

EL DORADO COUNTY EMS AGENCY

PREHOSPITAL PROTOCOLS

Effective: October 2022

Reviewed: N/A

Revised: N/A

Scope: BLS/ALS – Adult/Pediatric

EMS Agency Medical Director

DYSTONIC REACTION - ADULT

Note: Dystonic reactions most commonly occur with antipsychotics (neuroleptics), antiemetics, and antidepressants and may occur at normal doses. Do not induce or encourage vomiting. Laryngeal dystonia can cause life-threatening airway obstruction. Refer to Airway Obstruction policy prn. A BLS airway is acceptable if oxygenation and ventilation are adequate.

Basic Life Support

EMT

ABCs/ROUTINE MEDICAL CARE

- Assess airway and support ventilation with appropriate airway adjuncts as indicated
- Apply oxygen if pulse oximetry <94% or signs of hypoperfusion or respiratory distress

LOSOP

EMT working under Local Optional Scope

AIRWAY

- If GCS < 8 consider SGA
- Monitor ETCO₂

Advanced Life Support

Paramedic

AIRWAY

- If GCS < 8, consider intubation or placement of SGA
- Monitor ETCO₂

CARDIAC MONITOR

VASCULAR ACCESS

- Establish IV/IO, rate as indicated.

DIPHENHYDRAMINE

- 50 mg IV/IO. May give IM if vascular access not promptly available. Max dose 50 mg.

ACTIVATED CHARCOAL

- Consider 1 g/kg po if GCS 15 and ingestion occurred less than one hour prior

DYSTONIC REACTION - PEDIATRIC

Note: Dystonic reaction may occur at normal dosing. Do not induce or encourage vomiting.

Basic Life Support

EMT

ABCs/ROUTINE MEDICAL CARE

- Assess airway and support ventilation with appropriate airway adjuncts as indicated
- Apply oxygen if pulse oximetry <94% or signs of hypoperfusion or respiratory distress

Advanced Life Support

Paramedic

AIRWAY

- If GCS < 8, consider SGA
- Monitor ETCO₂

CARDIAC MONITOR

VASCULAR ACCESS

- Establish IV/IO, rate as indicated

DIPHENHYDRAMINE

- 1 mg/kg IV/IO. May give IM if vascular access not promptly available. Max dose 50 mg.

ACTIVATED CHARCOAL

- Consider 1 g/kg po if GCS 15 and ingestion occurred less than one hour prior