs</th>
<th>Shock</th>
<th>Head Injury</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blood Pressure</td>
<td>May be Decreased</td>
<td>May be Increased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulse</td>
<td>May be Increased</td>
<td>May be Decreased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiration</td>
<td>May be Increased</td>
<td>May be Decreased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level of Consciousness</td>
<td>May be Decreased</td>
<td>May be Decreased</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Glasgow Coma Scale

### Eye Opening

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infant</th>
<th>Child/Adult</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Spontaneously</td>
<td>Spontaneously</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 To speech</td>
<td>To command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 To pain</td>
<td>To pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 No response</td>
<td>No response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Best Verbal Response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infant</th>
<th>Child/Adult</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Coos, babbles</td>
<td>Oriented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Irritable cries</td>
<td>Confused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Cries to pain</td>
<td>Inappropriate words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Moans, grunts</td>
<td>Incomprehensible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 No response</td>
<td>No response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Best Motor Response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infant</th>
<th>Child/Adult</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Spontaneous</td>
<td>Obey commands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Localizes pain</td>
<td>Localizes pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Withdraws from pain</td>
<td>Withdraws from pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Flexion (decorticate)</td>
<td>Flexion (decorticate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Extension (decerebrate)</td>
<td>Extension (decerebrate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 No response</td>
<td>No response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infant</th>
<th>Child/Adult</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EMT

- Protect and preserve scene and evidence in cooperation with law enforcement
- If possible and appropriate, crew member of same sex may be better for patient
- Complete patient assessment
- Do not allow patient to bathe, douche, clean fingernails or wounds, brush teeth, defecate, urinate or change clothes or place clothes in a paper bag and seal, if possible
- Treat for other injuries as indicated and apply O2 as condition warrants
- Transport patient
EMT

✓ Place head into proper neutral alignment
  ■ Stop if resistance is noted
  ■ Stop if neck muscle spasm present
  ■ Stop if patient has increased pain
  ■ Stop if there is compromise of airway
  ■ Stop if there is increase in neurologic deficit (numbness, tingling, etc)
✓ Complete patient assessment
✓ Apply properly fitting cervical collar
✓ Place patient on proper immobilization device (KED, backboard, short board, etc)
✓ Immobilize patient torso to device
✓ Pad as necessary to keep spine in neutral position
✓ Immobilize head to device
✓ Immobilize legs after torso secured to backboard
✓ Transport patient
The concept of triage is simply a method of quickly identifying victims who have immediately life-threatening injuries AND who have the best chance of surviving so that when additional rescuers arrive on scene, they are directed first to those patients.
Combined START/JumpSTART Triage Algorithm

Able to walk?
  YES → MINOR → SECONDARY TRIAGE
  NO → Breathing?

Breathing?
  NO → POSITION UPPER AIRWAY → APNEIC
  YES → ADULT
    + PULSE → APNEIC
    NO PULSE → IMMEDIATE

5 RESCUE BREATHS → IMMEDIATE

Respiratory Rate
  >30 ADULT → IMMEDIATE
  <15 OR >45 PEDI → IMMEDIATE
  15-45 PEDI → Perfusion

Perfusion
  CR > 2 sec (ADULT) → IMMEDIATE
  NO PALPABLE PULSE (PEDI) → T (INAPPROPRIATE), POSTURING OR T (PEDIATRIC)

Mental Status
  DOESN'T OBEY COMMANDS (ADULT) → IMMEDIATE
  OBEYS COMMANDS (ADULT)
    X, Y OR P (APPROPRIATE) (PEDIATRIC) → DELAYED
Pediatric Emergencies

- General Assessment
- Allergic Reactions
- Altered Mental Status
- Breathing Difficulty
- Burns
- Cardiac Arrest
- Child Abuse
- Diabetic Emergencies
- Drowning and Near Drowning
- Environmental Emergencies
- Newborn Resuscitation
- Poisonings/Overdose
- Seizures
- Special Needs Children
- Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
- Triage: JumpSTART
Age limits for pediatric guidelines must be flexible. It is recognized that the exact age of a patient is not always known. Use of a length based resuscitation tape is recommended to assist in determination of appropriate equipment size and vital signs.

**Initial Assessment**

**Scene Size-Up**
- Assess scene safety, look for mechanism of injury/nature of illness, number and locations of patients
- Assess need for proper body substance isolation (BSI)
- Request additional resources and assistance as needed
- Form general impression of the patient using Pediatric Assessment Triangle (PAT)
- Check level of consciousness using AVPU scale
- Consider cervical spinal precautions

**Airway**
- Assess patient for patent airway
- Open airway using head-tilt, chin-lift or jaw thrust according to nature of incident or call
- Suction as needed
- Place oropharyngeal or nasopharyngeal airways as needed
- Consider placing pad under the infant/child’s should to aid in airway positioning

**Breathing**
- Assess patient breathing noting rate, rhythm, and quality of respirations
- Assess lung sounds
- Apply oxygen as necessary according to patient presentation and/or chief complaint
  - Nasal Cannula 1-6 LPM
  - Non-Rebreather 10-15 LPM
  - Bag-Valve Mask 12-15 LPM

**Circulation**
- Assess patient’s pulse noting rate, rhythm and quality
- Look for and control any major/life-threat bleeds
- Assess patient’s skin color, temperature, condition

**History and Vital Signs**
- Obtain pulse, respirations, blood pressure
- Blood glucose as necessary
- Gather history using SAMPLE and OPQRST
  - S: Signs/Symptoms
  - A: Allergies
  - M: Medications (Over-the-counter, prescribed, vitamins, etc)
  - L: Last Oral Intake
  - E: Events Leading Up To Event/Injury
  - O: Onset
  - P: Provokes/Provocation
  - Q: Quality
  - R: Radiates/Radiation
  - S: Severity
  - T: Time
Rapid Trauma/Detailed/Focused Assessment (Should be done toe-to-head if possible)

This assessment should be done systematically, placing emphasis on the chief complaint, nature of illness or mechanism of injury presented. Any life-threatening injuries should be treated as found, if not done so in initial assessment. The standard DCAP-BTLS should be used in physical exam.

DCAP-BTLS
- D: Deformities
- C: Contusions
- A: Abrasions
- P: Punctures/Penetrations
- B: Burns
- T: Tenderness
- L: Lacerations
- S: Swelling

Head and Eyes
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS
- ✓ Check for Raccoon Eyes
- ✓ Check pupils for responsiveness, size and equality
- ✓ Check ears for Battle’s Signs and cerebrospinal fluid or blood

Neck
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS
- ✓ Check for tracheal deviation
- ✓ Check for jugular vein distention (JVD)

Chest
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS
- ✓ Check for paradoxical motion
- ✓ Check for open chest wounds
- ✓ Auscultate lung sounds

Abdomen
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS
- ✓ Assess all four quadrants for rigidity and distention

Pelvis
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS
- ✓ Assess for stability
- ✓ Assess genitalia as needed

Upper/Lower Extremities
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS
- ✓ Check Circulatory, Motor, Sensation (CMS)
- ✓ Check range of motion, as necessary

Back
- ✓ Assess for DCAP-BTLS

Ongoing Assessment
A patient’s airway, breathing, circulation, interventions/treatments and vitals should be checked regularly.
- ✓ Stable patients should have vitals taken every 15 minutes
- ✓ Unstable patients should have vitals taken every 5 minutes
# Pediatric General Assessment Protocol

Use Pediatric Assessment Triangle to form a general impression of the child.

