



**INLAND COUNTIES
EMERGENCY MEDICAL AGENCY
POLICY AND PROTOCOL MANUAL**

Reference No. 14060
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ALTERED LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS/SEIZURES - ADULT

I. FIELD ASSESSMENT/TREATMENT INDICATORS

- Patient exhibiting signs/symptoms of a possible altered level of consciousness characterized by a Glasgow Coma Score of less than 15 or less than patients normal baseline.
- Suspected narcotic dependence, opiate overdose, hypoglycemia, traumatic injury, shock, toxicologic, alcoholism and assess possible cardiac causes.
- Tonic/clonic movements followed by a brief period of unconsciousness (post-ictal).
- Suspect status epilepticus for frequent or extended seizures.
- Consider carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning with any patient exposed to products of combustion.

II. BLS INTERVENTIONS

- Oxygen therapy as clinically indicated. If CO poisoning suspected, administer 100% oxygen via non-rebreather mask per ICEMA Reference #13050 - Smoke Inhalation/CO Exposure/Suspected Cyanide Toxicity.
- Position patient as tolerated. If altered gag reflex in absence of traumatic injury, place in left lateral position.
- Place patient in spinal motion restriction per ICEMA Reference #14090 - Trauma - Adult (15 years of age and older).

Obtain and assess blood glucose level. If indicated, administer Glucose - Oral per ICEMA Reference #11010 Medication - Standard Orders.
- If suspected opiate overdose with severely decreased respiratory drive administer Naloxone per ICEMA Reference #11010 - Medication - Standard Orders.
- Assess patient for medication related reduced respiratory rate or hypotension.
- Assess and document response to therapy.

III. LIMITED ALS (LALS) INTERVENTIONS

- Perform activities identified in the BLS Interventions.
- Obtain vascular access.
- Obtain and assess blood glucose level. If indicated administer:
 - Dextrose per ICEMA Reference #11010 - Medication - Standard Orders, **or**
 - If unable to establish IV, Glucagon may be given one (1) time per ICEMA Reference #11010 - Medication - Standard Orders.

- If indicated may repeat blood glucose level. Repeat Dextrose per ICEMA Reference #11010 - Medication - Standard Orders.

IV. ALS INTERVENTIONS

- Perform activities identified in the BLS and LALS Interventions.
- Place on cardiac monitor and obtain a 12-lead ECG.
- For tonic/clonic type seizure activity, administer:
 - Midazolam per ICEMA Reference #11010 - Medication - Standard Orders.
 - Assess patient for medication related reduced respiratory rate or hypotension.
- For suspected opiate overdose with severely decreased respiratory drive, administer Naloxone per ICEMA Reference #11010 - Medication - Standard Orders.
- Assess and document response to therapy.

V. REFERENCES

| <u>Number</u> | <u>Name</u> |
|---------------|---|
| 11010 | Medication - Standard Orders |
| 13050 | Smoke Inhalation/CO exposure/Suspected Cyanide Toxicity |
| 14090 | Trauma - Adult (15 years of age and older) |