

c-11 CHEST PAIN (NON-CARDIAC ORIGIN)

PRIORITIES:

- ABCs
- Degree of distress? Shock?
- If in extremis, begin treatment before secondary survey
- History
- Assure an advanced life support response.

HYPERVENTILATION SYNDROME

Increased respiratory rate, complaints of inability to get enough air, numbness and tingling of face and extremities as well as cramping of the fingers or toes. May be associated with chest discomfort and ECG changes. Often difficult to distinguish from chest pain of cardiac origin.

1. Reassure patient;
2. Rule out any physiological causes of Respiratory Distress;
3. Do not use a paper bag or any other form of rebreathing device;
4. Assist advanced life support personnel with patient packaging and movement to ambulance.