

EL DORADO COUNTY EMS AGENCY

PREHOSPITAL PROTOCOL

Effective: July 1, 2015

Reviewed: July, 2021

Revised: May, 2022

Scope: BLS/ALS [Pediatric](#)

please see signature on file
EMS Agency Medical Director

BRIEF RESOLVED UNEXPLAINED EVENT "BRUE"

General Info:

A Brief Resolved Unexplained Event "BRUE" was formerly known as "An Apparent Life Threatening Event (ALTE)".

- A BRUE is an episode that is frightening to the observer (may think infant has died) and involves some combination of:
 1. Apnea
 2. Color change
 3. Marked change in muscle tone. (Limpness, loss of tone)
 4. Choking or gagging
- Usually occurs in infants <12 months old. However, any child < 2 years old who exhibits symptoms of apnea may be considered an BRUE
- 50% have a possible identifiable etiology (e.g., abuse, SIDS, swallowing dysfunction, infection, bronchitis, seizures, CNS abnormalities, tumors, cardiac diseases, chronic respiratory disease, upper airway obstruction, metabolic abnormalities, anemia, or other

PROTOCOL PROCEDURE: All cases of BRUE should be transported to the hospital for further evaluation. *If parent/guardian is refusing medical care and/or transport, consult with the Base Hospital prior to completing an AMA.*

Basic Life Support

EMT

ROUTINE MEDICAL CARE –

- Apply oxygen if pulse oximetry <94% or signs of hypoperfusion or respiratory distress
- Keep patient warm.
- Assume history of event is accurate.

Obtain a detailed history of event:

- Apnea?
- Color change?
- Change in muscle tone?
- Choking or gagging?
- Was any resuscitation required?
- Seizure activity?
- Was infant sleeping? Position?

Obtain detailed medical history:

- Any chronic diseases (including seizures)?
- Current or recent infections?
- Gastroesophageal reflux?
- Recent trauma?
- Inappropriate mixture of formula?
- Medications?

LOSOP

EMT working under Local Optional Scope

GLUCOSE LEVEL ASSESSMENT – Via finger stick. Treat as indicated.

Advanced Life Support

Paramedic

VASCULAR ACCESS – IV as indicated with rate as indicated.

Treat any identifiable causes per protocol.