

**ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCIES**  
**E-5 / DROWNING/NEAR DROWNING**

**PRIORITIES**

- ABCs
- Protect C-Spine
- Search for associated injuries; assume C-Spine trauma
- Early transport.
- **EARLY CONTACT OF RECEIVING HOSPITAL.**

**Reviewed**  
**July 2006**

**PATIENT TREATMENT GUIDELINES**

- Stabilize airway.
- Treat CARDIOPULMONARY ARREST per specific protocols;
- **OXYGEN** – High flow; be prepared to use appropriate adjuncts.
- Anticipate vomiting. Take precautions against aspiration, be prepared for suctioning;
- Remove wet clothing; keep patient warm and dry.
- **CARDIAC MONITOR;**
- IV Access and 250 cc fluid challenge if indicated for hypotension. Repeat vital signs and continue fluid boluses until systolic blood pressure is >100.
- Transport patient as early as possible.

**DISRUPTED COMMUNICATIONS**

**In the event that a Solano County EMT-P is UNABLE to make physician contact for orders, the paramedic MAY NOT utilize those areas of the protocol needing physician direction and MUST TRANSPORT IMMEDIATELY TO THE CLOSEST FACILITY.**