County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department

Division: Emergency Medical Services Agency Effective Date: 08/01/2019

Protocol #617

RESPIRATORY DISTRESS – PULMONARY EDEMA	
ADULT	PEDIATRIC (≤34 KG)
BLS	
Universal Protocol #601	Same as Adult
Pulse Oximetry	
 O₂ administration per Airway 	
Management Protocol #602	
BLS Elective Skills	
CPAP per Airway Management Protocol #602	None
ALS Standing Orders	
 Nitroglycerin 0.4 mg SL tablet or spray May repeat every 5 min Do not administer if SBP < 100 mmHg Nitroglycerin Paste 1 inch (1 Gm) may be considered after initial dose(s) of SL Nitroglycerin HOLD NITROGLYCERIN and consult base if: SBP is trending towards or drops <100 mmHg or in the presence of other signs/symptoms of hemodynamic instability 	• None
Base Hospital Orders Only	
Nitroglycerin with Significant decrease in SBP Patients taking erectile dysfunction medications Signs and symptoms of non-cardiogenic pulmonary edema Atrial Fibrillation with RVR As needed	As needed
Notes	

Pulmonary Edema – fluid accumulation in tissues and air spaces of the lungs associated with rales/crackles

- Cardiogenic causes may include: acute CHF, MI, hypertension
- Non-cardiogenic pulmonary edema causes may include: toxic inhalation, high-altitude sickness, kidney/liver failure, decompression, drowning
- Pulmonary edema not commonly found in children consult Base Hospital for specific treatments

Atrial fibrillation with RVR is atrial fibrillation with ventricular rate >100