

5005 HYPOTHERMIC/DROWNING ARREST

EMR	EMT	EMT-IV	AEMT	INTERMEDIATE	PARAMEDIC
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All submersions less than 90 minutes should be transported.

Treatment should occur while enroute to hospital.

All drownings in CO/NE/WY are considered cold water drownings.

PTA Information Needed:

- Length of submersion
- Degree of contamination of water
- Water temperature
- Diving accident and/or suspected trauma
- Bystander CPR performed?

Termination of Resuscitation Criteria:

- Presence of obvious signs of death.
- Presence of a valid DNR.
- Frost, slush or snow in the airway
- Apparent death from natural causes due to premonitory conditions.
- Body so stiff that chest compressions are impossible.

Airway Management during Arrest:

- Overall goal to continue adequate resuscitation, minimize interruptions
- iGel device preferred if available
- Endotracheal intubation with minimal interruption in CPR

BLS airway preferred in pediatrics

Treatment Goals:

- Minimize interruptions in chest compressions during active CPR
- Adequately oxygenate/ventilate, secure airway if necessary
- Aggressively rewarm

- Start CPR, attach AED pads
- Ensure patent IV/IO access
- Resuscitate per [Universal Pulseless Arrest](#) and ART Resuscitation Guidelines with changes indicated below if hypothermic:

Ensure patient does not already meet Termination of Resuscitation Criteria.

