

CHEST PAIN/HEART PROBLEMS

State of New Jersey EMD Guidecards Version 1/04

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Is patient alert?
Is patient breathing normally? (Consider breathing card)
Where in the chest is the pain located?
Does the patient feel pain anywhere else? If so, where?
How long has the pain been present?
Does the pain change when the person breathes or moves?
Does the patient take nitroglycerin? Have they taken it?
Has the patient ever had heart surgery or a previous heart attack?
Has the patient ever had a heart problem?
Is the patient nauseated or vomiting?

Is the patient sweating profusely?
Is the patient experiencing rapid heart rate with chest pain?
Does the patient have a history of rapid heart rate?
How does the patient act when he/she sits up?
Is the patient weak, dizzy, or faint?

SIMULTANEOUS ALS/BLS

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Unconscious/not breathing normally.
Decreased level of consciousness.
Patient complaining of chest pain with any of the critical symptoms:
Short of breath.
Nausea.
Diaphoretic.
Rapid heart rate
Syncope
With cocaine/crack (drug) use.

BLS DISPATCH

Patients under 35, without critical symptoms.

CHEST PAIN / HEART PROBLEMS Pre-Arrival Instructions

Have the patient sit or lie down, whichever is more comfortable.

Keep patient calm.

Loosen any tight clothing.

Does the patient have nitroglycerin?

-- If yes: Has the patient taken one?

-- If not taken, take as the physician has directed (patient should be seated).

Gather patient medications, if any.

If the patient's condition changes, call me back.

Prompts

If unconscious, go to UNCONSCIOUS/BREATHING NORMALLY AIRWAY CONTROL

If unconscious, NOT breathing normally, go to CPR for appropriate age group.

Short Report

Age

Sex

Specific location

Chief complaint

Pertinent related symptoms

Medical/Surgical history, if any

Other agencies responding

Any dangers to responding units