Powell River First Aid Training

Congestive Heart Failure or Pulmonary Edema – Flowchart

Hazards
Environment
Mechanism
Number of Patients
Additional Resources

FINDINGS IN THE STABLE PATIENT

- Conscious
- Able to maintain airway
- Mild, respiration distress
- Strong, regular radial pulse
- Warm, dry skin

LOC
D
A
B
C
RBS
SKIN
O_2

FINDINGS IN THE UNSTABLE PATIENT

- Altered LOC or unconscious
- Difficulty maintaining airway
- Respiratory distress
- Accessory muscle use
- Noisy respirations
- Weak, rapid, or absent radial pulse
- Peripheral edema
- Cool, clammy skin

CRITICAL INTERVENTIONS

- Position of comfort
- Assist ventilations if altered LOC or SpO2 <94%
- Use of PEEP or CPAP if indications are met.

DECISION POINT

STABLE

Secondary Survey

- **History**
- **Vital Signs**
- **Head to toe**

Transport/notify hospital

Monitor vital signs

UNSTABLE

Transport

Notify hospital

Secondary Survey

- History
- Vital Signs
- Head to toe
- Monitor vital signs

PATIENT CARE REPORT/HANDOFF