

PSYCHIATRIC / BEHAVIORAL EMERGENCIES

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BLS ALS

- Ensure patent airway, O₂ and/or ventilate PRN
- O₂ saturation PRN
- Treat life-threatening injuries
- Ask patient: "Do you have any weapons?"
- Attempt to determine if behavior is related to injury, illness, or drug use
- Employ de-escalation techniques
- Restrain only if necessary to prevent injury
- Document distal neurovascular status q15 min, if restrained
- Avoid unnecessary sirens
- Consider law enforcement support and/or evaluation of patient
- Law enforcement or EMS may remove Taser*

- Capnography PRN
- Monitor/EKG
- IV ^(A)

Severely agitated and/or combative patient requiring restraint for patient or provider safety

- Midazolam[†] 5 mg IM/IN/IV, MR x1 in 5-10 min
- 500 mL fluid bolus IV/IO PRN, MR x1, MR BHO ®

*Taser barb considerations

- Taser discharge for simple behavioral control is usually benign and does not require transport to BEF for evaluation.
- Patients who are injured; appear to be under the influence of drugs; or present with altered mental status or symptoms of illness should have medical evaluation performed by EMS personnel before being transported to BEF.
- If barbs are impaled in anatomically sensitive location such as eye, face, neck, finger/hand, or genitalia, do not remove the barb. Transport patient to BEF.

[†]For severely agitated or combative patients, IN or IM midazolam is the preferred route to decrease risk of injury to the patient and personnel.

Alert: Co-administration of midazolam in patients with alcohol intoxication can cause respiratory depression. Consider avoiding or reducing midazolam dose.