



Behavioral



History

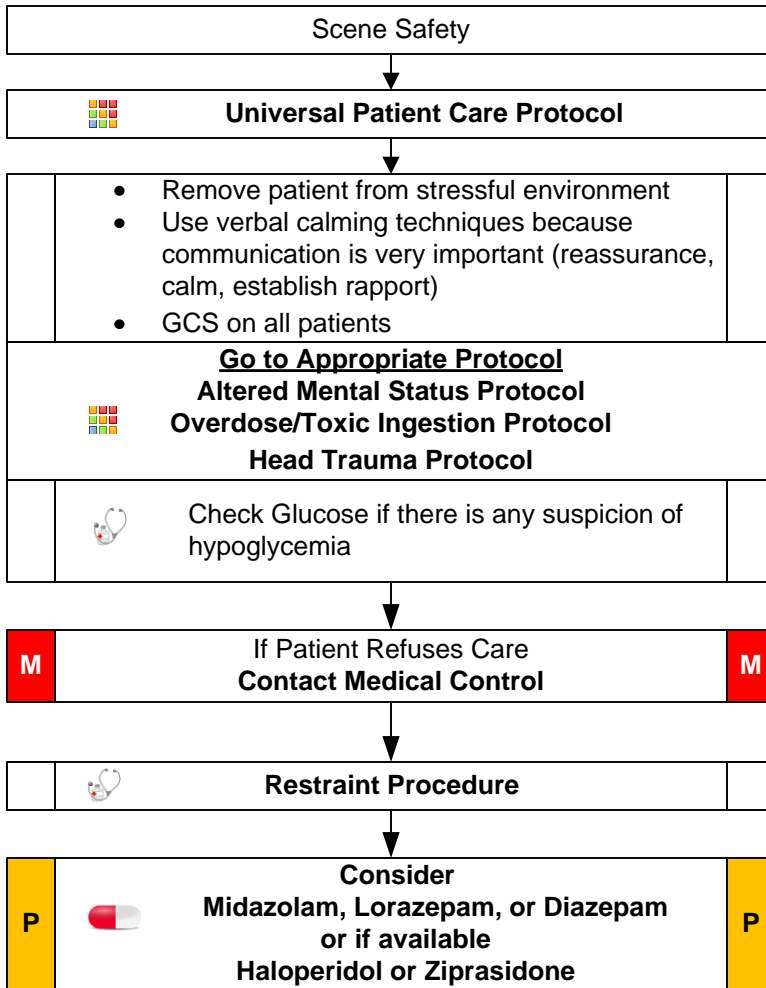
- Situational crisis
- Psychiatric illness/ medications
- Injury to self or threats to others
- Medic alert tag
- Substance abuse / overdose
- Diabetes

Signs and Symptoms

- Anxiety, agitation, confusion
- Affect change, hallucinations
- Delusional thoughts, bizarre behavior
- Combative violent
- Expression of suicidal / homicidal thoughts

Differential

- **see Altered Mental Status differential**
- **Alcohol Intoxication**
- **Toxin / Substance abuse**
- **Medication effect / overdose**
- **Withdrawal syndromes**
- **Depression**
- **Bipolar (manic-depressive)**
- **Schizophrenia**
- **Anxiety disorders**



Legend		
	MR	
B	EMT	B
I	EMT- I	I
P	EMT- P	P
M	Medical Control	M

	<p>If available, consider Oral Glucose, 1 to 2 tubes if awake and no risk for aspiration</p>	
I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% Dextrose Adult • 10% Dextrose Pediatric 	I
	<p> Glucagon if no IV access</p>	

General Protocols

Pearls

- **Recommended Exam: Mental Status, Skin, Heart, Lungs, Neuro**
- Your safety first!!
- **Consider Haldol or Ziprasidone for patients with history of psychosis or a benzodiazepine for patients with presumed substance abuse.**
- Be sure to consider all possible medical/trauma causes for behavior (hypoglycemia, overdose, substance abuse, hypoxia, head injury, etc.)
- Do not irritate the patient with a prolonged exam.
- Do not overlook the possibility of associated domestic violence or child abuse.
- If patient is suspected of agitated delirium suffers cardiac arrest, consider a fluid bolus and sodium bicarbonate early.
- **All patients who receive either physical or chemical restraint must be continuously observed by ALS personnel on scene or immediately upon their arrival.**
- Any patient who is handcuffed or restrained by Law Enforcement and transported by EMS must be accompanied by law enforcement in the ambulance.
- Do not position or transport any restrained patient in such a way that could impact the patients respiratory or circulatory status.

Protocol 7