

## Sierra – Sacramento Valley EMS Agency Treatment Protocol

M-11P (LALS)

## **Pediatric Behavioral Emergencies**

Approval: Troy M. Falck, MD – Medical Director Effective: 06/01/2024

Approval: John Poland – Executive Director

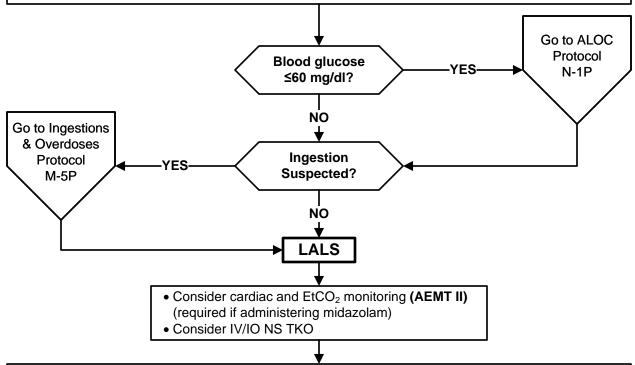
Next Review: 04/2027

- Pediatric behavioral emergencies occur when the presenting problem includes some disorder of thought or behavior that is disturbing or dangerous to the pt or others. Psychiatric emergencies are a subset of behavioral emergencies.
- Crisis in pediatrics may be precipitated by social factors and/or instability in the home or community.
- Avoid judgmental statements and encourage pt to help with their own care.
- Consider dimming the lights and removing non-essential adults when appropriate.
- Assess for the presence of other conditions that may mimic behavioral emergencies, for example:
- Diabetes/hypoglycemia Trauma/TBI Seizure disorders Hypoxia Ingestion/Overdose
- Major psychiatric disorders that may predispose to behavioral emergencies in children include:
- Mood disorders (Depression, Bipolar Disorder)
- Thought disorders (Schizophrenia)
- Developmental disorders (Autism)

- Anxiety disorders (PTSD)
- Other disorders (ADD, ADHD, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, Reactive Attachment Disorder, etc.)



- Identify yourself to pt & limit the number of providers interacting with pt (if appropriate)
- Obtain history from child (if appropriate) & family members
- Assess V/S, including SpO<sub>2</sub> and temperature (if able)
- Assess/treat for underlying medical/traumatic causes
- Check blood glucose (if able)
- Utilize appropriate restraint mechanisms in situations where the pt is violent, potentially violent, or exhibiting behavior that is dangerous to self or others (Reference: S-SV EMS policy 852)



Severe anxiety/combative symptoms not adequately relieved by other means (for pts  $\leq$  4 yo, consult with base/modified base hospital prior to administration of midazolam):

## Midazolam (AEMT II)

• 0.05 mg/kg IV/IO/IM/IN (max. dose: 1 mg) - may repeat dose x1 after 5 mins if symptoms persist