

 COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES	TREATMENT PROTOCOL		S-132
	DECOMPRESSION ILLNESS / DIVING / ALTITUDE-RELATED INCIDENTS		
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ALS

• 100% O₂ via mask • Ventilate PRN • O₂ saturation • Spinal stabilization PRN • Warming PRN, remove wetsuit, if able	• Monitor/ECG • IV/IO [®]
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Diving victim: A person with any symptoms after diving, regardless of whether compressed gasses such as air were used.

Minor symptoms (non-progressive): Minimal localized joint pain, mottling of skin surface, or localized swelling with pain.

Major symptoms: Symptoms listed above that are severe and/or rapidly progressing, vertigo, altered LOC, progressive paresthesia, seizure, paralysis, severe SOB, blurred vision, crepitus, hematemesis, hemoptysis, pneumothorax, urinary retention, trunk pain, or girdle or band-like burning discomfort.

Diving victim disposition

- All patients (including active-duty military) should be transported to UCSD Hillcrest Emergency Department
- Follow policy T-460 if trauma criteria are met
- Bring dive computer and gear if available