## Appearance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Features to Look For</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tone</td>
<td>Good muscle tone OR limp, listless, flaccid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interactivity</td>
<td>Alert, will reach for toy, light, OR is uninterested in playing or interacting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolability</td>
<td>Can be consoled OR crying or agitation is unrelieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Look/Gaze</td>
<td>Fixes on face, object OR glassy eyed stare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech/Cry</td>
<td>Cry strong and spontaneous OR weak or high pitched IS Speech age appropriate OR confused, garbled?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Breathing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Features to Look For</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abnormal Airway Sounds</td>
<td>Snoring, muffled or hoarse speech, Stridor, grunting, wheezing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abnormal positioning</td>
<td>Sniffing position, tripoding, refusing to lie down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retractions</td>
<td>Supraclavicular, intercostal, substernal retractions of the chest wall; head bobbing in infants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flaring</td>
<td>Flaring of the nares on inspiration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Circulation/Skin Color

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Features to look for</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pallor</td>
<td>White or pale skin or mucous membranes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mottling</td>
<td>Patchy/lacey skin discoloration due to vasoconstriction/vasodilatation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyanosis</td>
<td>Bluish discoloration of skin/mucous membranes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*If patient is in severe distress expedite transport*
Severe Allergic Reaction: Airway constriction/dyspnea, edema, hives, wheezing

**EMT**
- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway and administer O2 via non-rebreather 12-15 LPM
  - Be prepared to assist with ventilations
- Remove allergen, if present
- If severe symptoms are present, administer Epi-Jr. Auto-injector
  - Patient >66 lbs, 0.3 mg Epi-Pen Jr.
  - Patient 33-66 lbs, 0.15 mg Epi-Pen Jr
  - Patient <33 lbs, contact Medical Direction
- Be alert and treat for shock
- Transport patient in position of comfort
- Consider calling for ALS intercept, if available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sign or Symptom</th>
<th>Moderate Reaction</th>
<th>Severe Reaction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Itching</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hives</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flushed Skin</td>
<td>Localized</td>
<td>Widespread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyanosis</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edema</td>
<td>Mild</td>
<td>Severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart Rate</td>
<td>Normal or slightly increased</td>
<td>Significantly increased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood Pressure</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Decreased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Status</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Decreased to unresponsive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respirations</td>
<td>Normal or slightly increased</td>
<td>Severely increased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheezing</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Present in all lung fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stridor</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood Pressure</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Decreased</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
South Dakota Pediatric Guidelines
Altered Mental Status
Guide 3015
August 2010

**Glascow Coma Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Infant</th>
<th>Child/Adult</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eye Opening</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Spontaneously</td>
<td>Spontaneously</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>To speech</td>
<td>To command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>To pain</td>
<td>To pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 1</td>
<td>No response</td>
<td>No response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Best Verbal Response</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Coos, babbles</td>
<td>Oriented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Irritable cries</td>
<td>Confused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cries to pain</td>
<td>Inappropriate words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Moans, grunts</td>
<td>Incomprehensible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 1</td>
<td>No response</td>
<td>No response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Best Motor Response</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Spontaneous</td>
<td>Obeys commands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Localizes pain</td>
<td>Localizes pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Withdraws from pain</td>
<td>Withdraws from pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Flexion (decorticate)</td>
<td>Flexion (decorticate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Extension (decerebrate)</td>
<td>Extension (decerebrate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ 1</td>
<td>No response</td>
<td>No response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ Total</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>____</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EMT**

- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway
- Administer O2 as condition warrants
  - Be prepared to assist with ventilations
- If perfusion is inadequate or pulse drops below 60/minute; begin CPR
- If indication of trauma, treat as trauma patient
- Obtain blood glucose level, if available
- Transport patient
- Consider ALS intercept, if available
- Consider possible causes and refer to appropriate guideline

South Dakota Pediatric Guidelines
Altered Mental Status
Guide 3015
August 2010
Differentiating Respiratory Diseases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Asthma</th>
<th>Bronchitis</th>
<th>Epiglottitis</th>
<th>Croup</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lung Sounds</strong></td>
<td>Wheezes, mostly expiratory</td>
<td>Rhonchi, wheezing</td>
<td>Stridor</td>
<td>Stridor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Onset</strong></td>
<td>Usually sudden</td>
<td>Acute: Rapid</td>
<td>Sudden</td>
<td>Gradual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chronic</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chronic: Varies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cough</strong></td>
<td>Dry, sometimes thick, white mucus</td>
<td>Productive yellow, green, light brown</td>
<td>Uncommon</td>
<td>Characteristic Cough, Barking Seal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fever</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Acute: Elevated</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Low-grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chronic: None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway
- Administer O2 via non-rebreather @ 10-15 LPM
- Stop burning process
  - Flush with saline or sterile water for one (1) minute
  - Remove all jewelry and clothing from the burn area
  - Cover burns with sterile dry dressings
- Treat for other injuries that may be present
- Transport patient
- Consider ALS intercept, if available
EMT

- Ensure you are not contaminated
- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway
- Administer O2 via non-rebreather @ 10-15 LPM
- Remove clothing and jewelry, flush skin with water or saline for at least 10 minutes
- If contaminant is dry powder, brush off BEFORE flushing
- Treat for other injuries that may be present
- Apply sterile dressings or burn sheet to burn area
- Transport patient
- Consider ALS intercept, if available

---

EMT

- Eliminate electrical contact or source
- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway
- Administer O2 via non-rebreather @ 10-15 LPM
- Check for entry and exit wounds
- Treat for other injuries that may be present, watch for cardiac arrest
- Apply sterile dressings or burn sheet to burn area
- Transport patient
- Consider ALS intercept, if available
EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Follow current American Heart Association CPR/AED guidelines
- Ensure patient is not touching metal, water and that all medicine patches are removed
- Move patient to area that allows space for airway, CPR and AED operation
- Establish and maintain airway utilizing airways and ventilations with O2 @ 15 LPM
- Begin compressions if ventilations are being performed and pulse remains <60
- Place patient on backboard or other hard surface for patient transport
- Consider ALS intercept, if available
South Dakota Pediatric Guidelines
Cardiac Arrest
Guide 3030
August 2010

Open AIRWAY, check BREATHING

If not breathing, give 2 BREATHS that make chest rise

If no response, check pulse: DEFINITE pulse within 10 seconds?

