# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protocol Number</th>
<th>Protocol Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>Altered Mental Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>Stroke/Suspected Stroke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Respiratory Distress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>Seizures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Sepsis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>Excited Delirium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Altered Mental Status

The purpose of this protocol is to provide for the assessment and treatment of patients with altered mental status. Consideration should be given to treatable and reversible causes due to hypoglycemia, opioid overdose or unknown etiology.

1. Follow General Pre-hospital Care Protocol.
2. If patient is not alert or vital signs are unstable:
   a. Evaluate and maintain airway, provide oxygenation and support ventilations as needed per Emergency Airway Procedure.
   b. If no suspected spinal injury, place the patient in recovery position.
3. If respiratory depression is present due to suspected opioid overdose, administer Naloxone per Naloxone Administration Procedure.
4. Restrain patient if necessary, refer to Patient Restraint Procedure.
5. For a known diabetic, consider small amounts of oral glucose if unable to measure blood glucose level.
6. If the patient is demonstrating signs of hypoglycemia, measure blood glucose level.
   a. If less than 60 mg/dL, administer oral glucose.

![MCA Approval of Blood Glucose Testing by specific MFR Agencies](Provide participating agency list to BETP)

☐ YES  ☐ NO

7. If glucose is less than 60 mg/dL, and patient is demonstrating signs of hypoglycemia:
   a. Administer IV Dextrose 25 gm.
   b. Per MCA selection, if unable to start IV, when IV Dextrose is indicated, administer Glucagon.

![Glucagon 1mg IM](Included  Not Included)

8. Recheck the blood glucose 10 minutes after glucose/Glucagon administration (Per MCA selection).
9. Contact medical control.
Follow General Prehospital Care Protocol

- Restrain patient, if necessary. Refer to Patient Restraint Procedure
- Evaluate and maintain airway, provide oxygenation, and support ventilations as needed per Emergency Airway Procedure.
- If respiratory depression/suspected opioid overdose, refer to Naloxone Administration Procedure

If no suspected trauma, place patient in the recovery position

MCA Approval of Blood Glucose Testing by Specific MFR Agencies
Provide Agency List to BETP

- Yes
- No

- Signs of Hypoglycemia?
- Known Diabetic?
- Check Blood Glucose
- Glucose < 60 mg/DL?
- Administer Oral Glucose

Establish Vascular Access

- Glucose < 60 mg/DL?
- Administer Dextrose 50% (25 g) IV

No Access?

- Glucagon 1 mg IM
- Included
- Not Included
- Administer Glucagon 1 mg IM
- Recheck Blood Glucose 10 minutes after administration

Contact Medical Control
Stroke or Suspected Stroke

1. Follow **General Pre-hospital Care Protocol**.
2. Utilize the Cincinnati Pre-hospital Stroke Scale (CPSS). Try to elicit the following signs:
   - A. Facial droop (have patient show teeth or smile)
   - B. Arm drift (have patient close eyes and hold both arms straight out for 10 seconds)
   - C. Abnormal speech (have patient say “the sky is blue in Michigan”)
   *Any deficit in the CPSS is considered positive for stroke.*

3. If the patient is demonstrating signs of hypoglycemia, measure blood glucose level.
   a. If less than 60 mg/dL, administer oral glucose.
   - **MCA Approval of Blood Glucose Testing by specific MFR Agencies**
     *(Provide participating agency list to BETP)*
     - ☐ YES
     - ☐ NO
   b. Treat per **Altered Mental Status Protocol**.

4. If seizure, follow **Seizures Protocol**.
5. Document time last seen normal for patient, if known.
6. Minimize scene time, notify destination hospital as soon as possible and begin transport.

7. Initiate vascular access. (**DO NOT** delay scene time for IV.)
8. Monitor ECG. (**DO NOT** delay scene time for ECG monitoring.)
Follow General Prehospital Care Protocol

Utilize the Cincinnati Pre-hospital Stroke Scale. Try to elicit the following signs:
- **Face** – facial droop present (have patient show teeth or smile)
- **Arm** – arm drift present (have patient close eyes and hold arms straight out for 10 seconds)
- **Abnormal Speech** – (have the patient say "The sky is blue in Michigan."

MCA Approval of Blood Glucose Testing by Specific MFR Agencies
Provide Agency List to BETP
- Yes
- No

If the patient seizes, go to **Seizures Protocol**
If blood glucose is <60 mg/dL, treat per **Altered Mental Status Protocol - Adult**

- Document time last seen normal for patient, if known.
- Minimize scene time, notify destination hospital as soon as possible and begin transport.

