Abbreviations and Definitions

The following are definitions or abbreviations and terms used in the Orange County Base Hospital Treatment Guidelines and Standing Orders:

< Less than.

≤ Less than or equal.

> Greater than.

≥ Greater than or equal.

► Indicates a medication or electrical cardiac conversion standing order.

→ Indicates a key step or decision element of a standing order.

AAA: Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm.

ALS: Advanced life support (term is often interchanged for paramedic level treatment/actions).

ALS Escort: To transport with paramedic personnel in attendance and ALS equipment on board transport unit.

AMS: Altered mental status.

BH: Base Hospital.

BHP: Base Hospital Physician on duty at an Orange County Base Hospital.

BLS: Basic life support (term is often interchanged for BLS level treatment/actions).

Bradycardia: Heart rate less than or equal to 60 bpm.

Bradycardia, symptomatic: Heart rate less than 60 and any of the following: systolic blood pressure less than 90 (pediatric less than 80), altered mental status, rales on lung auscultation and signs of CHF, poor skin perfusion signs.

CHF: Congestive heart failure

COPD: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

CPAP: Continuous Positive Airway Pressure.

CVRC: An Orange County Emergency Medical Services designated Cardiovascular Receiving Center.

Diversion: Formal notification of the EMS system through ReddiNet by a hospital that it is not physically or medically safe for that facility to accept further patients.

ECG: Electrocardiogram.

ET: Endotracheal.

Excited Delirium: Also referred to as Agitated Delirium, a state in which an individual is extremely anxious, confused, and

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has waxing and waning ability to understand their circumstances or situation. Most often, excited delirium victims show extreme strength and limited ability to recognize pain, are extremely animated and contort their arms and legs in strange postures. May be related to psychiatric disorders, drug use, post-ictal states, hyperthermia, and brain injury.

Extremis: Indicates that a patient has abnormal vital signs and is near cardiopulmonary arrest.

High Flow Oxygen: Oxygen by mask at 10 L/min flow; oxygen by nasal canula at 6L/min flow.

Hypotension: Blood pressure < 90 systolic in adult or adolescent, < 80 systolic in pediatric.

IM: Intramuscular.

IO: Intraosseous.

IN: Intranasal.

IV: Intravenous.

IVP: "Intravenous push" or to administer by intravenous injection.

Kg: Kilogram.

MCI: Mass Casualty Incident.

mg: Milligram.

MI: Myocardial infarction or "heart attack".

MICN: Mobile Intensive Care Nurse on duty at an Orange County Base Hospital.

mL: Milliliter.

NS: Normal saline

OD: Overdose

ODT: Oral dissolving tablet (in reference to ondansetron)

Perfusion: Circulation of oxygenated blood to tissues;

Perfusion, Adequate: Is determined by good skin signs, appropriate mental status, and palpable radial (brachial in pediatric) pulses and/or blood pressure appropriate for age.

PEA: Pulseless electrical activity.

PO: Orally (per os).

PRC: Paramedic Receiving Center, a hospital designated by the Orange County Emergency Medical Services Agency to receive 911 basic life support and advanced life support traffic.

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Abbreviations and Definitions

PTRC: Paramedic Trauma Receiving Center, an Orange County Emergency Medical Services Agency designated Trauma Center.

PVAD: Preexisting vascular access device.

Skin signs: Refers to blood perfusion of tissues; good skin signs are uniform skin color appropriate to the individual skin tone, pink nail beds, warm skin to touch, and in pediatrics, good capillary refill (refill in less than 3 seconds)

SL: Sublingual (under the tongue).

SNRC: An Orange County Emergency Medical Services designated Stroke-Neurology Receiving Center.

SO: Standing order, referring to OCEMS standing orders.

SQ: Subcutaneous.

SVT: Supraventricular tachycardia.

Symptomatic Bradycardia: Heart rate less than 60 and any of: systolic blood pressure less than 90, altered mental status, bradycardia: rales on lung auscultation and signs of CHF, poor skin perfusion signs.

TG: Treatment Guideline.

VT: Ventricular tachycardia.

VF: Ventricular fibrillation.

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