



**TRAUMATIC CARDIOPULMONARY ARREST – ADULT/ADOLESCENT**

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**ALS STANDING ORDERS:**

1. Suction and maintain open airway, assist ventilations with BVM and high flow oxygen.
2. Initiate or maintain spinal motion restriction as appropriate.
3. Monitor cardiac rhythm and manage treatable dysrhythmias using cardiac standing orders.
4. If chest injury and suspected tension pneumothorax:
  - ▶ *Place Needle Thoracostomy to side of chest with absent breath sounds.*
  - ▶ *Place bilateral Needle Thoracostomy when bilateral chest trauma observed.*
5. IV access; if unable to place IV, establish IO access (do not delay transport to establish IV or IO):
  - ▶ *250 mL Normal Saline fluid bolus, continue Normal Saline as a wide open infusion to attain or maintain perfusion.*
6. Intubate as necessary to maintain airway and ventilation.
7. If further orders required for patient stabilization, contact Base Hospital.
8. ALS transport to PTRC as directed by Base Hospital.

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Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Snatton".

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**TREATMENT GUIDELINES:**

- If no signs of life, consider OCEMS Policy # 330.50, “Withholding Prehospital CPR for the Obviously Dead” (particularly for blunt trauma cardiopulmonary arrest victims):
  - Assess respiratory status
  - Assess cardiac status
  - Assess pupil light reflexes and response to voice and touch stimulation
  - If there is uncertainty regarding the above findings supporting the withholding of CPR for a victim who appears obviously dead, obtain cardiac rhythm strips in two leads to confirm asystole to support the assessment of the victim being obviously dead.
  
- Trauma arrest patients for who resuscitation and transport is pursued should be triaged as follows:
  - Unmanageable airway - Base Hospital triage to closest appropriate PTRC
  - Penetrating or blunt traumatic cardiopulmonary arrest (including pregnant women) - Base Hospital triage to closest appropriate PTRC.
  
- Transport of trauma victims should be rapid with treatment enroute when possible.

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Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Snodgrass".

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