# Poisoning/Substance Abuse/Overdose - Pediatric



#### EMT/AEMT STANDING ORDERS

- Routine Patient Care.
- Prior to calling Poison Control attempt to identify substance, quantity, time/route of exposure and patient information (weight, medications, history, intentional, accidental).
- Contact Poison Control at (800) 222-1222 as soon as practical.
- For suspected opioid overdose with severe respiratory depression, administer
  - **Infant & Toddle**r: Naloxone 0.5 mg (0.5 mL) per nostril for a total of 1mg.
  - Small Child and larger: Naloxone 1 mg (1 mL) per nostril for a total of 2
- Ingested Poison:



- Consider activated charcoal per length-based resuscitation tape if advised by Poison Control or Medical Control.
- For suspected isolated cyanide poisoning, see Smoke Inhalation Protocol
- For decontamination/hazardous materials exposure: refer to Hazardous Materials 9.0.
- For hypoglycemia, see <u>Hypoglycemia Emergencies 2.9P</u>.
- For seizures, see Seizures Protocol 2.17P.

### **ADVANCED EMT STANDING ORDERS**



For suspected opiate overdose with severe respiratory depression consider: Naloxone 0.1 mg/kg IN/IV refer to Pediatric Color Coded Appendix 3, repeat every 3 - 5 minutes to a total of 10 mg

#### PARAMEDIC STANDING ORDERS

### **Suggested Treatments**



- Beta Blocker and Calcium Channel Blocker, see <u>Bradycardia Protocol 3.1P</u>.
- **Dystonic Reaction:**
- Diphenhydramine 1mg/kg IV/IM up to 50 mg
- Organophosphates, see Nerve Agent/Organophosphate Protocol 2.12P.
- Tricyclic with symptomatic dysrhythmias, (e.g., tachycardia and wide QRS > 100 milliseconds):
  - Sodium bicarbonate 2 mEq/kg IV.



This protocol is designed to provide general guidelines for treatment. Specific treatments or antidotes may be appropriate as directed by on-line medical control or in consultation with Poison Control.

#### PEARLS:

- If possible, bring container/bottles, and/or contents.
- Pulse oximetry may NOT be accurate for toxic inhalational patients.
- Capnography may be helpful for monitoring respiratory status and titrating to lowest effective naloxone dose. See Capnography Procedure 6.1.

**Protocol Continues** 

Medical Protocol

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2.16P

**Protocol Continued** 

Signs & Symptoms, which may or may not be present:

- **Acetaminophen**: initially no signs/symptoms or nausea/vomiting. If not detected and treated, may cause irreversible liver failure.
- Akathisia: May consist of feelings of anxiety, agitation, and jitteriness, as well as inability to sit still / pacing. This may be induced by antipsychotics, such as haloperidol, or anti-emetics such as prochlorperazine or metoclopramide.
- Anticholinergic: tachycardia, fever, dilated pupils, mental status changes. Blind as a bat (blurred vision). Dry as a bone (dry mouth). Red as a beet (flushing). Mad as a hatter (confusion). Hot as a hare (hyperthermia).
- Aspirin: abdominal pain, vomiting, tachypnea, fever and/or altered mental status. Renal dysfunction, liver failure, and or cerebral edema among other things can take place later.
- Cardiac Medications: dysrhythmias, altered mental status, hypotension, hypoglycemia.
- Depressants: bradycardia, hypotension, decreased temperature, decreased respirations, non-specific pupils.
- Dystonic Reaction: Neurological movement disorder, in which sustained muscle contractions
  cause twisting and repetitive movements or abnormal postures. This may be induced by
  antipsychotics, such as haloperidol, or anti-emetics such as prochlorperazine or
  metoclopramide.
- Opiate: Respiratory depression or arrest, pinpoint pupils, decreased mental states. Prolonged overdoses may result in compartment syndrome and/or hypothermia.
- Organophosphates: bradycardia, increased secretions, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, pinpoint pupils.
- Solvents: nausea, coughing, vomiting, mental status change and arrhythmias. Patient with significant solvent exposure, must be handled gently to reduce the incident of arrhythmia and/ or subsequent cardiac arrest.
- **Sympathomimetic/Stimulants**: tachycardia, hypertension, seizures, agitation, increased temperature, dilated pupils, anxiety, paranoia, diaphoresis. Examples are bath salts, cocaine, methamphetamine, ecstasy, ADHD drugs, thyroid meds (rarely), salbutamol.
- Tricyclic: seizures, dysrhythmias, hypotension, decreased mental status or coma.