

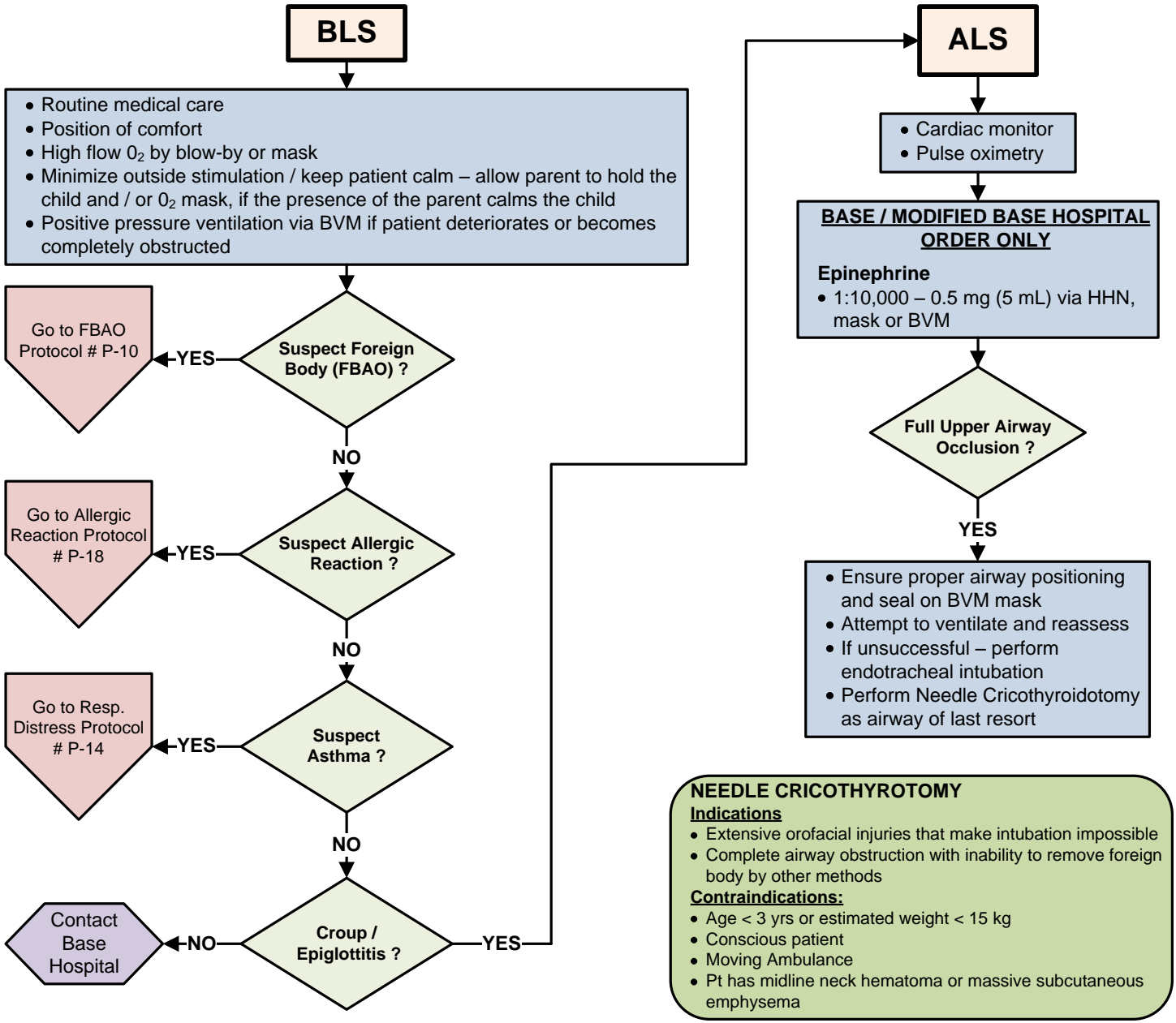


**SIERRA SACRAMENTO VALLEY EMS AGENCY
TREATMENT PROTOCOL – MEDICAL EMERGENCY**

**PEDIATRIC
REFERENCE NO. P-16**

SUBJECT: RESPIRATORY DISTRESS – STRIDOR (UPPER AIRWAY: CROUP / EPIGLOTTITIS)

- The hallmark of upper airway obstruction is inspiratory stridor
- Obtain History – Foreign body aspiration, fever, drooling, sore throat, sputum production, onset, duration, medications, asthma, exposures (allergens, toxins, smoke) or trauma (blunt / penetrating)
- Do not attempt to visualize the throat or insert anything into the mouth if epiglottitis suspected.
- *Note: Perform endotracheal intubation only if BVM ventilation is unsuccessful or impossible.



NEEDLE CRICOTHYROTOMY

Indications

- Extensive orofacial injuries that make intubation impossible
- Complete airway obstruction with inability to remove foreign body by other methods

Contraindications:

- Age < 3 yrs or estimated weight < 15 kg
- Conscious patient
- Moving Ambulance
- Pt has midline neck hematoma or massive subcutaneous emphysema

Effective Date: 01/01/2010
Next Review Date: 10/2011
Approved by:

Date last reviewed revised: 10/09
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