Definite Pulse
- Give 1 breath every 3 seconds
- Recheck pulse every 2 minutes

No Pulse

One Rescuer: Give cycles of 30 COMPRESSIONS and 2 BREATHS
Push hard and fast (100/min) and release completely
Minimize interruptions in compressions

Two Rescuers: Give cycles of 15 COMPRESSIONS and 2 BREATHS

If not already done, PHONE 911, for child get AED/defibrillator
Infant (<1 year): Continue CPR until ALS responders take over or victim starts to move
Child (>1 year): Continue CPR; use AED/defibrillator after 5 cycles of CPR
(Use AED as soon as it is available for sudden, witnessed collapse)

Child >1 year: Check rhythm
Shockable rhythm?

Shockable
Give 1 shock
Resume CPR immediately for 5 cycles

Not Shockable
Resume CPR immediately for 5 cycles
Check rhythm every 5 cycles; continue until ALS providers take over or victim starts to move
EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Consider child abuse:
  - Any injury without consistent history or explanation
  - Injury in non-mobile child
  - Significant injury reported resulting from household fall
  - Unconscious child with no history, or history of an insignificant fall
  - Severity of injury is inconsistent with the history
- Treat for other injuries that may be present
- Avoid questions suggesting blame or mechanism of injury
- Transport patient
- Consider ALS intercept if conditions warrant ALS, if available
Hypoglycemia: Altered mental status, pale, diaphoretic, may appear intoxicated, usually missed meal, usually glucose level < 70 mg/dl

EMT

✓ Complete patient assessment
✓ Consider O2 administration as situation warrants
✓ Obtain blood glucose level, if available
✓ Administer 15-25 grams oral glucose (1 tube) or other form of sugar
  ➥ Patient is 4 months or older
  ➥ Patient is symptomatic
  ➥ Patient is able to swallow
✓ Administer up to 15 grams oral glucose or form of sugar or allow feeding
✓ Transport patient protecting airway
✓ Consider ALS intercept, if available
EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Protect and immobilize cervical spine if condition warrants
- Control and maintain airway with O2 administration as necessary
- Check temperature, if available
- Treat for injuries and conditions associated with incident
  - Hypothermia
  - Cardiac arrest
- Transport patient
- Consider ALS intercept, if available
Heat Exhaustion & Heat Cramps: Severe muscle cramps, weak, pale, diaphoretic skin, fatigue, headache, dizziness, nausea/vomiting

EMT
✓ Complete patient assessment
✓ Remove patient from heat source and place in cool environment
✓ Oral rehydration, if able to maintain airway (ex. Gatorade or Pedialyte)
✓ Cool patient with moist towels
✓ Apply cold packs to neck, groin and armpits (avoid direct skin contact)
✓ Consider O2 as condition warrants

Heat Stroke: Hot and dry or moist skin, weakness, little or no perspiration, altered mental status, dilated pupils, possible seizure

EMT
✓ Complete patient assessment
✓ Remove patient from heat source and place in cool environment
✓ Remove clothing as necessary and practical
✓ Administer O2 as condition warrants
✓ Began cooling patient
  ▪ Pour cool water over patient
  Place cold packs in groin, side of neck, armpits, and behind knee (avoid direct skin contact)
  ▪ Fan aggressively
  ▪ If shivering occurs, discontinue active cooling
✓ Consider ALS intercept, if available
General Hypothermia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Body Temperature</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>99°F-96°F 37.0°C-35.5°C</td>
<td>Shivering.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95°F-91°F 35.5°C-32.7°C</td>
<td>Intense shivering, difficulty speaking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90°F-86°F 32.0°C-30.0°C</td>
<td>Shivering decreases and is replaced by strong muscular rigidity. Muscle coordination is affected and erratic or jerky movements are produced. Thinking is less clear, general comprehension is dulled, possible total amnesia. Patient generally is able to maintain the appearance of psychological contact with surroundings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85°F-81°F 29.4°C-27.2°C</td>
<td>Patient becomes irrational, loses contact with environment, and drifts into stuporous state. Muscular rigidity continues. Pulse and respirations are slow and cardiac.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80°F-87°F 26.6°C-20.5°C</td>
<td>Patient loses consciousness and does not respond to spoken words. Most reflexes cease to function. Heartbeat slows further before cardiac arrest occurs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Handle patient carefully
- Prevent further heat loss
  - Remove patient from the environment
  - Remove any wet clothing
  - Insulate with blankets to prevent heat loss
  - Apply oxygen as condition warrants
  - Keep ambulance as warm as possible
- Transport
Frostbite: Loss of sensation to the area, skin is soft, but cold to touch and normal skin color does not return after palpation. The skin may begin to turn waxy gray or yellow color. As area thaws, patient may report tingling sensation to the area.

Frozen: The skin is white and waxy and area will be firm to completely solid, frozen feeling. Swelling with blisters may be present. As area thaws, it may become blotchy or mottled, with colors from white to purple to grayish-blue.

**EMT**

- Complete patient assessment
- Continue treatment of hypothermia and/or other injuries/medical conditions
- Protect frostbite injury from movement
- Handle gently and remove jewelry, clothing, etc. from the affected area or extremity
- Do not rub or allow friction to the injury
- Do not allow patient to walk
- Do not thaw the frostbite injury
- Transport

**EMT**

- Complete patient assessment
- Continue treatment of hypothermia and/or other injuries/medical conditions
- Protect frozen injury from movement
- Handle gently and remove jewelry, clothing, etc. from the affected area or extremity
- Do not rub or allow friction to the injury
- Cover injury with dressings or dry clothing
- Do not allow patient to walk
- Do not thaw the frozen injury
- Transport
EMT

- During delivery, suction mouth THEN nose before delivery with bulb syringe
- Dry infant and maintain warm environment
  - Wrap baby in thermal blanket
  - Cover head to preserve warmth
  - Keep ambulance as warm as possible
- Assess Airway
  - If meconium is present, suction the airway while withdrawing suction tube
- Assess Breathing
  - Stimulate by rubbing back or flicking soles of the feet
  - If evidence of central cyanosis, administer 100% O2 via blow-by
- Assess Heart Rate at brachial artery
  - If rate <60 and poor signs of circulation are present after 30 seconds of ventilations, initiate compressions of 100/minute.
  - Stop compressions when heart rate becomes >60
  - If heart rate 60-100/minute, assist with ventilations until heart rate >100
South Dakota Pediatric Guidelines
Newborn Resuscitation
Guide 3065
August 2010

BIRTH

- Term gestation?
- Amniotic fluid clear?
- Breathing or crying?
- Good muscle tone?