- **Initiate Vascular Access** (Do not delay scene time)
- **Monitor ECG** (Do not delay scene time)
**Respiratory Distress**

1. Follow General Pre-hospital Care Protocol.
2. Allow patient a position of comfort.
3. Determine the type of respiratory problem involved:

**CLEAR BREATH SOUNDS:**
- 1. Possible metabolic problems, MI, pulmonary embolus, hyperventilation
- 2. Obtain 12-lead ECG.

**ASYMMETRICAL BREATH SOUNDS:**
- 1. If evidence of tension pneumothorax and patient unstable, consider decompression (refer to Pleural Decompression Procedure)

**STRIDOR/UPPER AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION:**
- 1. Complete Obstruction:
- 2. Partial Obstruction: epiglottitis, foreign body, anaphylaxis:
  - B. Consider anaphylaxis (see Anaphylaxis/Allergic Reaction Protocol).
  - C. Transport in position of comfort.

**RHONCHI (SUSPECTED PNEUMONIA):**
- 1. Sit patient upright.
- 2. Consider CPAP per MCA selection. Refer to CPAP/BiPAP Procedure.
- 3. Consider NS IV/IO fluid bolus up to 1 liter, wide open if tachycardia, repeat as needed.

**CRACKLES (CHF/PULMONARY EDEMA):**
- 1. Refer to the Pulmonary Edema/CHF protocol in the adult cardiac protocols.

**WHEEZING, DIMINISHED BREATH SOUNDS (ASTHMA, COPD):**
- 1. Assist the patient in using their own Albuterol Inhaler, if available
- 3. Consider CPAP per MCA selection. Refer to CPAP/BiPAP Procedure.
- 4. Administer Epinephrine auto-injector (0.3 mg) in patients with impending respiratory failure unable to tolerate nebulizer therapy.
- 5. Administer Bronchodilator per Nebulized Bronchodilators Procedure.
6. Administer Epinephrine 1 mg/ml, 0.3 mg (0.3 ml) IM in patients with impending respiratory failure unable to tolerate nebulizer therapy.

7. Per MCA Selection, if a second nebulized treatment is needed, administer Prednisone OR Methylprednisolone.

**Medication Options:**

- **Prednisone**
  - 50 mg tablet PO
  - □ YES ☐ NO

- **Methylprednisolone**
  - 125 mg IV
  - □ YES ☐ NO

8. For MCA with both selected, Prednisone PO is the preferred medication. Methylprednisolone is secondary and reserved for when a patient can't take a PO medication.

9. Consider CPAP/BiPAP (if available) per **CPAP/BiPAP Procedure**.

**Asthma:**

10. Consider repeat Epinephrine 1mg/ml, 0.3 mg (0.3 ml) IM in patients with impending respiratory failure unable to tolerate nebulizer therapy.

11. Consider Magnesium Sulfate 2gms slowly IV in refractory Status Asthmaticus. Administration of Magnesium Sulfate is best accomplished by adding Magnesium Sulfate 2gm to 100 to 250 ml of NS and infusing over approximately 10 minutes.
Follow General Pre-hospital Care Protocol

- Allow patient position of comfort
- Determine type of respiratory problem

Nature of Airway Sounds?

- Clear
  - Possible
    - Metabolic Problems
    - Myocardial Infarction
    - Pulmonary Embolus
    - Hyperventilation
  - Obtain 12 Lead ECG

- Stridor
  - Complete or Partial Obstruction?
    - Follow Emergency Airway Procedure

- Rhonchi (Pneumonia)
  - Sit Patient Upright
  - Consider Fluid Bolus
  - Refer to CPAP/BiPAP Procedure

- Crackles (CHF/Pulmonary Edema)
  - Consider Anaphylaxis, refer to CHF/Pulmonary Edema

- Wheezing (Asthma/COPD), See Page 2

Asymmetric

If evidence of tension pneumothorax and patient unstable refer to Pleural Decompression Procedure

Possible
- Metabolic Problems
- Myocardial Infarction
- Pulmonary Embolus
- Hyperventilation

Consider Anaphylaxis, refer to Anaphylaxis/Allergic Reaction Protocol
Wheezing (Asthma/COPD)

Assist patient with their own Albuterol, if available

Consider CPAP. CPAP/BiPAP Procedure

Administer Epinephrine auto-injector (0.3 mg) for patients in impending respiratory failure, unable to tolerate nebulizer treatments

Administer bronchodilator Per Nebulized Bronchodilators Procedure

Paramedics:
- Administer Epinephrine 1mg/ml, 0.3 mg IM to patients in impending respiratory failure, unable to tolerate nebulizer treatments
- If a second nebulized treatment is needed, administer steroid, per MCA selection.

