

Intubation:

Confirm correct endotracheal tube placement by auscultating bilateral breath sounds, confirming absence of epigastric sounds, and monitoring SpO₂, and ETCO₂ (if available). Visualization of the vocal cords is also an option.

SpO₂:

SpO₂ (pulsatile oxygen saturation) should be monitored on most patients.

Blood Pressure:

When BP values appear in a flow chart, it is a systolic value, unless otherwise specified. Example: <90 mmHg represents a systolic blood pressure of less than 90 mmHg.

Medical Control:

Contact Medical Control whenever you have a question, a problem arises, or when specified to do so by a flow chart.

ALS, ILS, and BLS designation:

Each protocol has either an ALS, ILS, BLS, or ALS/BLS designation placed in the upper right corner. A protocol labeled "ALS Protocol" should only be used by ALS qualified personnel. Protocols labeled "ILS Protocol" should be used by ILS qualified personnel. Protocols labeled "BLS Protocol" should be used by BLS qualified personnel. Protocols labeled "ALS/BLS Protocol" share information to be noted by both ALS, ILS, and BLS personnel YET the clinician should only carry out or perform functions within these protocols they are qualified AND authorized to perform.

ALS Backup:

BLS providers may request ALS Backup at their discretion and should request ALS Backup when specified to do so by a flow chart. When requesting ALS Backup, BLS providers should carry out all appropriate BLS measures and begin transporting the patient ASAP while waiting for ALS Backup.

Footnotes:

You will find critical details within the footnotes. Read your footnotes. Footnotes appear as numbers within small circles.

Format:

A **rectangle** represents process and often asks you to do something. A **diamond** represents a question. The starting and stopping points of a flow chart are **shaded**. Exceptions or issues that come up in a flow chart will move to the right of a flow chart. In most cases the flow will eventually return to the left or main portion of the chart.

Medical Director:

Each protocol must be reviewed and approved by the Medical Director overseeing your protocols. Each protocol should be signed by the Medical Director. See the signature/date box in the lower, left corner of each protocol.