Yes
Routine care
  - Provide warmth
  - Clear airway if needed
  - Dry
  - Assess color

No

- Provide warmth
- Position; clear airway\textsuperscript{a}
  (as necessary)
- Dry, stimulate, reposition

Evaluate respirations, HR, and color

Breathing, HR >100 and Pink
Observational care

Breathing, HR >100 but cyanotic
Give supplementary oxygen

Apneic or HR <100

Persistent cyanosis
Effective ventilation, HR >100 and Pink
Postresuscitation care

Provide positive-pressure ventilation\textsuperscript{a}

HR <60

- Provide positive-pressure ventilation\textsuperscript{a}
- Administer chest compressions

HR <60

30 sec

A

30 sec

B

30 sec

C
South Dakota Pediatric Guidelines
Poisonings and Overdose
Guide 3070
August 2010

Ingested Poisons/Overdose

**EMT**
- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway if patient has altered level of consciousness
- Administer O2 as condition warrants.
  - Contact Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222, for assistance if needed
- Transport containers, bottles, labels with ingested substance information
- If patient shows signs of poor perfusion and pulse <60, follow CPR guidelines
- Transport patient in position of comfort or recovery position

Absorbed Poisons

**EMT**
- Remove patient from further exposure, maintaining your own safety
- Complete patient assessment
- Maintain airway if patient has altered level of consciousness
- Administer O2 as condition warrants
- Remove any clothing and decontaminate
- Brush off any dry chemicals or solid toxins, irrigate for 20 minutes
  - If eyes are involved, irrigate for at least 20 minutes, with water running away from the unaffected eye
- Contact Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222, for assistance if needed
- Transport patient in position of comfort or recovery position
EMT

- Complete patient assessment
- Protect patient from harming self
- Administer oxygen as condition warrants
  - Maintain patient's airway post-seizure as necessary
- Obtain blood glucose level, if available
- Treat for additional medical or trauma conditions that may have caused or resulted from the seizure
- Transport in position of comfort or recovery position
- Consider ALS intercept, if available
These guidelines cover specific types of special healthcare needs in pediatric patients. Children with special healthcare needs are those who have or are at risk for chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, and emotional conditions that necessitate use of health and related services of a type or amount not usually required by typically developing children.

**EMT**

- Complete patient assessment
- Priority is given to ABC’s
- Do not be overwhelmed by the machines or devices
- Listen to the caregiver, they know the child best. Inquire about:
  - Child’s baseline abilities
  - Syndromes/Diseases
  - What is different today
  - Symptoms
  - Usual vital signs
  - Devices and medications
- Assume that the child can understand exactly what you say
- Bring all medication and necessary equipment to the hospital if possible (ventilator, trach or gastrostomy tube, etc)
- Ask about forms that may delineate specific resuscitation limitations
- Ask caregivers best way to move the child
Uses
► Medication administration, parenteral (IV) hydration / nutrition administration.

Types
► Totally Implanted (such as Mediport®) or multilumen catheters (such as Hickman® or Broviac® catheters).

Assessment Issues
► Evaluate for DOPE & Infection
  ✓ Displaced – total or partial dislodgement or movement out of vein into internal tissues
  ✓ Obstructed – blood clot, protein, crystallized medications / IV nutrition
  ✓ Pericardial Tamponade - fluid in the pericardial sac due to perforation by catheter or
  ✓ Pulmonary problems – pneumothorax, pulmonary embolism from clot or catheter shear
  ✓ Equipment – tubing kinked or cracked, infusion pump failure.

EMT
✓ Complete patient assessment
✓ Apply direct pressure if bleeding at site or clamp if tubing leading
✓ Administer oxygen as necessary
Uses
► Temporary or permanent malfunction or obstruction of intestine

Types
► Open stomas draining into plastic pouches

Assessment Issues
► Evaluate infection, irritation / trauma, peritonitis

EMT
✔ Complete patient assessment
✔ Apply direct pressure if bleeding at site or clamp if tubing leading
✔ Saline moistened sterile dressing covered by dry dressing if stoma is exposed
Uses
► Post meningitis, brain injury / surgery / tumors, hydrocephalus (water on the brain)

Types
► Polyethylene tubing with reservoir from brain ventricles to abdomen or heart

Assessment Issues
► Evaluate for DOPE & Infection (including meningitis or infected shunt)
  ✅ Displaced – movement of tip into abdominal or heart lining
  ✅ Obstructed – blood clot, protein, kinked tubing causing increased intracranial pressure
  ✅ Peritonitis, Perforation or Pseudocyst – of stomach / bowel
  ✅ Equipment – damaged or separated tubing or reservoir.

EMT
✅ Complete patient assessment
✅ Administer oxygen as necessary
✅ Hyperventilate if signs of brain herniation such as unresponsiveness with unequal pupils, fixed dilated or unresponsive pupils, or increased blood pressure and decreased heart rate
Uses
► Total or enhanced feeding & / or medication administration
► Abdominal / gastrointestinal problems
► Neurological or neuromuscular – brain damage, muscular dystrophy, etc.

Types
► Gastrostomy (G) tube: Percutaneous into stomach.
► Jejunal (J) tube: Percutaneous into jejunum.
► Nasogastric (NG) or nasojejunal (NJ) tube

Assessment Issues
► Evaluate for DOPE & Infection (including peritonitis or cellulitis)
  ✓ Displaced – total or partial removal of tube
  ✓ Obstructed – blood, crystallized feeding / medications, abdominal tissues
  ✓ Peritonitis or Perforation of stomach / bowel
  ✓ Equipment – tubing kinked or cracked, feeding infusion pump failure

EMT
✓ Complete patient assessment
✓ Direct pressure if bleeding at site.
✓ Dry sterile dressing over area if tube is dislodged, or tape partially dislodged tube in place. If tube is blocked, stop feeding and plug tube
✓ If abdominal distention or vomiting, may leave tube open and draining into cup
✓ Bring old tube to hospital for sizing purposes
Technology-Assisted Children – Among Children with Special Health Care Needs is a growing sub-population of children with chronic illnesses who are dependent on medical devices. Several of the most common devices are summarized below with information to assist in the care of children with those devices.

Tracheostomy – breathing tube into trachea through opening in neck.

**Uses**
- Respiratory problems – narrow or obstructed airways, bronchopulmonary dysplasia (chronic lung disease seen in premature babies), etc.
- Neurological or Neuromuscular conditions – brain damage, muscular dystrophy, etc.
- May be ventilator dependent totally or part of time or may breathe on own.

**Types**
- Uncuffed – infant & young child; Cuffed – older child (usually >age 8yr) and adolescent.
- Fenestrated – hole in stem allows breathing through vocal cords to permit talking, or weaning off tracheostomy.
- May be single tube or have inner cannula, which can be removed & cleaned.

**Assessment Issues**
- Evaluate for DOPE & Infection (tracheal or pulmonary).
  - **Displaced** – total or partial removal of tube.
  - **Obstructed** – mucus plug, blood, foreign body, or moved against soft tissues.
  - **Pulmonary problems** – pneumothorax, pneumonia, reactive airway, aspiration.
  - **Equipment** – ventilator malfunction, oxygen depletion, tubing kinked.
- Reassess pulse/respiratory rates frequently.

