

Southern Illinois Regional EMS System

EE-15 HYPERTENSIVE CRISIS NON-PREGNANT PATIENT

FR/BLS

- Definition:
 - Blood Pressure: Systolic >200 mmHg and/or Diastolic >120 mmHg

- Management
 - Patient Assessment and Initial Care protocol
 - Oxygen therapy as appropriate
 - 1-6 LPM by cannula: minimal distress.
 - 12-15 LPM by NRB mask: moderate/severe distress with signs of hypoxia.
 - 15 LPM by BVM: inadequate rate/effort, severe distress, unstable.
 - Maintain SpO₂ > 94%

ILS/ALS

- Initiate vascular access
- Monitor cardiac rhythm
 - Obtain 12 lead EKG if applicable
- Consider the possibility of acute stroke
 - If s/s are present, follow Suspected Stroke Protocol
- If the patient presents with chest pain or pulmonary edema
 - Treat with the appropriate protocol
- Contact Medical Control
- (ILS) Consider **Nitroglycerin 0.4 mg SL** with Medical Control order.
- (ALS) Consider **Labetalol 10 mg IV/IO** over 1-2 minutes.
- Monitor for seizure activity