

STIMULUS PROCEDURE

INDICATIONS

Recommended approach to apply stimuli to a patient who initially presents unresponsive but, has a pulse and is breathing.

PROCEDURE

1. Verbal stimulus: In a clear non-threatening voice, begin by introducing yourself (e.g., “hello, I am John Smith. I am an EMT. I am here to help you. What is wrong?”).
2. Tactile stimulus: If there is no response to verbal stimuli, gently shake the patient’s shoulder and repeat a verbal request to respond.
3. Pressure stimulus: If there is no response to verbal and tactile stimuli, apply gradually increasing pressure to the proximal nail bed with a pen or pencil for 10 seconds. If no response, repeat on opposite side.
4. Observe and record the response to the stimulus according to the categories of the **Glasgow Coma Scale Score** test.