





Electrical Injuries

Injury

CRITERIA

Patients with signs or symptoms of electrical contact injury or who might have been struck by lightning.

PROTOCOL

EMR	Follow <i>General – Universal Patient Care/Initial Patient Contact protocol</i> .	EMR
EMR	Ensure scene safety and that patient is not energized/stop burning process. Do not become a second victim.	EMR
	If patient is in cardiac arrest, see the appropriate <i>Cardiac Arrest</i> protocol.	
A	Suspected hypovolemia: 20 mL/kg 0.9% Normal Saline up to 1000 mL bolus, continuously reassessing need for further fluid administration.	A

PEARLS

- ⚡ High voltage and lightning injuries may have internal injuries from blast effect.
- ⚡ Electrical injuries are often associated with falls and seizures.
- ⚡ Note entrance and exit wounds for electrical and lightning injuries, look for the appearance of feathering with lightning injuries.
- ⚡ Consider transportation for any patient who has received an electrical injury.
- ⚡ Suspect internal injuries from blast effect in high-voltage and lightning injuries.
- ⚡ Consider transport to a Level I Trauma Center for any electrical burn.
- ⚡ Minimizing scene time is essential.