



# Cyanide

## Assessment

### Pediatric Pearls:

- Use pediatric dosing of medications or electrical therapy for a pediatric patient < 37 kg and as defined by the PEDIA Tape.
- Pediatric hypotension is defined as SBP < 70 + (age in years x 2) mmHg

### Signs & Symptoms:

- Headache, weakness, vertigo
- Nausea / Vomiting
- Chest Pain / Respiratory Distress
- Tachycardia / Tachypnea
- Severe:
  - Cardiac Arrest
  - Seizures
  - Altered Mental Status / Coma

### Differential:

- Acute coronary syndrome
- Stroke / TIA
- PE
- Meningitis / Encephalitis
- Head trauma
- Diabetes
- Acute intoxication
- CO Poisoning

## Clinical Management Options

P	P	P	P	P	P	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scene safety &amp; decontaminate patient as needed</li> </ul>
L	L	L	L	L	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Oxygen</a> via NRB 15 LPM regardless of SpO<sub>2</sub> reading and passive oxygenation with NC at 25 LPM</li> </ul>
1	2	3	4	5	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic airway maneuvers and management as needed</li> </ul>
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor <a href="#">EtCO<sub>2</sub></a> as soon as it is practical</li> </ul>
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Vascular access</a></li> </ul>
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Hydroxocobalamin</a></li> </ul>
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advance airway maneuvers and management as needed</li> </ul>

## Consult Online Medical Control As Needed

### Pearls:

- Refer to drug formulary charts for all medication dosing for both adults and pediatric patients.
- Do not begin transport until all contaminated clothing has been removed and patient has been decontaminated and cleared for transport.
- Be alert for exposure related dyspnea/tachypnea without cyanosis, nausea/vomiting, seizures, hyper/hypotension.
- Oxygen via NRB should be applied to all patients as SpO<sub>2</sub> readings are unreliable in presence of cyanide or CO poisoning.
- If smoke inhalation always consider carbon monoxide poisoning and monitor for it if equipped.
- Mix hydroxocobalamin carefully with strict adherence to instructions. Do NOT shake.