

## Pearls

- Check for pulselessness for 30-45 seconds to avoid unnecessary chest compressions.
- Defer ACLS medications in hypothermic patients until patient is warmed. Patients with hypothermia may have good neurologic outcome despite prolonged resuscitation; resuscitative efforts should continue until the patient is rewarmed.

Treatment Protocol PR

- If V-Fib or pulseless V-Tach is present, shock x1, and defer further shocks.
- Extremes of age, malnutrition, alcohol, and other drug use are contributing factors to hypothermia.
- Patients with prolonged hypoglycemia often become hypothermic; blood glucose analysis is essential.
- If a temperature is unable to be measured, treat the patient based on the suspected temperature.
- Warm packs can be placed in the armpit and groin areas. Care should be taken not to place directly on skin.

## SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

## Pediatric Respiratory Distress Treatment Protocols

Page 1 of

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