Monterey County EMS System Policy

Protocol Number: E-3
Effective Date: 7/1/2022
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HEAT EMERGENCIES

ALS and BLS CARE

Principles of Hyperthermia

- Rapid cooling is indicated for patients with symptoms indicative of heat stroke.
- Active cooling:
  - Wet the patient's skin and promote convection and evaporation with fanning or the ambulance AC.
  - Apply cold packs to the neck, axilla, and groin.
- Potential non-environmental causes:
  - Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS)
  - Sympathomimetic overdose
  - Anticholinergic toxidrome
  - Infection
  - Thyroid disorder