

**CPAP/BiPAP USE
EMMCO WEST ALS PROTOCOL**

Criteria:

- A. Conscious patient in severe respiratory distress due to suspected pulmonary edema or burn inhalation injuries.
- B. Shortness of breath with pulsoximetry < 90% on high-flow oxygen via NRB mask.

Exclusion Criteria:

- A. Suspected Pneumothorax.
- B. Inability to maintain own airway.
- C. Altered mental status
- D. Agitated or Combative behavior.
- E. Facial trauma or burns

System Requirements:

- A. Prehospital CPAP/ BiPAP equipment that meets DOH requirements

Procedure:

- A. Adult patients:
 - 1. Assess patient and initiate high flow oxygen as indicated.
 - 2. Monitor pulsoximetry.¹
 - 3. Apply CPAP/ BiPAP if oxygen saturation < 90% on high flow oxygen via NRB mask.
 - a. Connect CPAP/BiPAP device to suitable oxygen supply.
 - b. Attach breathing circuit to CPAP/BiPAP device and ensure device is functioning properly.
 - c. Apply and secure appropriate size breathing circuit mask to patient.
 - d. Titrate positive airway pressure up until improvement in patient pulsoximetry and symptoms.
 - 1) **WARNING:** Do not exceed pressures of 10 cm H₂O
 - 4. Reassess the patient.
 - 5. Follow CHF or Asthma protocols if appropriate.^{2,3}
 - 6. Transport
 - 7. Contact Medical Command⁴.

Possible MC Orders:

- A. If CHF suspected, may order additional serial nitroglycerine.
- B. If reactive airway disease suspected, may order nebulized bronchodilator treatment.

Notes:

- 1. Pulsoximetry should be monitored continuously during use of CPAP/BiPAP
- 2. If appropriate, nebulized bronchodilators may be administered during PAP ventilation via a side port.