**EMT**
- Complete patient assessment
- If on ventilator, disconnect and attempt to ventilate with BVM using tracheostomy adaptor (if needed)
- If not on ventilator, administer oxygen with mask or blow-by oxygen over trach as needed
EMT

 ✓ Complete patient assessment
 ✓ Initiate CPR unless obvious signs of death
 ✓ Observe carefully and note:
   ▪ Location and position of child
   ▪ Ambient temperature
   ▪ Objects immediately surrounding the child; including type of mattress and bedding; do not remove or move objects
   ▪ Behavior of all people present and the explanations provided
   ▪ Vomit in mouth or foreign body present
 ✓ Document all observations and report to receiving facility, if patient transported
 ✓ Consider ALS intercept, if available
JumpSTART Pediatric MCI Triage

Able to walk? 
YES → MINOR → Secondary Triage*

NO 

Breathing? 
NO → Position upper airway → APNEIC → BREATHING → IMMEDIATE

YES 

Palpable pulse? 
NO → DECEASED

YES 

5 rescue breaths → IMMEDIATE

Respiratory Rate 
<15 OR >45 → IMMEDIATE

15-45 

Palpable Pulse? 
NO → IMMEDIATE

YES 

AVPU 

"P" (APPROPRIATE) POSTURING OR "U" → IMMEDIATE

"A", "V" OR "P" (APPROPRIATE) → DELAYED

*Evaluate infants first in secondary triage using the entire JS algorithm

© Lou Romig MD, 2002
Medication List
- Activated Charcoal
- Dextrose (Glucose)
- Epinephrine
- Nitroglycerin
- Oxygen
Medication Names
SuperChar, InstaChar, Actidose, Actidose-Aqua, Liqui-Char, Charcoaid

Indications
Should be used for a patient who has ingested poison by mouth

Contraindications
Altered mental status
Ingestion of acids or alkalis (hydrochloric acid, bleach, ammonia, ethanol)
Unable to swallow
Cyanide overdose

Dosage
Adult: 30 to 100 grams
Infants: 12.5 to 25 grams

Side Effects
Blackening of stools
Nausea/vomiting
Constipation
Abdominal cramping
Medication Names
Glutose, Insta-Glucose, Glucosa

Indications
Hypoglycemia
Altered level of consciousness with suspicion of hypoglycemia

Contraindications
Patient who cannot maintain own airway or swallow
Vomiting

Dosage
15-25 grams (1 tube)

Side Effects
None when used correctly in emergency setting
Medication Names
Epinephrine, adrenaline, EpiPen, EpiPen Jr.

Indications
Signs and symptoms of severe allergic reaction
- History of an allergic reaction
- Edema of tongue, mouth or throat
- Dyspnea or respiratory distress
- Hypoperfusion/decreased blood pressure
- General itching/skin welts
- Flushing
- Rapid pulse
- Wheezing and/or stridor

Contraindications
None when used in a life-threatening situation

Dosage
Adult: one adult auto-injector (0.3 mg) if patient weighs greater than 30 kg (66 lbs)
Child: one infant/child auto-injector (0.15 mg) if patient weighs less than 30 kg (66 lbs)

Side Effects
Increased pulse
Pallor
Dizziness
Chest pain
Headache
Nausea/vomiting
Excitability
Anxiety
Tremors
Medication Names
Nitro, Nitro-Spray, Nitro-Stat, Nitrodur, NTG, Nitro Paste

Indications
Acute chest pain
Congestive heart failure

Contraindications
Hypotension
Head injury
Hypovolemia
Patient has taken medication for erectile dysfunction in past 48 hours

Dosage
Nitro tabs: 0.4 mg (1 tablet) Sublingually
Nitro spray: 0.4 mg (1 spray) Sublingually
Nitro paste: ½” – 1”

Side Effects
Headache
Dizziness
Weakness
Tachycardia
Hypotension
Nausea/vomiting
Syncope
Diaphoresis
Medication Names
Oxygen, O₂

Indications
Hypoxia
Chest pains
Dyspnea
Carbon monoxide poisoning
Decreased level of consciousness
Patient with critical assessment findings

Contraindications
Hyperventilation

Dosage
Nasal cannula: 1-6 LPM
Non-rebreather: 10-15 LPM

Side Effects
Decreased level of consciousness and respiratory depression in patient’s with CO₂ retention
Dry mucus membranes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Flow Rate</th>
<th>Percent O₂ Delivered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room Air</td>
<td></td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasal Cannula</td>
<td>1 LPM</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 LPM</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 LPM</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 LPM</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Rebreather Mask</td>
<td>10 - 15 LPM</td>
<td>80 - 90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pocket Mask</td>
<td>10 LPM</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 LPM</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bag-Valve-Mask (with Reservoir)</td>
<td>12 - 15 LPM</td>
<td>90 - 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flow-Restricted, Oxygen-Powered Device (Positive Pressure)</td>
<td>40 LPM</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Oxygen Cylinders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bottle Size</th>
<th>Volume in Liters</th>
<th>Time @ 5 LPM</th>
<th>Time @ 10 LPM</th>
<th>Time @ 15 LPM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>1 hr., 12 min.</td>
<td>36 min.</td>
<td>24 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>2 hrs., 5 min.</td>
<td>1 hr., 3 min.</td>
<td>42 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>10 hrs.</td>
<td>5 hrs.</td>
<td>3 hrs., 20 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>5,300</td>
<td>17 hrs., 40 min.</td>
<td>8 hrs., 50 min.</td>
<td>5 hrs., 53 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>6,900</td>
<td>23 hrs.</td>
<td>11 hrs., 30 min.</td>
<td>7 hrs., 40 min.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above values are based on full bottle (2,000 - 2,200 psi) at 70°F.

Allow for pressure drop of 5 psi for every 1 degree drop in temperature below 70°F. This amounts to approximately 10% reduction in volume at 32°F or 18% reduction at 0°F.
Medication Names
Aspirin

Indications
Acute chest pain

Contraindications
Allergy to aspirin
GI Bleeding
Bleeding Disorders
Peptic Ulcers

Dosage
4 chewable 81 mg tablets PO IF ALLOWED BY YOUR LOCAL PROTOCOLS

Side Effects
Thrombocytopenia
GI bleeding
Nausea/vomiting
Drowsiness
Flushing
Tinnitus
Reference Guides
- Combitube
- Epinephrine Auto Injector
- Metered Dose Inhaler
- PASG/MAST Pants
- Glasgow Coma Scale & Revised Trauma Score
- Vital Signs
In general it is not appropriate to remove a properly placed Combitube. The return of the patient’s gag is not sufficient reason to remove the Combitube. The patient’s level of consciousness must be sufficient to spontaneously protect their own airway.