Consider CPAP/BiPap. Refer to CPAP/BiPAP Procedure

Contact Medical Control

- Consider repeat Epinephrine 1mg/ml, 0.3 mg IM to patients in impending respiratory failure, unable to tolerate nebulizer treatments
- For status asthmaticus, consider Magnesium Sulfate 2 gm slowly IV. (Add Magnesium Sulfate 2 gm to 100 or 250 ml NS and infuse over 10 minutes)

Medication Options:
(Choose One)

- Prednisone 50 mg tablet PO
  ☐ YES ☐ NO
- Methylprednisolone 125 mg IV
  ☐ YES ☐ NO
Seizures

1. Follow General Pre-hospital Care Protocol.

2. **IF PATIENT IS ACTIVELY SEIZING:**
   A. Protect patient from injury.
   B. Do not force anything between teeth.

   ☑ C. Administer Midazolam 10 mg IM prior to IV start.

   ☑ D. If blood glucose is found to be less than 60 mg/dL or hypoglycemia is suspected:
     a. Administer Dextrose 25 gm IV.
     b. If no IV access, per MCA selection, administer glucagon 1 mg IM

     ![Glucagon included?](Yes No)

   ☑ E. If patient is pregnant (eclampsia)
     a. Administer Magnesium Sulfate 2 gm over 10 minutes IV/IO until seizure stops. Administration of Magnesium Sulfate is best accomplished by adding Magnesium Sulfate 2gm to 100 or 250 ml of NS and infusing over approximately 10 minutes.
     b. If eclamptic seizure does not stop after magnesium, then administer benzodiazepine as specified below.

   F. If IV already established and Midazolam IM has not been administered, administer
     a. Midazolam 5 mg IV/IO OR
     b. Lorazepam 2 mg slow IV push until seizure stops, per MCA selection.

     ![Medication Options:](Choose One)
     ☐ Midazolam 5 mg IV/IO OR
     ☐ Lorazepam 2 mg IV/IO

   G. If seizures persist
     a. Per MCA selection, repeat Midazolam 5mg IV/IO/IM OR
     b. Lorazepam 2 mg slow IV push until seizure stops
     c. Contact medical control

3. **IF PATIENT IS NOT ACTIVELY SEIZING** and has/is:
   A. Altered level of consciousness, refer to ALTERED MENTAL STATUS PROTOCOL.
   B. Alert
     a. Monitor for changes
     b. Obtain vascular access.
Michigan
ADULT TREATMENT
SEIZURES

Initial Date: 11/15/2012
Revised Date: 10/25/2017

Follow General Pre-Hospital Protocol

Is the patient actively seizing?

Seizing

- Protect patient from injury.
- Do not force anything between teeth
- Assess glucose, if possible (Do not Delay Midazolam)

Not Seizing

Alert

- Monitor for changes
- Establish vascular access

Not Alert

Refer to Altered Mental Status Protocol

Hypoglycemic

Administer: Dextrose 25 gm IV
If no IV, administer Glucagon 1 mg IM, Per MCA selection

Still Seizing?

And Hypoglycemic?

Contact Medical Control

Administer additional: Dextrose 25 gm IV

Glucagon included?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Pregnant

Administer: Magnesium Sulfate 2 gm over 10 minutes IV/IO
(Add 2 gm Magnesium Sulfate to 100 or 250 ml NS and infuse over 10 min)

Still Seizing?

Prior to IV Start, Administer Midazolam 10 mg IM

If IV already established and Midazolam IM has not been administered

Administer:
Midazolam 5 mg IV/IO
or
Lorazepam 2 mg IV/IO, Per MCA selection

Medication Options: (Choose One)
☐ Midazolam 5 mg IV/IO
OR
☐ Lorazepam 2 mg IV/IO

Still Seizing?

MCA Name: Click here to enter text.
MCA Board Approval Date: Click here to enter text.
MCA Implementation Date: Click here to enter text.
Protocol Source/References: NAEMSO Clinical Guidelines
Still Seizing?

Administer additional:
Midazolam 5 mg IV/IO/IM
or
Lorazepam 2 mg IV/IO,
Per MCA selection

Contact Medical Control
**Sepsis**

It is the purpose of this policy to recognize and treat sepsis early to promote optimal care and survival of patients who may be septic. This protocol applies to patients 14 years and above with a clinical suspicion of systemic infection who have 2 or more of the inclusion criteria. These patients are defined as meeting criteria for suspicion of sepsis and should be evaluated and treated per this protocol.

