

## Emergency Medical Services Program Policies – Procedures – Protocols

### Brief Resolved Unexplained Event (BRUE) (107)

# Pediatrics (13 years and under)

#### **Public Safety First Aid Procedures: Only**

- Assess ABC's
- Request EMS

#### **BLS Procedures: EMT's and Paramedics start here**

- Assess ABC's, Pulse oximetry, and vital signs
- Complete primary and secondary assessment
- Obtain complete history of event from caretaker
- Identifiable cause discovered? If yes, transport and enter appropriate protocol
- If no identifiable cause discovered, Observe/transport and enter appropriate protocol if condition changes

#### **ALS Prior to Base Hospital Contact: Paramedic only**

• Follow BLS procedures

#### **Base Hospital Contact Required**

107 BRIEF RESOLVED UNEXPLAINED EVENT



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### Brief Resolved Unexplained Event (BRUE) (107)

### **Special Considerations**

- 1. A Brief Resolved Unexplained Event (BRUE) is an event that is frightening to the observer (may think infant has died) and involved one or more of the following:
  - Apnea (central or obstructive)
  - Color Change (cyanosis, pallor, erythema)
  - Marked change in muscle tone (limpness)
  - Choking or gagging
- 2. It usually occurs in infants less than 12 months of age, though any child with symptoms described under 2 years of age may be considered A BRUE
- 3. Most patients have a normal physical exam when assessed by pre-hospital personnel. Approximately half of the cases have no known cause, but the remainder of the cases have a significant underlying cause such as, but not limited to:
  - Airway Disease
  - Cardiac Arrhythmias/anomalies
  - Child Abuse
  - Gastroesophageal reflux
  - Infantile Botulism
  - Infections
  - Inborn errors of metabolism
  - Meningitis
  - "Near-miss" SIDS
  - Pertussis (whooping cough)
  - Respiratory Syncytial Virus
  - Seizure
  - Sepsis
- 4. Obtain history of event, duration and severity, whether patient was awake or asleep at the time of the episode, and what resuscitative measures were done.
- 5. Obtain past medical history, including chronic diseases, seizure activity, current or recent infections, history of gastroesophageal reflux, recent trauma, medication history, and mixing of formula.