Psychiatric Emergencies

Pre-Medical Control

MFR/EMT/SPECIALIST/PARAMEDIC

1. Assure scene is secure.
2. Follow **General Pre-hospital Care Protocol.**
3. Note history.
   A. Current history: head injury, overdose/intoxication, central nervous system disease or infection, hypoglycemia, postictal state, or hypoxia.
4. If patient becomes violent or actions present a threat to patient's safety or that of others, restraint may be necessary. Refer to **Physical Patient Restraint Procedure**.
5. If medical emergency, follow appropriate protocol.

Post-Medical Control

PARAMEDIC

1. If chemical restraint necessary, refer to **Patient Sedation Procedure**.

Definitions:

1. **Protective Custody -** The temporary custody of an individual by a law enforcement officer with or without the individual's consent for the purpose of protecting that individual's health and safety, or the health and safety of the public and for the purpose of transporting the individual if the individual appears, in the judgment of the law enforcement officer, to be a person requiring treatment. Protective custody is civil in nature and is not to be construed as an arrest. (330.401, Sec. 410, Michigan Mental Health Code)

2. **Authority to Restrain -** EMS personnel are able to restrain and treat and transport an individual under authority of Sec 20969 of Public Act 368 which states: *"This part and the rules promulgated under this part do not authorize medical treatment for or transportation to a hospital of an individual who objects to the treatment or transportation. However, if emergency medical services personnel, exercising professional judgment, determine that the individual's condition makes the individual incapable of competently objecting to treatment or transportation, emergency medical services may provide treatment or transportation despite the individual's objections unless the objection is expressly based on the individual's religious beliefs."*