



ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCIES

Effective: January 1, 2021
Replaces: April 27, 2017
Review: January 1, 2023

1. BLS Treatment

- 1.1. Routine Medical Care – Adult **(700-S04)**
 - 1.1.1. **Oxygen** – titrate as appropriate
- 1.2. Obtain temperature
- 1.3. Treat for signs and symptoms of shock as necessary **(700-A10)**

2. ALS Treatment

- 2.1. **Vascular Access (IV)**, TKO
- 2.2. **Vascular Access (IO)**, if patient is unconscious
- 2.3. If patient presents with dysrhythmias, treat as appropriate. If core temperature is less than 86°F, withhold IV medications until body temperature rises

3. Hyperthermia

- 3.1. Remove patient from hot environment
- 3.2. Remove clothing and sponge patient with cool water or normal saline to promote evaporation cooling, avoid shivering
- 3.3. Place cold packs to neck, groin and axilla
- 3.4. If actively seizing treat for seizures as appropriate **(700-A02)**
- 3.5. **500ml Fluid bolus**, if there are no signs of pulmonary edema
 - 3.5.1. May repeat once, if fatigue, altered mentation and/or hypotension persists

4. Hypothermia

- 4.1. Remove patient from cold environment
- 4.2. Remove wet or restrictive clothing
- 4.3. Place hot packs to neck, groin and axilla
- 4.4. If unresponsive, assess pulse for 45 seconds, if no pulse is present **Start CPR**
- 4.5. If defibrillation is indicated, limit to one (1) shock until patient is warm
- 4.6. If patient presents with dysrhythmias, treat as appropriate
- 4.7. If core temperature is less than 86°F, withhold IV medications until body temperature rises

5. Insect Sting or Bite

- 5.1. Remove stinger using a scraping motion, do not squeeze or use tweezers during removal, cold packs may be applied to relieve pain

6. Snake Bite

- 6.1. Do not apply cold pack, tourniquet, incise wound, or attempt to suck out venom
- 6.2. Remove jewelry or restrictive clothing on the affected extremity
- 6.3. Circle any swelling around bite marks with a pen and note time and monitor progression and indicate timeframes
- 6.4. Avoid movement with the affected extremity, splint as if fractured, avoid restrictive wrapping
- 6.5. Keep extremity at or below level of heart
- 6.6. If destination guidance is required, make **BASE CONTACT** to locate antivenom