

MANAGEMENT OF LESS-THAN-LETHAL INTERVENTIONS

ALWAYS USE STANDARD PRECAUTIONS

INDICATION

- Injuries incurred from police interventions such as taser, bean bags, or chemical agents

CRITICAL INFORMATION

- Assess for symptoms of excited delirium: bizarre/aggressive behavior, dilated pupils, hyperthermia, incoherent speech, inconsistent breathing pattern, fear/panic, profuse sweating
- Suspected or known substance abuse
- Level of consciousness prior to injury
- Past medical history of cardiac or respiratory disease

TREATMENT

- BLS/ALS RMC
- Remove clothing if injured with pepper spray or tear gas
- Irrigate eyes with NS as needed
- Bio-Shield® or other OTC agent may be used to assist in minimizing chemical agent exposure
- If taser injury
 - Remove embedded probes and dispose of in sharps container. If probes cannot be removed due to patient's agitation / location of probe/ or safety hazard, cover the probe with gauze
 - Do NOT remove probes if located in the following areas:
 - Face
 - Neck
 - Groin
 - Spinal column or any area deemed to be problematic
- Pain management as appropriate
- All patients who sustain a taser injury must be transported to a hospital
- Treat according to Adult Sedation Protocol if agitation / combativeness interferes with critical ALS interventions and airway control or that endangers patient or caregiver

RELATED POLICIES/ PROCEDURES

- Destination Guidelines GPC 4
- Adult Pain Management ATG 2
- Trauma Triage Tool 4613a
- Adult Sedation ATG 3
- Patient Restraint GPC 11