

# SIERRA-SACRAMENTO VALLEY EMS AGENCY

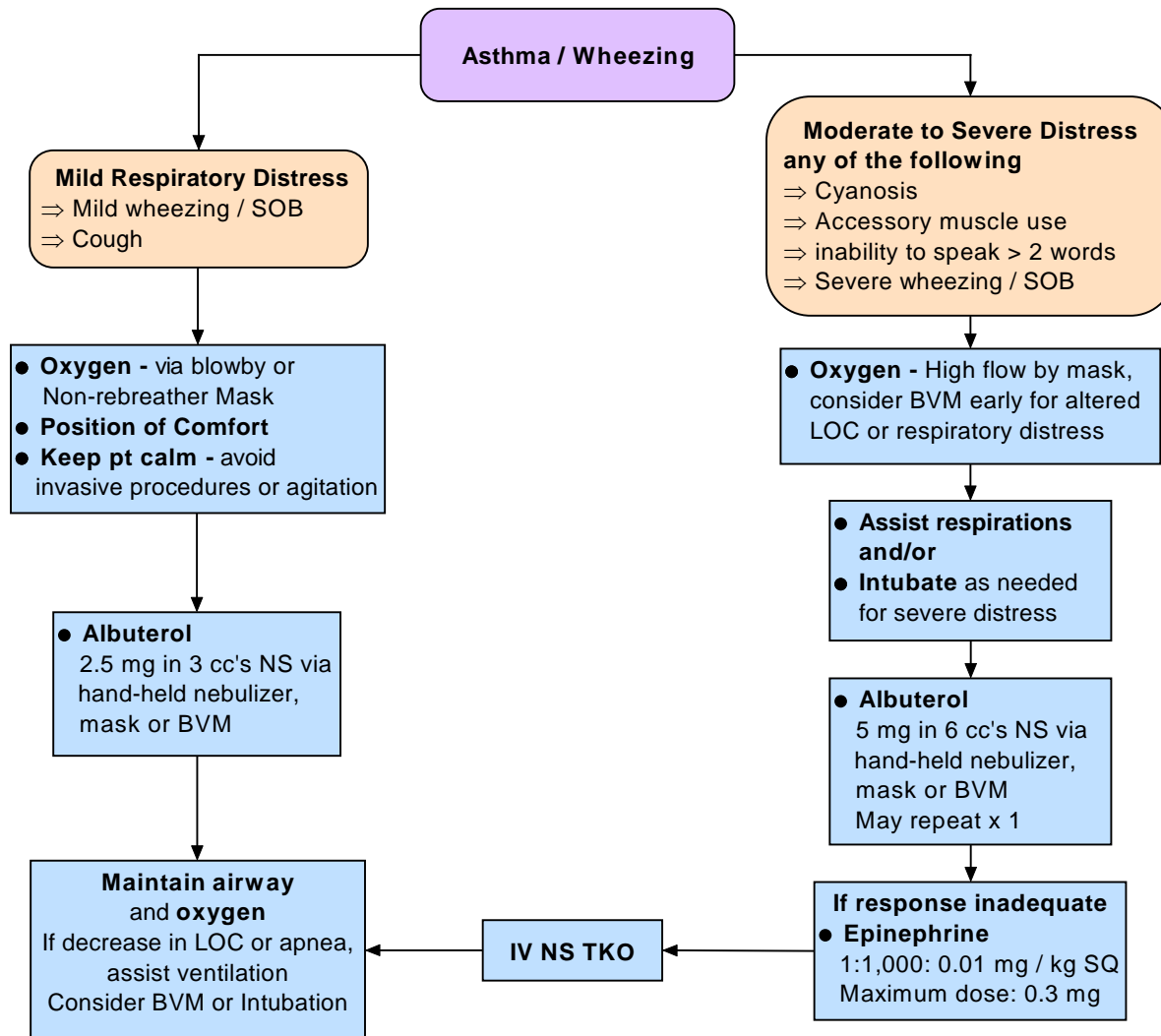
## ALS PROTOCOL - MEDICAL EMERGENCY

**PEDIATRIC**  
**REFERENCE NO. P-14**

**SUBJECT: RESPIRATORY DISTRESS - WHEEZING**

**LOWER AIRWAY - ASTHMA:**  
**Wheezing** - A high pitched, whistling sound, **during expiration**, characterizing disease, obstruction or spasm of the lower airways. It may be caused by asthma or bronchiolitis

- **Routine Medical Care**
- **Obtain History** - Foreign body aspiration, fever, drooling, sore throat, sputum production, onset, duration, .  
 Do not attempt to visualize the throat or insert anything into the mouth if epiglottitis suspected
- **Position of Comfort**
- **Allow a parent to hold the child or O<sub>2</sub> mask, if the presence of the parent calms the child**
- **Keep the patient calm.**
- **Note:** Perform endotracheal intubation only if BVM ventilation is unsuccessful or impossible
- Consider respiratory failure when a child has a history of increased work of breathing but now presents with altered appearance and a slow or normal respiratory rate without retractions



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 Page 1 of 1

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