Queensland Ambulance Service digital clinical practice manual evidence base

Pre-hospital care is influenced and informed by many clinical specialities. The Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) Digital Clinical Practice Manual (DCPM) is the culmination of the history of clinical practice within the QAS. Every effort has been made to inform the DCPM with the best available clinical evidence, specialist protocols, and expert advice.

The reference list accompanying the QAS DCPM represents an eclectic collection of resources selected through patient care driven searching, and does not in some cases represent clinically relevant research.

The QAS is continually seeking feedback to validate its clinical guidelines and procedures or replace them with new ones that are more powerful, more accurate, more efficacious, and safer.

While effort has been made to contact all copyright owners this had not always been possible. The QAS would welcome notification from any copyright holder who has been omitted or incorrectly acknowledged.

All feedback and suggestions are welcome please forward to: Clinical.Guidelines@ambulance.gov.au

INTRODUCTION

Powers of Authorised Officers

Basic Principles of Management

Guide to Patient Decision-making in Ambulance Services
4. Re MB (Medical Treatment) [1997] 2 FCR 426.
7. Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld), s64
8. Guardianship and Administration Act 2000(Qld), s63(1)(b)(i).
10. Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld), s63(i)-(5).
13. *Powers of Attorney Act 1998 (Qld)*, s63. A statutory health attorney would be asked to make treatment decisions in circumstances where the patient has not appointed a person to make decisions on their behalf. A statutory health attorney could include: the patient’s spouse or de facto partner; the patient’s nearest relative such as an adult child, sibling or parent; or a close friend.
14. Sch 1, Part 2
16. *Powers of Attorney Act 1998 (Qld)*, s31. The witness must be: a justice; commissioner of declarations; notary public; or lawyer and cannot be a relative of the person or a beneficiary under the person’s will.
19. *Powers of Attorney Act 1998 (Qld)*, Sch 2 s5A; Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld), Sch 2 s5A.
22. *Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld)*, s66B.
23. *Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld)*, s63A.
25. *Powers of Attorney Act 1998 (Qld)*, Sch 2 s5B; *Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld)*, Sch 2, s5B
26. *Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld)*, s63A(3).
27. *Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld)*, s66B
29. *Department of Health and Community Services (NT) v JWB (Marion’s case)* (1992) 175 CLR 218, 310.
30. *Gillick v West Norfolk and Wisbech Area Health Authority* [1986] 1 AC 112
32. *Adoption Act 2009 (Qld)*, s13; Surrogacy Act 2010 (Qld).

**Infection Control**


**Drug Management**

2. Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996 (QLD).

**Clinical Documentation**

CPG: BEHAVIOURAL DISTURBANCES

Acute behavioural disturbances


The suicidal patient


Taser® incidents


The physically restrained patient


References – CPGs


CPG: CARDIAC

**Acute Coronary Syndromes**


**Bradycardia**


**Cardiac arrest**


**Cardiogenic shock**


**Tachycardia – broad complex**


**Tachycardia – narrow complex**


**Hyperthermia**


**Hypothermia**


**CPG: MEDICAL**

**Abdominal emergencies**


Acute dystonic reaction


Adrenaline insufficiency


Anaphylaxis and allergy


Hyperglycaemia


Hyperkalemia


Hypoglycaemia


Meningococcal septicaemia


Palliative care


Sepsis


**Spinal emergencies**


**Suspected or confirmed EVD**


References – CPGs

CPG: NEUROLOGICAL

Altered Level of Consciousness


Seizures


Headache


Autonomic dysreflexia


**Stroke/transient ischaemic attack**


**CPG: OBSTETRICS**

**Breech birth**


**Cord prolapse**


**Ectopic pregnancy**


**Miscarriage**


**Physiological cephalic birth**


**Placental abruption**


**Placenta previa**


**Pre-eclampsia**


**Primary postpartum haemorrhage**


Secondary postpartum haemorrhage

Shoulder dystocia

Uterine inversion

Uterine rupture


Umbilical cord rupture

CPG: RESPIRATORY

Acute pulmonary oedema

Airway obstruction (foreign body)
References – CPGs

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease


Asthma


Croup


Dyspnoea


Epiglottis


Hyperventilation


Pulmonary embolus


Tracheostomy emergencies


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CPG: RESUSCITATION

Resuscitation – general guidelines

1. Powers of Attorney Act 1998 (Qld), Sch 2 s5A(1); Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld), Sch 2 s5A(4).

2. Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld), s63A.

3. Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld), s66(2).


8. Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld), s65(3)-(5).

9. Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld), s66A(2).

10. Powers of Attorney Act 1998 (Qld), Sch 2 s5B; Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld), Sch 2, s5B.

11. Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld), s63A(3).

12. Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld), s66B

13. Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld), s66B

Resuscitation – adult


**Resuscitation – paediatric**


**Resuscitation – special circumstances**


Resuscitation – traumatic


Resuscitation – Post ROSC management


TOXICOLOGY AND TOXINOTOLOGY

Approach to the poisoned patient


Alcohol – ethanol


**Anticholinergic**


**Benzodiazepines**


**Beta blocker**


**Calcium channel blocker**


**Carbon monoxide**


**Corrosive agents**


Cyanide


Gamma-hydroxybutyrate


Marine envenomations


2. Currie, BJ. Marine antivenoms. *Journal of Toxicology Clinical Toxicology* 2003; 41:301-308


References – CPGs


Opioid


Organophosphate/cholinergic


Paraquat


**Psychostimulant emergencies**


**Serotonin**


**Snake bite**


**Spider bite**


**Sympathomimetic**


**Toxic metals**


**CPG: TRAUMA**

**Abdominal trauma**


**Burns**


**Chest injuries**


**Crush injury**


**Dental injury**


**Electric shock**


**Eye injuries**


**Fluid injection injury**


**Hypovolaemic shock**


**Limb injury**


**Pain management**


**Pelvic injury**


Post submission


Pre-hospital trauma bypass


Spinal injury


Trauma in pregnancy


Traumatic brain injury


**Traumatic haemorrhage control**


**Disc battery ingestion**


**Non QAS transportation**


**Palliative care**


2. Powers of Attorney Act 1998 (Qld), s44(2)-(6).


5. Powers of Attorney Act 1998 (Qld), s63. A statutory health attorney would be asked to make treatment decisions in circumstances where the patient has not appointed a person to make decisions on their behalf. A statutory health attorney could include; the patient’s spouse or de-facto partner/ the patient’s nearest relative such as an adult child, sibling or patient; or a close friend.

6. Guardianship and Administration Act 2000 (Qld), s66.

**Paramedic safety**


**Patients in police custody**


ROLE and management of a deceased person

1. Coroners Act 2003 (QLD)
2. Disability Services Act 2006 (QLD)
3. Mental Health Act 2000 (QLD)
4. Child Protection Act 1999 (Qld)
5. Adoption Act 2009 (Qld)

Suspected abuse and assault

1. Ambulance Service Act 1991 (Qld)
3. Child Protection Act 1999 (Qld)

The bariatric patient

CPP: ACCESS

External jugular intravenous cannulation

Intraosseous

Peripheral intravenous cannulation

CPP: AIRWAY MANAGEMENT

Direct laryngoscopy

Intubating catheter (bougie)

Laryngeal manipulation
Laryngeal mask airway insertion


Nasopharyngeal airway insertion


Oral endotracheal intubation


**Oral endotracheal tube securing**


**Oropharyngeal airway insertion**


**Rapid sequence induction**


**Suctioning**


**Surgical cricothyrotomy**


**CPP: ASSESSMENT**

**APGAR score**


**Blood analysis – glucometry**


**COAST score**


**Colourmetric EtCO2 detection**


**Endotracheal tube cuff manometer**


**Glasgow coma scale**


**Mental status**


2. *Mental Health Act 2000 (QLD)*

**Neurological**


**Oximetry – pulse**


**Paediatric**


**Pain**


**Pre-hospital stroke screening tool**


**Sedation Assessment Tool**


**Trauma Induced Coagulopathy Score**


**Tympanic thermometer**


**Ultrasound – focused assessment with sonography with trauma**

1. Blaivas, M., & Fox, J. C. (2001). Outcome in cardiac arrest patients found to have cardiac standstill on the bedside emergency department echocardiogram. *Acad Emerg Med, 8*(6), 616-621.


