

Adult Cardiac Related Problem

Note:
Request Advanced Life Support if available.
Do not delay transport to the appropriate hospital.

Note:
Be prepared to deal with respiratory and/or cardiac arrest!

- I. Assure that the patient's airway is open and that breathing and circulation are adequate.
- II. Administer high concentration oxygen.
- III. Place the patient in a position of comfort, while reassuring the patient and loosening tight or restrictive clothing.
- IV. Transport, keeping the patient warm.
- V. Ongoing assessment. Obtain and record the patient's vital signs, repeat enroute as often as the situation indicates.
- VI. If patient has not taken aspirin and has no history of aspirin allergy and no evidence of recent gastrointestinal bleeding, administer nonenteric chewable aspirin (160 to 325 mg).
- VII. **If chest pain is present and if the patient possesses nitroglycerin prescribed by his/her physician and has a systolic blood pressure of 120mm Hg or greater**, the EMT-B may assist the patient in self-administration of the patient's prescribed sublingual nitroglycerin as indicated on the medicine container.
 - A. In the absence of standing orders for nitroglycerin, contact medical control for authorization to administer the nitroglycerin.
 - B. Confirm the systolic blood pressure is 120mm Hg or greater.
 - C. Question patient on last dose administration of nitroglycerin, effects, and assure understanding of route and administration.
 - D. Administer one (1) metered dose of nitroglycerin spray *or* one (1) nitroglycerin tablet under the patient's tongue without swallowing and record the time of the administration.

E. Recheck blood pressure within two (2) minutes of administration and record any changes in the patient's condition.

VII. Record all patient care information, including the patient's medical history and all treatment provided, on a Prehospital Care Report (PCR).

Adult Cardiac Related Problem, continued