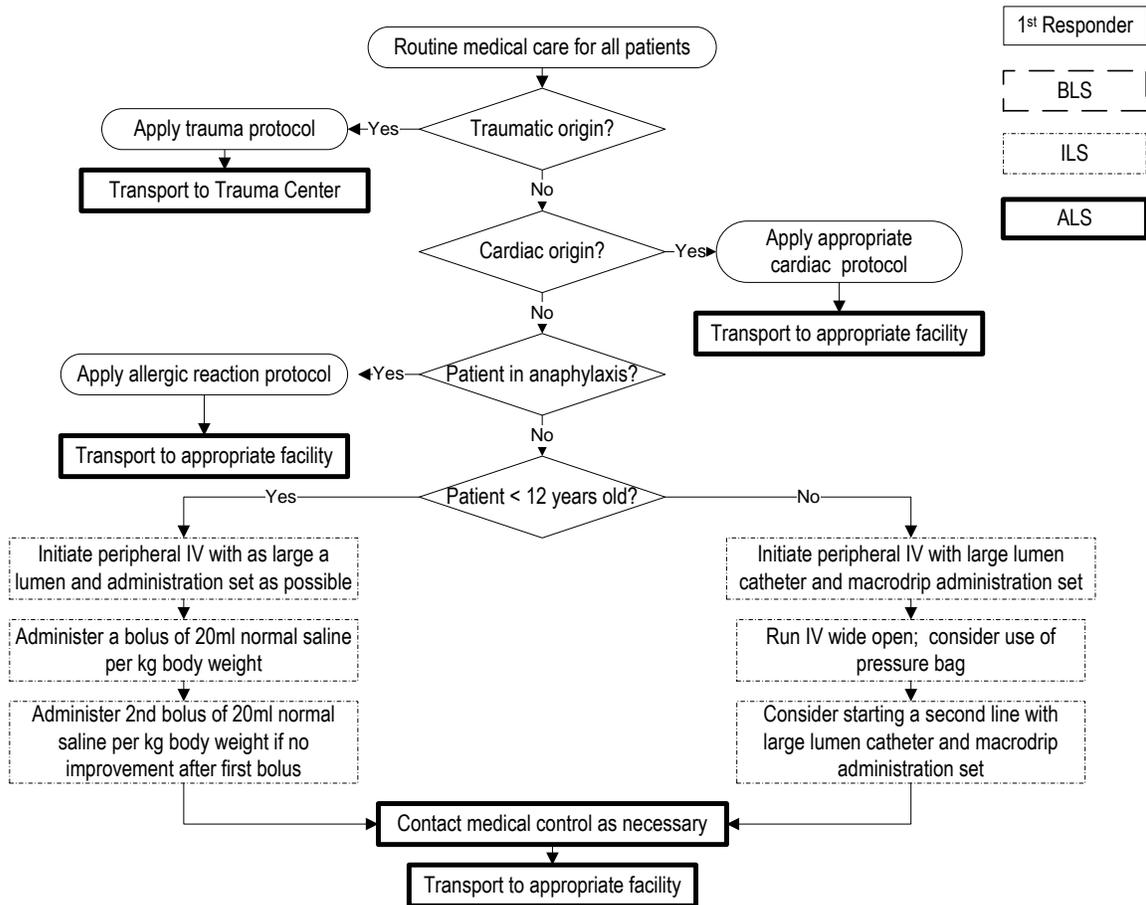


Initiated: 9/92
Reviewed/revised: 7/1/11
Revision: 3

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS  
MEDICAL PROTOCOL  
HYPOTENSION/SHOCK**

Approved by: Ronald Pirrallo, MD, MHSA
WI EMS Approval Date: 6/22/11
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History:	Signs/Symptoms:	Working Assessment:
Blood loss: Trauma Vaginal bleed, GI bleed, AAA, ectopic pregnancy Fluid loss: Vomiting, diarrhea, fever Infection Cardiac ischemia (MI, CHF) Infection Spinal cord injury Allergic reaction Pregnancy	Restlessness, confusion Weakness, dizziness Weak, rapid pulse Cyanosis Increased respiratory rate Pale, cool, clammy skin Delayed capillary refill Systolic blood pressure less than 90 mmHg	Shock: Hypovolemic Cardiogenic Septic Neurogenic Anaphylactic Ectopic pregnancy Dysrhythmia Pulmonary embolus Tension pneumothorax Medication effect/overdose Vasovagal Physiologic (pregnancy)



**NOTES:**

- Hypotension is defined as a systolic blood pressure less than 90 mmHg or a fall of more than 60 mmHg in a previously hypertensive patient.
- Consider performing orthostatic vital signs on patients who haven't sustained traumatic injuries if suspected blood or fluid loss.
- Patients with preexisting heart disease who are taking beta-blockers or who have pacemakers installed may not be able to generate a tachycardia to compensate for shock.