**Waveform capnography**


**CPP: BEHAVIOURAL DISTURBANCES**

**Mental illness – The legal framework**


**Completion of an EEO**

1. *Mental Health Act 2000 (QLD)*

**Sedation – Acute behavioural disturbance**


Transportation of persons under the Mental Health Act 2000

1. Mental Health Act 2000 (QLD), s16
2. Mental Health Act 2000 (QLD), s25(5)(a) & (b)
3. Mental Health Act 2000 (QLD), s25(2)(a)
4. Mental Health Act 2000 (QLD), s25(3)
5. Mental Health Act 2000 (QLD), s165
6. Mental Health Act 2000 (QLD), s169(1)(a)
7. Mental Health Act 2000 (QLD), s37
8. Mental Health Act 2000 (QLD), s38

CPP: CARDIAC

12-Lead ECG


Autonomous fibrinolysis administration


Autonomous pPCI referral

References


**Decision supported pre-hospital fibrinolysis**


**Synchronised cardioversion**

References – CPPs


**Transcutaneous cardiac pacing**


**Valsalva manoeuvre**


**CPP: DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

**Blood warmer**


**Intranasal**


**Priming of an Alaris™ 2-way extension set**


**Priming of an Alaris™ (gravity flow) giving set**

**CPP: OBSTETRICS**

**Bimanual compression**

**Breech birth**

**Physiological cephalic delivery**

**Syringe infusion pump**
**Shoulder dystocia**


**Nuchal umbilical cord**


**CPP: RESPIRATORY**

**Bag valve mask ventilation**


**Emergency chest decompression-cannula**


**Emergency chest decompression – COOK® Emergency Pneumothorax Set**

Non-invasive ventilation – CPAP


2. Queensland Ambulance Service (Producer). (2013). CPAP (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure. [CPAP demonstration. CPAP is a form of non-invasive ventilation used in the treatment of acute cardiogenic pulmonary oedema and will be considered for further extension to other conditions requiring NIV.] [accessed online 25 November 2014] from http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poRPeaf-EMI

Positive end expiratory pressure


Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)


Defibrillation


CPP: TRAUMA

Arterial tourniquet – C-A-T®


Arterial tourniquet – SOF® TT-W


3. Tactical Medical Solutions,. Training Resources SOF® Tactical Tourniquet (download). [accessed online 19 November 2014], from http://www.tacmedsolutions.com/training-resources/


Bandaging – simple bandaging and slings


Bandaging – The Emergency Bandage


Care of an amputated body part


Cervical collar


Femoral traction splint

1. Queensland Ambulance Service (Producer). (2013). CT-6 Splint application. [Demonstration of the correct application of the CT-6 Splint on an adult patient with a femoral shaft fracture. The CT-6 Splint may also be applied to paediatric patients, bi-lateral femoral fractures and patients who have a pelvic splint in situ.] [accessed online 25 November 2014] from http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L1-hWv6yYpY

Fish hook removal


Fracture reduction


Helmet removal


Immobilisation/extrication jacket


Manual inline stabilisation

Nasal pack


Pelvic circumferential compression device


Skin stapler


Stretcher – CombiCarrier®II


Tooth replantation


Vacuum splints


**CPP: OTHER**

### Active self-warning blanket


### Acute stroke referral


### Clinical handover


### Inter-facility transfer


### Sedation – procedural


References

Adrenaline


Amiodarone


Aspirin

Atropine


Benztrapine


Box jellyfish antivenom


Calcium Gluconate 10%


Ceftriaxone


Clopidogrel


### Enoxaparin


### Fentanyl


### Frusemide


### Glucagon


Glucose 5%


Glucose 10%


Glucose gel


Glyceryl trinitrate


Haloperidol


Heparin


Hydrocortisone

Hydroxocobalamin

Hypertonic saline 7.5%

Insulin (Actrapid)

Lignocaine 2%

Ipratropium bromide

Isoprenaline

Ketamine

Lignocaine 2%
Magnesium sulphate


Methoxynflurane


Metoprolol


Midazolam


Morphine


Naloxone


**Noradrenaline**


**Ondansetron**


**Oxelastamivir**


**Oxygen**


**Packed Red Blood Cells**


2. ANZSBT Clinical Practice Improvement Committee, the Australian Specialist Practitioners of Transfusion, Royal College of Nursing Australia (2011). *Guidelines for the Administration of Blood Products* (2nd ed.). Sydney: The Australian & New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion Inc.

**Paracetamol**


Phenytoin

Promethazine

Propofol

Sodium bicarbonate 8.4%

Sodium chloride 0.9%


### Sugammadex


### Tenecteplase


### Tetanus immunisation (ADT Booster®)


### Ticagrelor


### Tirofiban


### Tranexamic acid

