Approved 9/2/26, Effective 1/15/27, replaces all prior versions

11B - COLD ILLNESS/INJURY ADULT & PEDIATRIC

EMERGENCY MEDICAL DISPATCHER
EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDER
EMT
EMT-INTERMEDIATE 85
ADVANCED EMT
PARAMEDIC

TREATMENT PRIORITIES
1. Warming therapy
2. Vital signs
3. Modified cardiac arrest resuscitation (when applicable)

EMD

PROTECT FROM COLD
REMOVE WET CLOTHING
WARM WITHOUT RUBBING AFFECTED AREAS
DO NOT GIVE ALCOHOL TO DRINK

EMR / EMT

GENERAL SUPPORTIVE CARE
REMOVE FROM COLD ENVIRONMENT
REMOVE WET/RESTRICTIVE CLOTHING
APPLY HEAT PACKS TO GROIN, NECK, AXILLA
COVER PATIENT WITH BLANKETS TO EXTENT CLINICALLY POSSIBLE
OBTAIN VITAL SIGNS
O_2 VIA NC, NRB, OR BVM AS APPROPRIATE (WARM & HUMIDIFIED O_2 if equipped)
APPLY CARDIAC MONITOR (if equipped)

UNRESPONSIVE HYPOTHERMIA PATIENT STATUS?
ASSESS BREATHING/PULSE FOR UP TO 45 SECONDS
PERFORM CPR IF IN CARDIOPULMONARY ARREST
IF DEFIBRILLATION ADVISED BY AED, LIMIT TO ONE DEFIBRILLATION UNTIL WARMED

FROSTBITE?
APPLY LOOSE STERILE DRESSINGS AND SPLINT INVOLVED EXTREMITIES

EMT OR HIGHER LICENSE:
MEASURE END – TIDAL CO_2 & MONITOR WAVEFORM CAPNOGRAPHY (if equipped, **Mandatory use if pt intubated)
PLACE SUPRAGLOTTIC AIRWAY IF INDICATED & ONLY IF BVM VENTILATIONS INEFFECTIVE

EMT-I85 / AEMT

ADULT: INTUBATE IF INDICATED

IV ACCESS
ADULT: IV NS (WARMED UP TO 43°C (109°F) if available) 500 mL BOLUS IF NO SIGNS OF PULMONARY EDEMA.
ADULT: REPEAT UP TO 2 LITERS NS IF PT TEMP <30°C (<86°F), ALTERED MENTAL STATUS, &/OR HYPOTENSION < 100 mmHg PERSISTS IF NO SIGNS OF PULMONARY EDEMA

PEDIATRIC: IV NS 20 mL/kg BOLUS (WARMED AS PER ADULT if available) IF NO SIGNS OF PULMONARY EDEMA
PEDIATRIC: REPEAT UP TO 60 mL/kg IF PT TEMP <30°C (<86°F), ALTERED MENTAL STATUS, &/OR HYPOTENSION < (70 + 2x age in years) mmHg PERSISTS IF NO SIGNS OF PULMONARY EDEMA

PARAMEDIC

ADULT: MEDICATION ASSISTED INTUBATION IF INDICATED

HYPOTHERMIC CARDIAC ARREST?

ADULT/PEDIATRIC: WITH BODY TEMPERATURE <30°C (<86°F)
CONTINUE CPR, WITHHOLD MEDICATIONS, LIMIT TO A SINGLE DEFIBRILLATION FOR VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION/PULSELESS VT

ADULT/PEDIATRIC: WITH BODY TEMPERATURE ≥30°C (≥86°F)
CONTINUE CPR, ADMINISTER DYSRHYTHMIA APPLICABLE MEDICATIONS AT 10 MINUTE INTERVALS
AS CORE TEMPERATURE RISES, DEFIBRILLATE PER NORMAL BODY TEMPERATURE INTERVALS

CONTINUE REWARMING MEASURES UNTIL ROSC OR OLMCP AUTHORIZES TERMINATION OF RESUSCITATION

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT & TREATMENT PER APPLICABLE PROTOCOL(S)