Supportive Care

EMT and Paramedic

1. Assessment Techniques (see Initial Assessment Protocol.) Initiate trauma alert, if applicable (see Trauma Transport).

2. Administer oxygen PRN (see Airway Management Protocol) unless overridden by other specific protocol. (Manually stabilize c-spine PRN).

3. Correct any open wound/sucking chest wound (occlusive dressing).

4. Control hemorrhage.

5. Immobilize c-spine and secure patient to backboard PRN (see Spinal Immobilization).


Note: The following steps should not delay transport.

7. Complete bandaging, splinting and packaging PRN.

8. Establish hospital contact for notification of incoming patient and/or for the Paramedic to obtain consultation for orders.


ALS Level 1

10. Correct any massive flail segment (intubate) or tension pneumothorax (see Chest Decompression).

11. Establish IV of Normal Saline with regular infusion set PRN (b) (c) (d), unless overridden by other specific protocol.

12. Monitor ECG PRN.
13. **Glucose Determination** if altered level of consciousness.

14. **Capnography** if appropriate.

**ALS Level 2 (Physician Authorization Required)**

None

**Note**

(a) Infants and small children in car seats may be immobilized without removing them from the car seat, as long as it will not interfere with patient assessment and other needed procedures and car seat is intact. If patient is not in car seat on arrival, do not put patient back into car seat to immobilize; use backboard or pediatric immobilizer.

(b) Authorized IV routes include all peripheral venous sites. External jugular vein may be utilized when other peripheral site attempts have been unsuccessful or would be inappropriate. Two IVs using large bore intracaths, should be used for unstable patients, avoid sites below the diaphragm.

**Rapid transport should not be delayed to establish an IV.**

(c) A Buretrol, Volutrol, or Soluset should be used in lieu of a minidrip when starting an IV on patients that are less than eight years old, if available.

(d) When unable to establish an IV in the pediatric patient that is in critical condition, an **intraosseous line** may be used by the **Paramedic Only**.