

CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE (COPD)

1. Allow patient to assume position of comfort.
2. Administer low flow **O₂**. Increase flow, as needed.
3. Apply cardiac monitor and establish IV/IO access.
4. Consider administration of unit dose **albuterol (Ventolin[®])** and **ipratropium bromide (Atrovent[®])** treatment using small volume nebulizer.
5. Repeat administration of Ventolin[®] treatment only, using small volume nebulizer. If symptoms persist, repeated treatments of Ventolin[®] may be given continuously.
6. If severe respiratory distress is present, consider **CPAP**.
7. If patient has a decline in their level of consciousness and/or inadequate respiratory effort, consider **endotracheal intubation**.