

EXCITED DELIRIUM: THE AGITATED UNCONTROLLED PATIENT



This protocol deals with one of the most challenging clinical situations you may face among your EMS responses. This protocol identifies goals of evaluation and treatment, but it may only be implemented in an environment with a reasonable degree of safety for the EMS providers. Furthermore, the ability to achieve specific aspects of this protocol will be dependent on the severity of the patient's condition and their willingness to allow medical care.



1. Administer high flow **O₂** or most effective means of administering O₂.
2. Apply cardiac Monitor and oximeter.
3. Administer large bore IV of NS at 500 ml/hr unless symptoms of CHF exist.
4. Perform **blood glucose test**. If blood glucose < 60, obtain blood sample and administer 50 ml of **50% dextrose**, IV/IO.
5. If patient body temperature exceeds 102° F, move patient to cooler environment, and remove clothing. Cool aggressively with wet sheets, cool packs, and/or evaporative airflow. Avoid ice packs and cold water immersion. Lower body temperature to 102° F (39°C).
6. For severe agitation, administer 2.5 mg of **midazolam (Versed®)**, IV/IO/IM q 3-5 minutes, up to a maximum dose of 10 mg.*
7. Restrain the patient only as necessary to safely allow for the patient's assessment and necessary care.
8. When restraints are necessary, please follow all the precautions identified in the **Restraints for Aggressive or Violent Patients** policy, paying particular attention to providing for an adequate airway and ventilation.
9. Apply a protective face mask or hood to the patient, if necessary, to reduce the potential transmission of disease via saliva.

*May be administered intranasally via Mucosal Atomization Device (MAD) at a dose of 5 mg.