



12. The following techniques should be expressly **prohibited** for use by EMS clinicians:
  - a. Secure or transport in a prone position with or without hands and feet behind the back (hobbling or “hog-tying”)
  - b. “Sandwiching” patients between backboards
  - c. Techniques that constrict the neck or compromise the airway
13. Concurrent use of IM/IV benzodiazepines and olanzapine IM is not recommended as fatalities have been reported

### **Notes/Educational Pearls**

#### **Key considerations**

1. Direct medical direction should be contacted at any time for advice, especially when patient’s level of agitation is such that transport may place all parties at risk
2. Transport by air is not advised
3. Stretchers with adequate foam padding, particularly around the head, facilitates patient’s ability to self-position the head and neck to maintain airway patency
4. For patients with key-locking devices, applied by another agency, consider the following options:
  - a. Remove device and replace it with a device that does not require a key
  - b. Administer pharmacologic management medication then remove and replace device with another non-key-locking device after patient has become more cooperative
  - c. Transport patient accompanied in patient compartment by person who has device key
  - d. Transport patient in the vehicle of person who has the device key if medical condition of patient is deemed stable, direct medical direction so authorizes, and law allows

#### **Pertinent Assessment Findings**

1. Continuous monitoring of:
  - a. Airway patency
  - b. Respiratory status with pulse oximetry and/or capnography
  - c. Circulatory status with frequent blood pressure measurements
  - d. Mental status and trends in level of patient cooperation
  - e. Cardiac status, especially if the patient has received pharmacologic management medication
  - f. Extremity perfusion with capillary refill in patients in physical management device

### **Quality Improvement**

**Associated NEMSIS Protocol(s) (eProtocol.01)** (for additional information, go to [www.nemsis.org](http://www.nemsis.org))

- 9914053 – General - Behavioral/Patient Restraint

#### **Key Documentation Elements**

- Etiology of agitated or violent behavior if known
- Patient’s medications, other medications or substances found on scene
- Patient’s medical history or other historic factors reported by patient, family, or bystanders
- Physical evidence or history of trauma
- Adequate oxygenation by pulse oximetry
- Blood glucose measurement