

IV. APPENDICES

A. GLOSSARY

AED: Automated External Defibrillation or Automated External Defibrillator

Alternative Airway Device: An airway adjunct other than an endotracheal tube that may include the laryngeal tube airway device (e.g., King LTS-D™) or laryngeal mask airway with design to facilitate hospital endotracheal intubation

AMI: Acute Myocardial Infarction

APGAR score: An acronym and method of scoring to determine the condition of a newly born infant (see APGAR chart on page 114)

Apnea: An absence of spontaneous respirations

Aspiration: The act of taking fluid (e.g., vomitus, mucus, or blood) from the body via a suction device or the act of taking foreign material or vomit into the lungs

Asymptomatic: The lack of any evidence or indication of illness, disease, or physical disturbance of patient's condition

AVPU: A method of determining and recording a patient's mental status or level of consciousness where "A" stands for Alert, "V" stands for responsive to Verbal stimuli, "P" stands for responsive to Painful stimuli, and "U" stands for Unresponsive

Barotrauma: Injury sustained as a result of exposure to excessive environmental pressure changes (e.g., blast injury or underwater pressure injury)

BPM: Breaths per minute

BSI: Body Substance Isolation

BVM: Bag-Valve-Mask

Carte blanche: Full discretionary power

Children with Special Healthcare Needs (CSHN): Children with chronic illness or conditions requiring specialized assessment, treatment, technology, or transport destination

CISM: Critical Incident Stress Management

Clinician: Includes EMR, EMT, CRT-(I), and paramedic

Commercial ambulance: Ambulance licensed by the State Office of Commercial Ambulance Licensing and Regulation

Continuous CPR: Chest compressions asynchronous with ventilation and infrequent, minimal interruptions (less than 10 seconds each)

COPD: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (e.g., asthma, emphysema, bronchitis)

Cricothyroidotomy (needle or surgical): A syringe with a needle attached or a scalpel is used to make a puncture hole or surgical incision through the cricothyroid membrane that overlies the trachea. A needle catheter or ET tube is passed into the trachea and then attached to a jet insufflation device or bag-valve device to ventilate the patient.

Critical: Approaching death or having the nature of a crisis (e.g., time-critical, critical injury)

CRT-(I): Cardiac Rescue Technician-Intermediate

CVA: Cerebral Vascular Accident/Stroke

Cyanotic: Bluish color of the skin or mucus membranes caused by lack of oxygen to the tissue

DCAP BTLS: Acronym for signs of injuries to assess during a physical examination of patients: D = Deformity, C = Contusions, A = Abrasions, P = Punctures/penetrations, B = Burns, T = Tenderness, L = Lacerations, S = Swelling

Defibrillation: Administration of electrical current(s) to the heart in an effort to normalize rhythm

Defibrillation set (stacked shocks): Includes a set of three successive shocks either biphasic or monophasic standard 200 J, 300 J, 360 J, or peds 2–4 J/kg

Distracting Injury: Any injury (e.g., fracture, chest, or abdominal trauma) associated with significant discomfort that could potentially distract from a patient's ability to accurately discern or define spinal column pain or tenderness

DNR: Do Not Resuscitate

Dystonic: Any impairment of muscle tone, which may be manifested by prolonged muscle contractions that may cause twisting and repetitive movements or abnormal posture. These movements may be in the form of rhythmic jerks. Symptoms that “appear” to be of a focal seizure-like nature in an awake and alert person with no history of seizures but who probably has a recent history of anticholinergic medication use (e.g., anti-psychotic, anti-vomiting).

EJ: External Jugular vein of the neck; peripheral IV access site

Emergency Information Form: A two-page form, designed by the American Academy of Pediatrics and American College of Emergency Physicians (AAP and ACEP, respectively), that provides a brief summary of special health care needs including: diagnosis, usual pattern of disease, emergency action plan, primary and specialty doctors and hospitals. Can be downloaded and data entered at <http://www.aap.org/advocacy/eif.doc>.

