

Southern Illinois Regional EMS System

EE-12 NEAR DROWNING

ALS/ILS/BLS

Definition:

- Near Drowning indicates events occurring in the drowning process but the outcome did not produce death in the first 24 hours after the incident.

Management:

- Patient assessment and initial medical care:
 - Initiate CPR as indicated
- Suspect C-spine injury
- Oxygen 15LPM NRB to O₂ sat > 94%
- Remove wet clothing:
 - Consider hypothermia
- Rapid transport
- ALS/ILS
 - Monitor cardiac rhythm
 - Initiate IV/IO of LR or NS at TKO rate
 - Notify Medical Control

Notes:

- All near drowning incidents should receive a medical evaluation. Strongly encourage all near drowning patients to be treated and transported to the emergency department.