**Guidelines for Insertion**
- Check Combitube and ensure cuffs inflate properly
- Ventilate the patient 15 seconds using high-flow oxygen
- Place patient head in neutral, inline position
- Perform a tongue-jaw lift with thumb
- Insert Combitube gently, but firmly within 30 seconds of ceasing ventilations
  - Stop insertion when the teeth are between the two black rings
  - If C-spine injury is suspected, ensure c-spine precautions are taken
  - If facial trauma present, use caution as to prevent cuff tears on broken teeth
- Inflate blue pilot balloon, marked #1 with 100 mL of air
- Infla#t white pilot balloon marked #2 with 15 mL of air
- Ventilate through the longer blue tube and check lung sounds
- Ventilate through the shorter white tube if no lungs sounds present on first blue tube

**Indications**
- An unconscious patient that is unable to protect airway, without a gag reflex

**Contraindications**
- Patients less than 5’ tall for a standard Combitube and less than 4’ for a Combitube SA (small adult)
- Patient less than 16 years-old
- Patients with known esophageal disease
- Patients who have ingested a caustic substance
- Presence of tracheostomy
- Known or suspected airway obstruction of the larynx or trachea

**Guidelines for Removal**
- Position patient on side, using spinal injury precautions when indicated
- Have suction equipment readily available, be prepared for vomiting
- Deflate cuffs (blue, then white) and withdraw in a smooth, steady motion
- Suction as needed, monitoring airway and respirations closely
Guidelines for Administration

✓ Check Epi-Pen injector
  ▪ Ensure proper dosage
  ▪ Ensure medication is not discolored
  ▪ Check expiration date
✓ Obtain medical direction if possible, if unable, follow local protocol
✓ Cleanse site if possible
✓ Place auto injector against the lateral portion of patient's thigh
✓ Hold injector firmly against thigh until injector activates and medication is injected (at least 10 seconds)
✓ Document administration time, site and dosage
✓ Dispose injector into sharps container
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Infant</th>
<th>Child/Adult</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eye Opening</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Spontaneously</td>
<td>Spontaneously</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>To speech</td>
<td>To command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>To pain</td>
<td>To pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 No response</td>
<td>No response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Best Verbal Response</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Coos, babbles</td>
<td>Oriented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Irritable cries</td>
<td>Confused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cries to pain</td>
<td>Inappropriate words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Moans, grunts</td>
<td>Incomprehensible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 No response</td>
<td>No response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Best Motor Response</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Spontaneous</td>
<td>Obey commands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Localizes pain</td>
<td>Localizes pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Withdraws from pain</td>
<td>Withdraws from pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Flexion (decorticate)</td>
<td>Flexion (decorticate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Extension (decerebrate)</td>
<td>Extension (decerebrate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 No response</td>
<td>No response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Revised Trauma Score**

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Respiratory Rate</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 - 29</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 30</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - 9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Systolic Blood Pressure</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 90</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76 - 89</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 - 75</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 49</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No pulse</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Convert Glasgow Coma Scale</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 - 15</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 - 12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - 8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - 5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total for Revised Trauma Score**
A meter dose inhaler is used when the patient is showing signs and symptoms of asthma, respiratory distress, allergic reaction and CHF/pulmonary edema

Guidelines for Administration

- Check the inhaler
  - Ensure proper medication
  - Ensure that it is patient’s
  - Check expiration date
- Shake can vigorously
- Ask patient to exhale deeply and place lips around inhaler opening
- Ask patient to inhale slowly and deeply as they depress the canister
- Have the patient hold their breath for as long as comfortably possible
- Replace oxygen mask on patient
- Repeat 2nd dose as needed in approximately one minute
South Dakota Medical Guidelines
PASG/MAST Pants
Guide 5030
August 2010

**Indications**
- Pelvic fracture with hypotension (systolic blood pressure < 90 mmHg)
- Profound hypotension (systolic blood pressure < 60 mmHg)

**Contraindications**
- Penetrating thoracic trauma
- Splinting of lower extremity fractures
- Evisceration of abdominal organs
- Impaled objects in the abdomen
- Pregnancy
- Traumatic cardiac arrest
- Hypotension associated with heart attack

**EMT**
- Remove clothes from lower half of body
- Apply by logrolling patient onto or sliding device under patient
- Fasten straps
- Inflate leg chambers, then abdomen
- Inflate until Velcro crackles or pressure is 80 mmHg, if gauge available
- Check blood pressure every 5 minutes
10-1g  Inflate the PASG, both legs first.

10-1h  Monitor the patient.

10-1i  Close the stopcock valve.
Indications
- Respiratory distress/complaints
- Cardiac conditions
- Multiple system trauma
- Poor color
- Patient’s requiring use of airway adjuncts and/or ventilation
- Suspected shock
- Altered level of consciousness

Precautions
- Patients with hemoglobin disorders such as CO poisonings and anemia may give high O2 readings.
- Readings may be difficult to obtain in states of low perfusion
- Fingernail polish may make readings difficult or inaccurate

Pulse Oximetry Readings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95% - 100%</td>
<td>Normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90% - 94%</td>
<td>Evaluate patient, begin O2 treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85% - 90%</td>
<td>Evaluate patient, begin 100% O2 &amp; treat aggressively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 85%</td>
<td>Major crisis: Evaluate patient, begin 100% O2 &amp; treat aggressively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages</td>
<td>Systolic BP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newborn</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - 12 months</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 6 years</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - 7 years</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - 9 years</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 - 10 years</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 - 11 years</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 - 12 years</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - 13 years</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 - 18 years</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 and older</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Special Circumstances And Laws
- Baby Moses Law
- Bloodborne Pathogens
- Comfort One/DNR
- Crime Scenes/Preservation of Evidence
- Critical Incident Stress Management
- DOA Criteria
- South Dakota Emergency Traffic Laws
Baby Moses Law

Parenting is an exciting and enjoyable time for some and for others it can bring a great deal of stress and fear. If for any reason you feel you cannot parent your child, there are safe places where you can leave your baby. These safe places will take your baby with open arms, no questions asked. These secure places will make sure your baby receives the care and protection he or she deserves.

Safe Places to Leave your Baby

State law in South Dakota allows you to voluntarily leave your baby with a hospital or child placement agency if your child is less than 60 days old. Leaving your baby with one of these places is not a crime as long as your child has not been harmed.

You can leave your baby with:

- Hospitals or clinics
- Law enforcement officers
- Licensed child placement agencies
- Department of Social Services
- Emergency medical technicians
- Firefighters

You may ask for medical information relating to your baby’s medical history. However, it is not required that any information, including name or the parent’s name.

