

3.02 DECOMPRESSION INJURY

RETIRED

BLS Treatment
• NPO • 100% Oxygen by non-rebreather mask. • Place patient in left lateral position, have suction ready.
ALS Treatment
• IV or IO of Normal Saline TKO. • If SBP < 90 or signs of poor perfusion, Normal Saline fluid bolus.
Comments
• Shock position is contraindicated. • Monitor for recurring hypoxia. • Gather relevant dive history in preparation for later transfer to recompression-capable facility: ○ Total dive time in the last 24 hours. ○ Number of dives made, include surface intervals between dives, if available. ○ Duration of and time since descent/ascent (total surface interval). ○ Depth of deepest submersion and depth of last dive (include previous dives within 24 hours, if available). ○ Temperature of the water. ○ Symptom onset (times and description). ○ Mechanism of injury suggestive of head/neck injury. ○ Emergency ascent? If so, from what depth? ○ Was the dive made with compressed air or other types of mixed gas? • Joint pain (location/severity) • Pulmonary exam: Rales or signs of pulmonary edema, respiratory distress including symptoms of mediastinal emphysema. • Neurologic exam: Monitor frequently (q 10-15 minutes) for changes.