San Mateo County Emergency Medical Services

Pediatric Syncope/Near Syncope

For syncope (transient loss of consciousness). NOT for cardiac arrest; use primary impression Cardiac Arrest – Non-Traumatic only.

**History**
- History of cardiac, stroke or seizures
- Occult blood loss
- Females: vaginal bleeding
- Fluid loss: nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Past medical history
- Medications
- Recent air travel

**Signs and Symptoms**
- Loss of consciousness with recovery
- Lightheadedness or dizziness
- Palpitations
- Pulse irregularity
- Hypotension

**Differential**
- Vasovagal
- Orthostatic hypotension
- Cardiac syncope
- Micturition or defecation syncope
- Psychogenic syncope
- Stroke
- Hypoglycemia
- Seizure
- Shock
- Toxicological
- Medication effect (hypotension)
- Pulmonary embolism

**Pearls**
- Consider dysrhythmias, GI bleed, and seizure as possible cause of syncope.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>E</th>
<th>Vital signs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blood glucose analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cardiac monitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12-Lead ECG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Consider, IV/IO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If age-dependent hypotensive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Normal Saline bolus IV/IO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May repeat x2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Suspected or evident trauma**: Yes → **Trauma**
- **No**

- **Altered mental status**: Yes → **ALOC**
- **No**

- **Hypotension or poor perfusion**: Yes → **Shock**
- **No**

**Notify receiving facility. Consider Base Hospital for medical direction.**