

Behavioral Emergencies

Adult & Pediatric

2.5

EMT/ADVANCED STANDING ORDERS- ADULT & PEDIATRIC

E/A

- Routine Patient Care.
 - Approach patient using the SAFER Model.
 - Observe and record the patient's behavior.
 - Consider associated domestic violence or child abuse, see [Response to Domestic Violence Policy 8.15](#).
 - Determine if patient is under the care of mental health professionals and record contact information.
 - Assess for risk to self and others. Ask patient directly if they are thinking about hurting self or others.
 - A patient who is a danger to self or others may not refuse care. If patient refuses care, contact police if unable to convince patient to be transported. (Refer to [Police Custody Policy 8.13](#), [Refusal of Care Policy 8.14](#), and/or [Restraints Procedure 6.3](#)).
 - If the patient does not appear to be an immediate threat to self or others and refuses transport:
 - Encourage patient to seek mental health evaluation.
 - Provide the mental health center emergency services number 1-800-273-TALK (8255).
 - Avoid leaving the patient alone, if possible. Assist in contacting responsible family/friend.
- For patient with suspected Excited/Agitated Delirium:
- Treat hyperthermia, see [Hyperthermia Protocol 2.9](#).
 - Monitor cardiac activity and oxygen levels.

PARAMEDIC STANDING ORDERS - ADULT

P

See [Restraints Procedure 6.3](#)

SAFER Model

- S** Stabilize the situation by lowering stimuli, including voice.
- A** Assess and acknowledge crisis by validating patient's feelings and not minimizing them.
- F** Facilitate identification and activation of resources (clergy, family, friends, or police).
- E** Encourage patient to use resources and take actions in his/her best interest.
- R** Recovery/referral - leave patient in the care of a responsible person, professional or transport to appropriate medical facility. Do not leave the patient alone when EMS clears the scene.

PEARLS:

Consider all possible medical / trauma causes for behavior and treat appropriately:

- Hypoglycemia
- Head Injury, stroke, seizure (post-ictal)
- Poisoning, substance abuse, drug, alcohol