**INCLUSION CRITERIA**

1. Clinical suspicion of systemic infection, and two or more of the following:
   A. Hyperthermia temp $>38^\circ\text{C}$ (100.4 \text{F})
   B. Hypothermia temp $<36^\circ\text{C}$ (96.8 \text{F})
   C. Heart rate $>90\text{bpm}$
   D. Respiratory rate $<10$ or $>20$ per minute
   E. SBP $<90$ mmHg or evidence of hypoperfusion

**Treatment**

1. Follow General Pre-Hospital Care protocol.
2. Place patient in supine position.
3. Start large bore IV catheter.
4. Start second large bore IV catheter, if time permits.
5. Place on cardiac monitor and treat rhythm according to appropriate protocol.
6. Place on continuous pulse oximetry.
7. Measure blood glucose.
8. If the patient meets inclusion criteria, administer a NS IV/IO fluid bolus up to 1 liter, wide open. Reassess the patient, repeat boluses to a maximum of 2 L NS as long as vital sign abnormalities persist.
10. (Optional) Measure ETCO2 level. If CO2 $<25$, report level to the receiving facility as soon as possible.
Clinical suspicion of systemic infection and two or more of the following:

- Hyperthermia temp > 38 °C (100.4°F)
- Hypothermia temp < 36° C (96.8° F)
- Heart rate > 90bpm
- Respiratory rate < 10 or > 20 per minute
- SBP < 90 mmHg or evidence of hypoperfusion

If hypotension persists, refer to Shock Protocol.

Measure ETCO2, if available. If CO2 < 25, report level to the receiving facility ASAP.
**Excited Delirium**

Indications: Patient who is an imminent physical threat to personnel and/or themselves.

**Treatment**

1. Ensure ALS response
2. Follow General Pre-hospital Care Protocol
3. Coordinate with on scene law enforcement before any physical patient contact. Refer to Patient Restraint Procedure.
4. Obtain history when possible and perform a visual patient assessment looking for symptoms of ExDS. If an alternate cause of the behavior is likely, transition to the Altered Mental Status Protocol.
5. If the patient remains combative, following restraint by law enforcement:
   a. Per MCA selection, administer
      - Midazolam 10 mg IM or 5 mg IN OR Ketamine 4 mg/kg IM.

   b. If hyperthermic, provide cooling – ice packs to neck, axilla and groin; fluids to skin
6. Obtain temperature
   b. If hyperthermic, provide cooling – ice packs to neck, axilla and groin; fluids to skin
7. Provide fluid bolus of up to 2 L of NS
8. Restrain patient per the Patient Restraint Procedure in anticipation of the sedation wearing off.
9. Evaluate for other causes of Altered Mental Status including: Alcohol, Epilepsy/Seizure, Insulin, Overdose, Uremia/Under dose, Cardiac, Hypoxia, Environment, Stroke, Sepsis, Trauma, Ingestion, Psych, Phenothiazines, Salicylates
10. Monitor EKG, consider 12-lead if any evidence of hyperkalemia (peaked T waves, prolonged PR, widened QRS)
11. Monitor capnography, if possible
12. Additional sedation as needed, per Patient Sedation Procedure.

**MCA Selection (Choose One)**

- ☐ Midazolam 10 mg IM or 5 mg IN OR
- ☐ Ketamine 4 mg/kg IM
Assure the Scene is SECURE

Follow General Pre-hospital Care Protocol

- Coordinate with Law Enforcement on scene before any physical patient contact
- Obtain history when possible
- Perform visual patient assessment looking for symptoms of Excited Delirium

Refer to Patient Restraint Procedure

If Alternate cause is likely, refer to Altered Mental Status Protocol

Have Law Enforcement restrain patient

Per MCA Selection
Administer Ketamine (4 mg/kg IM) OR Midazolam 10 mg IM or 5 mg IN

MCA Selection (Choose One)

☐ Midazolam 10 mg IM or 5 mg IN
OR
☐ Ketamine 4 mg/kg IM

- If hyperthermic, provide cooling – ice packs to neck, axilla and groin; fluids to skin
- Provide fluid bolus of up to 2 L of NS
- Evaluate for other causes of Altered Mental Status including: Alcohol, Epilepsy/Seizure, Insulin, Overdose, Uremia/Under dose, Cardiac, Hypoxia, Environment, Stroke, Sepsis, Trauma, Ingestion, Psych, Phenothiazines, Salicylates
- Monitor EKG, consider 12-lead if any evidence of hyperkalemia (peaked T waves, prolonged PR, widened QRS)

Additional sedation as needed, per Patient Sedation Procedure