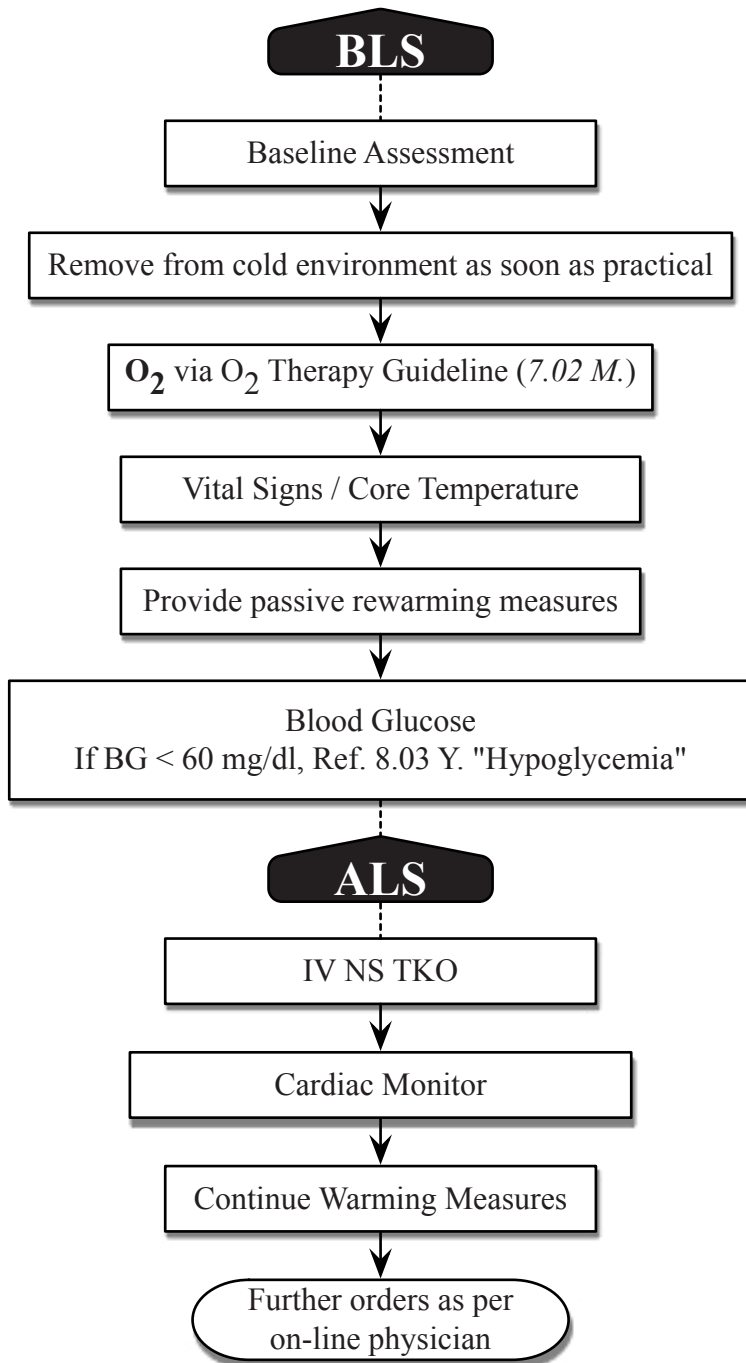


8.03 Z. Hypothermia (Environmental)



A. *It is difficult to determine pulselessness in hypothermic patients. When in doubt take 30 - 60 seconds to examine the patient for pulses. If the patient is pulseless, begin CPR.*

B. *Passive warming methods include:*

- *removing all wet clothing*
- *covering patient with dry sheet*
- *placing in warm environment*

C. *Contact the Base Station immediately for hypothermic cardiac arrest patients.*

In cardiac arrest, defibrillate the patient only once and initiate early consultation with the on-line EMS physician. Proper management of hypothermic cardiac arrest is complicated.