

	Department Name Address	ALS	Paramedic
		Revision #	
		Implementation Date	
Protocol	2.1.31 Near Drowning	Last Reviewed/Update Date	
Author / Owner		Medical Director	

Near drowning patients may or may not be conscious. Regardless of how well a patient has seemed to recover, all near drowning patients must be transported to the hospital. Delayed death or complications due to pulmonary edema or aspiration pneumonia may occur.

1. Baseline care standards.
2. If trauma is suspected, take full cervical spine precautions and immobilize patient.
3. Protect patient from hypothermia.
4. Administer O₂ 15L per minute via non-rebreather mask.
5. Attach cardiac monitor and pulse oximeter.
6. Initiate IV Normal Saline TKO.
7. Manage airway per protocol.
8. If patient's systolic blood pressure is <90 mmHG:
 - Elevate legs.
 - Administer 20 ml fluid bolus. Repeat to maintain systolic BP >90 mmHg. If patient's blood pressure remains <90 mmHg, administer:
 - *Dopamine 2.0 mcg/kg/min IV.* Titrate upwards to maintain systolic BP>90 mmHg.
9. Treat dysrhythmias per protocol.
10. Place NG tube to low suction.
11. For deteriorating neurological status, administer:
 - *Mannitol 0.5 to 1.0mg/kg IV.*
12. Obtain blood glucose level. If blood sugar <80 mg/dl, administer:
 - *D50 25 grams IV.*

13. Transport to the nearest appropriate hospital.

Medical Director's Signature

Date

Disclaimer:

The protocols have been developed by the North Dakota Department of Health are meant to be used as general guidance for developing protocols for individual emergency medical services agencies. These sample protocols are not meant to be medical or legal advice; nor do they establish standards of care. Each emergency medical services agency must tailor protocols based on their specific needs or capabilities. Local medical directors must be consulted with and approve any protocol(s) prior to becoming operational in an emergency medical services agency. directors must be consulted with and approve any protocol(s) prior to becoming operational in an emergency medical services agency. The North Dakota Department of Health make no representation on the accuracy of information contained herein and accepts no liability for any loss or damage arising from any content error or omission.