Emetic: Referring to a substance that causes vomiting

eMEDS®: electronic Maryland EMS Data System (a patient care reporting system)

EMR: Emergency Medical Responder

EMS: Emergency Medical Services

EMT: Emergency Medical Technician

EOC: Emergency Operations Center

Erythema: Redness or inflammation of the skin or mucous membranes that is the result of dilatation and congestion of superficial capillaries

ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival

ETCO₂: Non-invasive measurement (numeric and/or waveform) of carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels in exhaled breaths (end-tidal CO₂)

Extrapyramidal: Pertaining to tissues and structures outside of the cerebrospinal pyramidal tracts of the brain that are associated with movement of the body, excluding stimulation from the motor neurons, the motor cortex, and the corticospinal and corticobulbar tracts. Symptoms that “appear” to be of a focal seizure-like nature in an awake and alert person with no history of seizures but who probably has a recent history of anticholinergic medication use (e.g., anti-psychotic, anti-vomiting).

Fluid Bolus: The administration of a fluid dose as rapidly as possible, usually over five to twenty minutes, to a patient with clinical signs of shock

GCS: Glasgow Coma Scale (a tool to evaluate injury and illness severity)

Hemodynamically Stable: When a patient’s vital signs (including pulse oximeter or EKG if available) are all within normal for the patient’s age range, the patient does not have active bleeding, and there are no signs of distress (skin conditions or capillary refill are normal) as observed over time

Hemodynamically Unstable: When a patient exhibits any of the following: abnormal vital signs for age range (including pulse oximeter or EKG if available), active bleeding, or there are signs of distress (skin conditions or capillary refill are abnormal)

Hemostatic Dressing: A bandage or gauze with impregnated hemostatic agent that hastens the hemostasis/clotting process

HTN: Hypertension

Hypoxia: Too little oxygen in the cells

IM: Intramuscular injection

IN: Intranasal administration

IV: Intravenous line or administration of medication through IV

IVP: Intravenous Push

IWMI: Inferior Wall Myocardial Infarction

J: Joules or watts-seconds of electrical energy for defibrillation or cardioversion

JVD: Jugular Vein (external) Distention

kg: Kilogram, metric measure of weight equal to 1,000 grams (1 kg = 2.2 pounds)

KVO: Keep Vein Open. A slow IV flow rate.

Laryngectomy: The removal of the larynx and separation of the airway from the mouth, nose, and esophagus. Patients with a laryngectomy breathe through an opening in the neck called a stoma. Patients with a laryngectomy are not able to breathe or be intubated through the mouth or nose.

Lividity: Venous pooling in dependent body parts

LOC: Level of Consciousness

LR: Lactated Ringer's (a type of isotonic IV solution)

MAIS: Maryland Ambulance Information System for recording confidential patient care data (a patient care report).

MCI: Mass Casualty Incident. Occurs when the number of victims exceeds the number of medical personnel or resources immediately available and is declared by the local jurisdiction.

Meconium: The first feces of an infant

Medical Consultation (On-Line Medical Direction): With an atmosphere of courtesy and respect, direct voice/data communication between a clinician and an EMS Base Station physician, or a jurisdictionally affiliated physician, or with an "on-scene physician." This communication is bi-directional and provides the clinician with medical direction while providing the physician or the receiving hospital with valuable information on the patient. This exchange can take place on-scene, over a telecommunications device, or in the hospital setting.

Medical Protocol: A guideline for the provision of patient care

mL: Milliliter (the symbol for a metric measure of volume)

MOI: Mechanism of Injury

MOLST: Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment

NDT: Needle Decompression Thoracostomy

Near Drowning: A short duration of submersion under water with possible short-term loss of consciousness

Neonatal (also neonate): A term that describes an infant from 1 hour to 28 days of life

Newly Born (also called newborn): A term that describes an infant within the first hour after delivery

NOI: Nature of Illness

Notification: An “information only call” directly to the receiving hospital through the jurisdictional EOC or EMS communication system not requiring medical consultation and that may follow local standing operational procedures

NRB: Non-Rebreather Mask

NTG: Nitroglycerin

Nurse Practitioner: An individual who has been licensed as a Registered Nurse and certified as a Nurse Practitioner by the Maryland Board of Nursing. This does not include individuals who are only Registered Nurses or Licensed Practical Nurses.

