



## Protocol 700-S2-P: Apparent Life-Threatening Event (ALTE)

Revision 5/22/18  
Effective 8/1/18

### BLS Treatment

- ❖ Treat life threats. (See Procedure 701 *Life Threats*)
- ❖ Prepare for transport / transfer of care.

### ALS Treatment

- ❖ Treat life threats. (See Procedure 701 *Life Threats*)
- ❖ Refer to appropriate protocol/s as needed.
- ❖ Transport/Contact Base Station

### Special Considerations

- ❖ An Apparent Life-Threatening Event (ALTE) was formally known as a “near miss-SIDS” episode.
- ❖ An ALTE is an episode that is frightening to the observer (may think infant has died) and involves some combination of:
  - apnea
  - color change
  - marked change in muscle tone (limpness, loss of tone)
  - choking or gagging.
- ❖ Usually occurs in infants <12 months old. However, any child <2 years who exhibits symptoms of apnea may be considered an ALTE.
- ❖ 50% have a possible identifiable etiology (e.g. abuse, SIDS, swallowing dysfunction, infection, bronchitis, seizures, CNS anomalies, tumors, cardiac disease, chronic respiratory disease, upper airway obstruction, metabolic abnormalities, anemia, etc.)
- ❖ Gather accurate history of the episode, including severity, duration, provocation, as well as an accurate patient history.
- ❖ If the parent or guardian refuses medical care/transport, Base Station MD contact is mandatory prior to completing a refusal of medical care.