



# INLAND COUNTIES EMERGENCY MEDICAL AGENCY POLICY AND PROTOCOL MANUAL

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## RESPIRATORY EMERGENCIES - PEDIATRIC (Less than 15 years of age)

### I. FIELD ASSESSMENT/TREATMENT INDICATORS

- Asthma
- Toxic Inhalation
- Difficult Breathing

### II. BLS INTERVENTIONS

- Assess environment and determine possible causes.
- If safe remove patient from any suspected contaminant.
- Recognize signs and symptoms of respiratory distress for age.
- Reduce anxiety, assist patient to assume position of comfort.
- Oxygen administration as clinically indicated (humidified oxygen preferred).

### III. LIMITED ALS (LALS) INTERVENTIONS

- Maintain airway with appropriate adjuncts, obtain oxygen saturation on room air if possible.
- Albuterol per ICEMA Reference #11010 - Medication - Standard Orders.
- If no response to Albuterol, consider Epinephrine per ICEMA Reference #11010 - Medication - Standard Orders.
- Obtain vascular access at a TKO rate.
- If allergic reaction suspected, refer to ICEMA Reference #14140 - Allergic Reactions - Pediatric (Less than 15 years of age).
- Base hospital physician may order additional medications or interventions as indicated by patient condition.

### IV. ALS INTERVENTIONS

- Maintain airway with appropriate adjuncts, obtain O<sub>2</sub> saturation on room air if possible.
  - Albuterol with Atrovent, per ICEMA Reference #11010 - Medication - Standard Orders.
- If no response to Albuterol and Atrovent, consider Epinephrine per ICEMA Reference #11010 - Medication - Standard Orders. Obtain vascular access at a TKO rate.
- If allergic reaction suspected, refer to ICEMA Reference #14140 - Allergic Reactions - Pediatric (Less than 15 years of age).

- Base hospital physician may order additional medications or interventions as indicated by patient condition.

**V. BASE HOSPITAL MAY ORDER THE FOLLOWING**

- For severe asthma/respiratory distress that has failed to respond to the other previous treatments, administer Magnesium Sulfate per ICEMA Reference #7040 - Medication - Standard Orders.

**V. REFERENCES**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Name</b>
11010	Medication - Standard Orders
14140	Allergic Reactions - Pediatric (Less than 15 years of age)