General Pre-Hospital Care

Patient care should be initiated at the patient’s side prior to patient movement or transport for most medical conditions. Unless otherwise stated, pediatric protocols will apply to patients less than or equal to 14 years of age or up to 36 kg.

1. Assess scene safety and use appropriate personal protective equipment.
2. Complete primary survey.
3. When indicated, implement airway intervention as per the Emergency Airway Procedure.
4. When indicated, administer oxygen and assist ventilations as per the Oxygen Administration Procedure.
5. Assess and treat other life threatening conditions per appropriate protocol.
6. Obtain vital signs including pulse oximetry if available or required, approximately every 15 minutes, or more frequently as necessary to monitor the patient’s condition (minimum 2 sets suggested).
7. Perform a secondary survey consistent with patient condition.
8. Follow specific protocol for patient condition.

10. Establish vascular access per Vascular Access & IV Fluid Therapy Procedure when fluid or medication administration may be necessary.

11. Apply cardiac monitor and treat rhythm according to appropriate protocol. If applicable, obtain 12-lead ECG. Provide a copy of the rhythm strip or 12-lead ECG to the receiving facility, be sure to place patient identifiers on strip.

12. Consider use of capnography as appropriate and if available, per Waveform Capnography Procedure.

NOTE: When possible, provide a list of the patient’s medications or bring the medications to the hospital.