

COMA/ ALTERED LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS

ALWAYS USE BODY SUBSTANCE ISOLATION PRECAUTIONS

INDICATION

- GCS < 15, etiology unclear (consider AEIOU TIPS); sudden onset of weakness, paralysis, confusion, speech disturbances, headache

TREATMENT

- ALS RMC
- Position patient with head elevated 30 degrees or left lateral recumbent if vomiting
- If BS < 70 or immeasurable:
 - **Dextrose 50% 50 ml IVP**
- If BS < 70 or immeasurable and unable to start IV:
 - **Glucagon 1 mg IM**
- Narcotic overdose:
 - **Narcan 0.4 mg-2 mg IVP/ IM/ IN**

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

- Consider indication for C-spine precautions; consider diabetes-related complications
- If CVA suspected, see CVA/Stroke Policy N 4

RELATED POLICIES/ PROCEDURES

- Intranasal Medications Midazolam(Versed) and Narcan Procedure ALS PR 7
- CVA / Stroke Policy N4