


Section: Pediatric Trauma  
Subject: PEDI DROWNING AND SUBMERSION INJURIES  
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1. Basic ALS treatment
2. Refer to **HCFR SPINAL MOTION RESTRICTION** protocol and apply as indicated, note, all patients <18 years of age will receive FULL SMR when indicated, C-collar only is not indicated for pediatric patients.
3. If in cardiac arrest, follow **HCFR PEDIATRIC TRAUMATIC CARDIAC ARREST** protocol
4. ALS transport criteria:
  - a. ALL suspected drowning patients are ALS
  - b. This includes patients who are alert but suffered some type of submersion or immersion event.
6. QA Points:
  - a. The early institution of resuscitative efforts is an important factor influencing pediatric survival after drowning.<sup>1</sup>
  - b. The terms "near-drowning," "wet/dry drowning," and "secondary drowning" are potentially confusing and are no longer recommended.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Orlowski JP. Prognostic factors in pediatric cases of drowning and near-drowning. Journal of the American College of Emergency Physicians Volume 8, Issue 5, May 1979, Pages 176-179

<sup>2</sup> Main, Alison B and Andrew J Hooper. "Trauma: Drowning and Immersion Injury." Anaesthesia & Intensive Care Medicine, vol. 18, 01 Aug. 2017, pp.401-3.