2.16 HYPOTENSION/SHOCK

General Assessment

- Shock is characterized by decreased oxygen delivery, increased oxygen consumption and/or inadequate oxygen utilization leading to cellular and tissue hypoxia.
- Shock most commonly manifests as hypotension (SBP <90mmHg in adults)
- Additional signs of shock may include:
 - Cool, clammy, mottled skin, delayed capillary refill
 - Pallor- due to decreased skin perfusion
 - Altered level of consciousness due to decreased perfusion to brain
- Shock in children may be subtle and hard to recognize (see Pediatric Shock & Hypotension 8.11)
- Differentiate between possible underlying cause of shock to promptly initiate additional therapy

BLS General Management

- Position of comfort
- NPO
- Oxygen as indicated
- Early recognition and notify hospital staff about hemodynamic instability

ALS General Management

- Establish IV/IO with Normal Saline
- Initiate early fluid resuscitation and vasopressors to maintain/restore adequate perfusion to vital organs

ANAPHYLACTIC SHOCK

• Protocol 2.02 Allergic Reaction/Anaphylaxis

HEMMORHAGIC SHOCK

Examples include trauma, surgery, gastrointestinal bleeding, post-partum hemorrhage

ALS Treatment

- If trauma suspected, stop hemorrhage if possible (see 4.05 extremity bleeding control)
- If gynecologic or peri-partum hemorrhage suspected, see Section 5.0 Obstetrics & Gynecologic
- Consider Normal Saline fluid bolus
- Consider early transport

HYPOVOLEMIC SHOCK

<u>Hypovolemic shock</u> (non-hemorrhagic): Examples include dehydration from excessive heat, vomiting, diarrhea

<u>Neurogenic shock</u>: characterized by flaccid paralysis, loss of reflexes. Examples include traumatic spinal cord injury or non-traumatic injury (e.g. tumors, infection)

<u>Septic shock</u>: caused by whole-body inflammatory response to infection. Often characterized by a fever and tachycardia. Example infections include pneumonia, urinary tract infections, or skin infections.

ALS Treatment

- Normal Saline fluid bolus
- If SBP <70 after fluid bolus, consider additional fluid bolus and/or epinephrine infusion titrate to goal SBP 90.

CARDIOGENIC SHOCK

Example causes may include myocardial infarction, heart failure, arrhythmia, valve disorders

ALS MANAGEMENT

- Obtain ECG
- **Epinephrine Infusion**: prepare 1 mcg/mL infusion. Infuse at 1-3 drops/second IV/IO (6-18 mL/min) using 10 drops/mL macrodrip chamber. Titrate to goal SBP >90.

SAN FRANCISCO EMS AGENCY Effective: 4/1/26

Supersedes: 4/1/24