

I. General Considerations

- A. A complete focused history and physical exam must be performed to seek additional injuries.
 - B. Treat any injuries that are found.
 - C. Abuse need not be limited to physical abuse; be alert to the possibility of psychological abuse.
 - D. Report any suspicion of child abuse to the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services at your local district office. Report any suspicion of elder abuse to the Department of Aging and Disabilities at 1-800-564-1612.
 - E. Avoid a judgmental attitude toward the patient's caregivers.
 - F. Documentation should be objective and impartial.
-

II. History

- A. Is the patient experiencing any pain or difficulty breathing?
 - B. Was there any loss of consciousness?
 - C. Obtain a history of medical problems.
 - D. What medications has the patient been, or is the patient supposed to be, taking (including over the counter medications)?
-

III. Physical Examination

- A. Perform an initial assessment.
 - B. Assess the patient from head to toe as appropriate.
 - C. Obtain baseline vital signs.
 - D. Take note of any signs of injury.
 - E. Take note of any signs of neglect.
-

IV. Treatment

{If shock present, see hypotension protocol}

{If trauma present, see trauma protocol}

Basic

- A. Airway: maintain as indicated, suction as needed.
- B. Administer high concentration oxygen, as indicated by other protocols.
- C. Control external bleeding.
- D. Reassure the patient.