OIC: Officer in Charge

On-Scene Physician: On-Scene Physician may be the patient’s identified private physician or a bystander physician who is physically on location. Care rendered or orders given by the on-scene physician should be documented, including the identification of the physician. All on-scene medical direction shall be consistent with *The Maryland Medical Protocols for Emergency Medical Services*. Any medical procedure that is not consistent with the protocols shall only be rendered by the on-scene physician, who shall also accompany the patient to the hospital. Any extraordinary care by EMS clinicians pursuant to the protocols may be approved only by the EMS Base Station physician or a system medical director (based on COMAR 30.02.03.02A.).

OPQRST: Used to recall pertinent questions (**O**nset, **P**rovocation, **Q**uality, **R**adiation, **S**everity, **T**ime) to ask when obtaining a patient history for medical emergencies

Optional Supplemental Program (OSP): A voluntary jurisdictional program that requires MIEMSS approval

Pallor: An unnatural paleness or absence of color in the skin

PCM: Patient Controlled Medications (a medication delivery system under a patient's control)

PCR: Patient Care Report (equivalent to MAIS) document used to record pertinent patient information regarding assessment, treatment, and transport (this is a confidential medical record)

Pilot Program (PP): A program designed to test a new project or procedure in order to determine its effect on EMS (requires MIEMSS approval and reporting all uses to MIEMSS)

Plethora: A term applied to the beefy red coloration of a newborn

PMD: Program Medical Director

PO: By mouth (*per os*)

PPE: Personal Protective Equipment

Pulse Oximetry: A non-invasive measurement of arterial oxygen saturation using infrared absorption frequencies

PVC: Premature Ventricular Contraction

Recovery Position: The position (patient flat on left lateral side) or placement of patients to reduce risk of aspiration

RMD: Regional Medical Director

RVMI: Right Ventricular Myocardial Infarction

SAFER: Stabilize, Assess and acknowledge, Facilitate, Encourage, and Recovery OR Referral

SAMPLE: Used to aid in obtaining pertinent patient history (S = Symptoms and signs patient is exhibiting, A = patient Allergies, M = patient Medications (prescription and non-prescription), P = Past medical history, L = what and when was the patient's Last oral intake, E = Events prior to arrival, or simply, the history of the current emergency)

SC: Subcutaneously

Sign: Any objective evidence or indication of illness, disease, or physical disturbance of patient's condition

SL: Sublingual (under the tongue)

SMOI: Significant Mechanism Of Injury

SOP: Standard Operational Procedure (defined by local jurisdiction or region)

Spinal Motion Restriction: The act of placing a patient on a backboard with cervical collar for the purpose of trying to prevent excessive movement of the spinal column

Spinal Protection: The act of protecting the spinal cord from further injury

Standing Orders: Orders, rules, regulations, or procedures prepared as guidelines in the preparation and carrying out of medical and surgical procedures

Sublingually: Under the tongue

Symptom: Any subjective evidence of disease or of a patient's condition (such as evidence perceived by the patient)

Symptomatic: The subjective evidence or indication of illness, disease, or physical disturbance of patient's condition

Syncope: A fainting spell. It usually follows a feeling of lightheadedness and may often be prevented by lying down. Syncope may also result from any number of heart, neurologic, or lung disorders.

System Medical Director: Means any of the following: Executive Director of MIEMSS, State EMS Medical Director, Associate State Medical Director for Pediatrics, Regional Medical Directors, Associate Regional Pediatric Medical Directors, EMS Operational Program Medical Directors, and Assistant EMS Operational Program Medical Directors

TOI: Type of Incident to which EMS clinicians may be called upon to respond (e.g., ill and/or injured patients, hazardous materials incidents, fires, mass casualty incidents)

Tracheostomy: An incision into the trachea (windpipe) that forms a temporary or permanent opening called a stoma. A tube is inserted through the opening to allow passage of air and removal of secretions.

Vagal: Pertaining to the vagus nerve (the tenth cranial nerve, which is essential for speech, swallowing, and slowing of the heart rate)

VF: Ventricular Fibrillation

Volume-Sensitive Children: Children who need smaller fluid bolus volumes due to special needs including: neonates (1 hour to 28 days of age), congenital heart diseases, chronic lung disease, or chronic renal failure

VT: Ventricular Tachycardia

Vulnerable Adult: An adult who lacks the physical or mental capacity to provide for his or her daily needs (Digest of Criminal Law)