


## PEDIATRIC SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is the unexpected, sudden death of a seemingly normal, healthy infant that occurs during sleep with no physical evidence of disease or injury.

- A. Begin resuscitation immediately unless rigor mortis, severe lividity, or tissue breakdown is evident. If any doubt, resuscitate. Refer to **Pediatric Emergencies Cardiac Arrest Protocol 6406**.
- B. Note the position and condition of the victim and the surroundings.
- C. Use extreme tact and professionalism. Do not let emotions or prejudices interfere with carrying out appropriate patient care or family support.
  - 1. **DO NOT** make judgments concerning the situation.
  - 2. **DO NOT** add to the parent's sense of guilt or helplessness.
  - 3. Remember, people react differently to stressful situations.
- D. If resuscitation is begun:
  - 1. Transport immediately.
  - 2. Request ALS backup.
  - 3. Continue treatment en route per appropriate protocol.

- 3. Contact **Medical Command** for further orders. 
- E. If resuscitation has **not begun**:

- 1. **Contact Medical Command** immediately for confirmation of decision not to begin efforts **by direct MCP order** and follow **Death in the Field Protocol 9101**. 