Parental Rights will be Terminated

The place where you leave your baby must notify the Department of Social Services that it has a child. The Department cannot attempt to identify, contact or investigate unless it appears the child has been harmed. The Department or the child placement agency will take custody and care for the baby.
BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

Emergency Medical Services personnel should assume that all bodily fluids and tissues are potentially infectious with bloodborne pathogens including HIV (causing AIDS) and HBV (causing hepatitis), and must protect themselves accordingly by use of body substance isolation (BSI).

Body substance isolation procedures include the appropriate use of hand washing, protective barriers (such as gloves, masks, goggles, etc.), and care in the use and disposal of needles and other sharp instruments. EMTs are also encouraged to obtain the hepatitis B vaccine series to decrease the likelihood of hepatitis B transmission. EMTs who have exudative lesions, weeping dermatitis, or open wounds should refrain from all direct patient care and from handling patient-care equipment as they are at increased risk of transmission and reception of bloodborne pathogens through these lesions. Transmission of bloodborne pathogens has been shown to occur when the blood of the infected patient is able to come in direct contact with the blood of the health-care worker.

Body substance isolation should be practiced in any environment where workers are exposed to bodily fluids, such as:

- Blood
- Sputum
- Semen
- Vaginal secretions
- Synovial fluid
- Amniotic fluid
- Cerebrospinal fluid
- Pleural fluid
- Peritoneal fluid
- Pericardial fluid

EMTs who have had a direct bloodborne pathogen exposure should immediately wash the exposed area with soap and water and a suitable disinfectant. The exposed area should then be covered with a sterile dressing. Upon arrival at the destination hospital, after responsibility for the patient has been transferred to the emergency department, the EMT should thoroughly cleanse the exposed site.

Any ambulance personnel who have had a KNOWN significant exposure to infectious blood or body fluids while providing emergency care to an ill or injured person should follow the individual service exposure guideline and may notify by facsimile or telephone the Department of Health, Office of Communicable Disease Prevention and Control following such exposure. The Communicable Disease Office fax number is (605) 773-5509; telephone number is 1-800-592-1861 or (605) 773-3737.

Upon receiving the report, the Office of Communicable Disease Prevention and Control will contact the exposed individual to evaluate the exposure, counsel, and make referral to a physician if indicated.
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Directive (DNR) is an advance medical directive pertaining to the administration of cardiopulmonary resuscitation, which is a medical order based on informed consent, signed by or on behalf of an individual and a physician, a physician assistant, or a nurse practitioner, directing emergency medical services personnel to not perform resuscitative measures in the event of a respiratory or cardiac arrest or malfunction.

**INFORMATION FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL**

If you are presented with the Comfort One form or encounter a patient wearing a Comfort One bracelet, South Dakota law requires that you follow the Comfort One/South Dakota EMS Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Directive protocols.

For a **Comfort One** patient, emergency medical services personnel:

**WILL:**
- Assist in maintenance of an open airway, **excluding** advanced airway procedures such as the insertion of PtL, combitubes or endotracheal intubation;
- Provide suction;
- Provide oxygen;
- Provide pain medications as directed by patient’s physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner;
- Control bleeding;
- Provide comfort care; and
- Be supportive to patient and family.

If someone else has already begun resuscitating a **Comfort One** patient prior to your arrival you:

**WILL WITHHOLD OR WITHDRAW:**
- Chest Compressions;
- Defibrillation;
- Advanced airway procedures;
- Assisted breathing; or
- Administration of resuscitation medications.
EMS CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION DIRECTIVE

PATIENT INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Patient Name: ___________________________ # ___________________________

Address: ___________________________ City: ___________________________ State: ___________________________ Zip: ___________________________

D.O.B: ___________ Gender: M [ ] F [ ] Eye Color: ________ Hair Color: ___________________________

Race/Ethnic Background: ___________________________

Hospice Program Name (if applicable): ___________________________

Attending Physician, Physician Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner Name, Address & Phone Number: ___________________________

CERTIFICATION OF COMFORT ONE STATUS/EMS-CPR ADVANCE DIRECTIVE

This form constitutes reliable documentation that the above identified patient is certified as a COMFORT ONE patient and as such directs EMS personnel, health care providers and health care facilities to not resuscitate the patient in accordance with the South Dakota EMS Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Directive Statute.

DO NOT RESUSCITATE

Patient Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

My signature below constitutes and confirms standing orders to emergency medical services personnel, health care providers and health care facilities to follow the COMFORT ONE / South Dakota EMS Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Directive protocols. I affirm that this order is written in accordance with accepted medical and ethical guidelines.

Physician, Physician Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner Signature: ___________________________ Date: ______

INFORMATION TO PATIENT

This form certifies you as a COMFORT ONE patient under South Dakota law. If this form or COMFORT ONE bracelet is presented to pre-hospital emergency response personnel, they are required to provide the care described on the reverse side. Emergency medical care will be directed at preventing avoidable suffering and providing supportive comfort measures. It is understood that as a COMFORT ONE patient you will be allowed to die in the natural course of your illness or disease.

REVOCATION

The COMFORT ONE status of the patient may be revoked, at any time by the patient or the person authorized to make medical decisions for the patient. Written notice of the revocation shall be provided in writing as soon as practical to the Department, the attending physician and to those who have actual notice of the CPR directive.

If this form or a bracelet is not immediately available the patient will be resuscitated!

PATIENT’S COPY
If you believe a crime has been committed, contact or notify law enforcement immediately. Protect yourself and other providers. Initiate patient contact only after law enforcement have deemed scene is safe.

**EMT**
- Do not touch or move anything at a crime scene unless it is necessary to do so for patient care.
- Have all EMS providers use the same path of entry and exit.
- Do not walk through fluids on the floor or ground.
- Observe and document original location of items moved by EMS personnel.
- When removing clothing, leave intact as much as possible.
- Do not cut through clothing holes made by gunshot or stabbing.
- If you remove any items from the scene, document action and advise law enforcement.
- Do not sacrifice patient care to preserve evidence.
- Inform receiving hospital that the patient is involved in a crime scene.
- If traffic accident, preserve scene by parking away from skid marks and debris.
EMS personnel are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the causes and contributing factors of critical incident and cumulative stress, and learn to recognize the normal stress reactions that can develop from providing emergency medical services. A Critical Incident Stress Management Program is available to EMS personnel. The program consists of mental health professionals, chaplains, and trained peer support personnel who develop stress reduction activities, provide training, conduct debriefings, and assist EMS personnel in locating available resources. The team will provide voluntary and confidential assistance to those wanting to discuss conflicts or feelings concerning their work or how their work affects their personal lives.

A critical incident is any response that causes EMS personnel to experience unusually strong emotional involvement. A formal or informal debriefing will be provided at the request of medical authorities, ambulance management or EMS personnel directly related to the incident.

