**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.