### Cold Emergencies

#### BLS Procedures
- Gently move patient to warm environment and begin passive warming
- Increase ambulance cabin heat, if applicable
- Remove wet clothing and cover patient, including head, with dry blankets
- Administer oxygen as indicated
- If patient is altered, determine blood glucose level
- If less than 60 mg/dl refer to Policy 705.03
- Monitor vital signs for 1 minute. If vital signs are within the acceptable range for severe hypothermia, do not initiate respiratory assistance or chest compressions
  - Acceptable range for severe hypothermia:
    - Respiratory Rate: at least 4 breaths per minute
    - Heart rate: at least 20 beats per minute
  - Expedite transport if no shivering (indicates core temp below 90°)

#### ALS Standing Orders
- If patient is altered, determine blood glucose if not already performed by BLS personnel or post oral glucose administration
- If less than 60 mg/dl, refer to Policy 705.03
- IV/IO access (if needed for medication or fluid administration)
  - If administering fluid, avoid administering cold fluids.

#### Base Hospital Orders only
- Consult with ED Physician for further treatment measures