Common incidents that cause critical stress include:

- Serious injury or death of a crew member in the line of duty
- Suicide of a crew member
- Injury or death of a friend or family member
- Death of a patient under tragic or emotional circumstances or prolonged or intense rescue
- Sudden death of infant or child
- Injuries to children caused by child abuse
- Injuries or death to civilians caused by EMS personnel
- An event that threatens your own life
- An event that attracts unusual amount of media attention
- A multiple-casualty incident, such as a plane crash, bus crash, or tornado

Critical Incident Stress Debriefings should be held within 24-72 hours of a critical incident. In the event that a Critical Incident Stress Debriefing is needed, have the proper person contact your local Emergency Manager to request the Critical Incident Stress Management Team.
EMT

✓ Complete patient assessment
✓ Criteria for traumatic death determination
  ▪ Decapitation
  ▪ Incineration of torso and/or head
  ▪ Massive crush injury and/or penetrating injury
  ▪ Gross dismemberment of the torso
✓ Ensure the following are present:
  ▪ Unresponsive
  ▪ Apneic
  ▪ Absence of carotid pulse
  ▪ Rigor mortis (do not confuse in a cold environment)
  ▪ Signs of lividity
  ▪ Fixed and dilated pupils
Emergency Vehicles – Use of Lights and Sirens

EMS personnel in the United States have an estimated fatality rate of 12.7 per 100,000 workers, more than twice the national average. Vehicle crashes remain the leading cause of death in EMS. Less than half of EMS workers use restraints in the patient compartment. In addition, lap-belt restraint systems commonly provided in patient compartments do not allow full access to the patient. When properly used, the squad bench lap belts position the EMS worker against the side wall, making it impossible for the worker to bend forward to access the patient. If the EMS worker needs to access the cabinets along the driver-side wall, the belts must be unbuckled to allow the worker to stand up. If CPR or other procedures such as intubation or insertion of IVs must be performed, EMS personnel might need to stand over or kneel near the cot. For these reasons, EMS workers often ride unrestrained, seated on the edge of the squad bench. In addition, unrestrained or improperly restrained patients who become airborne in a crash might pose an additional injury risk to EMS personnel and to themselves.

The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle may disregard traffic regulations when responding to an emergency. The regulations that may be disregarded:

1) Parking on any paved or improved or main-traveled portion of any highway, outside of a business or residence district

2) Proceed past a red light or stop sign or signal, but only after slowing down as necessary for safe operation

3) Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions

4) These regulations may only be utilized if the emergency vehicle is making use of audible and visual signals as required by law

5) This does not entitle the driver to drive without due regard for safety of all persons.
32-26-15. **Yielding right-of-way to emergency vehicles--Duty of driver of emergency vehicle not to exercise right-of-way arbitrarily**--Violation as misdemeanor. The driver of a vehicle upon a highway shall yield the right-of-way to police and fire department vehicles and ambulances if they are operated upon official business and the drivers give an audible signal by bell, siren, or exhaust whistle or visual signal by flashing, oscillating, or rotating beams of red light or combinations of red, blue, or white light visible one hundred eighty degrees to the front of the vehicle. The provisions of this section do not relieve the driver of a police, fire department vehicle, or ambulance from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway nor does it protect the driver of any such vehicle from the consequence of an arbitrary exercise of such right-of-way. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

**Source:** SDC 1939, § 44.0319; SL 1945, ch 189; SL 1989, ch 255, § 152; SL 2007, ch 186, § 4.

32-31-1. **Circumstances under which emergency vehicle may disregard traffic regulations.** The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle, when responding to an emergency call or when in the pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law or when responding to but not upon returning from a fire alarm, may exercise the privileges set forth in § 32-31-2, but subject to the conditions stated in §§ 32-31-3 and 32-31-5.

**Source:** SDC 1939, § 44.0308 as added by SL 1967, ch 191.

32-31-2. **Particular regulations which may be disregarded.** The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle may:

1. Park or stand, irrespective of the provisions of chapter 32-30;
2. Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation;
3. Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions.

**Source:** SDC 1939, § 44.0308 as added by SL 1967, ch 191.

32-31-3. **Use of emergency signals required.** The exemptions granted in subdivisions 32-31-2(2) and (3) to an authorized emergency vehicle apply only if the vehicle is making use of audible or visual signals meeting the requirements of law. However, the exemption granted in subdivision 32-31-2(1) to an authorized emergency vehicle applies only if the vehicle is making use of visual signals meeting the requirements of law.

**Source:** SDC 1939, § 44.0308 as added by SL 1967, ch 191; SL 1989, ch 256, § 35; SL 2007, ch 186, § 1.
32-31-4. **Speed limits inapplicable under specified conditions.** The speed limit set out in §§ 32-25-1.1 to 32-25-17, inclusive, does not apply to any authorized emergency vehicle responding to an emergency call if the driver sounds an audible siren or air horn or both or displays flashing, oscillating, or rotating beams of red light or combinations of red, blue, or white light visible one hundred eighty degrees to the front of the vehicle. The lights shall be capable of warning the public of the presence of an emergency vehicle under normal atmospheric conditions. The speed limit set out in §§ 32-25-1.1 to 32-25-17, inclusive, does not apply to authorized emergency vehicles operated by law enforcement officers who are measuring the speed of other vehicles by use of the emergency vehicle speedometer. Moreover, the driver of an ambulance who has been certified pursuant to § 34-11-6 may operate the emergency vehicle in excess of the speed limit without audible signals while operating outside the city limits of a municipality.


32-31-5. **Duty of operator to use care--Liability for recklessness.** The provisions of this chapter shall not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons, nor shall such provisions protect the driver from the consequences of his reckless disregard for the safety of others.

**Source:** SDC 1939, § 44.0320 as added by SL 1959, ch 252, § 1; SL 1963, ch 254; SL 1967, ch 191.

32-31-6.1. **Stop required upon approaching stopped emergency vehicle using red signals**--Requirements for approaching vehicles using amber or yellow signals--Violation as misdemeanor. Upon approaching from any direction any stopped authorized emergency vehicle making use of red visual signals meeting the requirements of this title, the driver of every other vehicle shall come to a complete stop before reaching the stopped emergency vehicle and may, unless otherwise directed, proceed with caution only after ascertaining that it is safe to do so, and upon approaching from any direction any stopped vehicle making use of amber or yellow warning lights, the driver of every other vehicle shall:

1. If driving on an interstate highway or other highway with two or more lanes traveling in the same direction as the vehicle, merge into the lane farthest from the vehicle and proceed with caution, unless otherwise directed; or

2. If driving on a two lane highway, slow to a speed that is at least twenty miles per hour less than the posted speed limit or five miles per hour when the speed limit is posted at twenty miles per hour or less and proceed with caution, unless otherwise directed.

A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.


44:05:04:24. **Report of property damage or personal injury.** All ambulance licensees must report to the department any property damage in excess of $1,000 caused by or to a licensed ambulance vehicle and any personal injury to the public or ambulance personnel that requires medical attention. The report must be made to the department within five working days after the event which caused the loss or injury.