

Boulder County List of Protocol Changes October 2025:

1. 0010 Introduction
 - a. Removed language “These protocols define the standard of care for EMS providers in the Boulder County area, and delineate the expected practice, actions, and procedures to be followed.” And moved language from Training and Education section to replace it.
 - b. Changed language in protocol from standards of care to evidence-based medicine or consensus opinion.
2. 0030 Consent
 - a. Removed references to involuntary consent.
 - b. Added guidance on scene safety management.
 - c. In algorithm, box added regarding “Reasonable concern the person is experiencing a behavioral health crisis or are gravely disabled, and, without professional intervention may be a danger to themselves or others” and decision-making capacity.
 - d. Added language about patients’ ability to reengage EMS at anytime after refusing care.
3. 0031 Patient Determination
 - a. Updated algorithm flow.
 - b. Guidance on duty to respond added in gray box.
 - c. Reordered from protocol 0070 to 0031 to align decision flow in consent, patient determination, and refusal protocols
4. 0032 Patient Non-Transport or Refusal
 - a. Updated algorithm flow.
 - b. If unable to safely assess patient and provide care, referral to patient determination protocol and duty to respond.
 - c. Reordered protocol 0080 to 0032 to align decision flow in consent, patient determination, and refusal protocols
5. 0050 Field Pronouncement
 - a. Updates made to match changes to trauma arrest protocol from April 2025
6. 1180 Sedation as an Adjunct to Pain Management
 - a. Protocol removed
7. 3050 Bradyarrhythmia with Poor Perfusion
 - a. Change 12-lead requirement
8. 4040 Seizure
 - a. Added “Functional seizures” to list of potential causes
9. 4050 Hypoglycemia
 - a. Reformatted to clean up algorithm flow
 - b. Added link to neonatal resuscitation protocol for newly born hypoglycemia
10. 4060 BRUE
 - a. Reformatted to clean up algorithm
 - b. Updated to include decision tree of BRUE vs not BRUE
11. 4070 Drug/Alcohol Intoxication
 - a. Under Definitions gray box, states, “Intoxicated patient with any of the following must be transported to ED”. “Must” changed to “should”
12. 4080 Overdose/Poisoning
 - a. Addition of acquiring an ECG/12-lead and change to “IV” location on the algorithm
13. 4075 Alcohol Withdrawal
 - a. New protocol for treatment of alcohol withdrawal symptoms

14. 4100 Non-Traumatic Abdominal Pain and Vomiting
 - a. Reformatted to clean up algorithm flow
 - b. Change color of gray elderly box
 - c. Minor wording change by removing some acronyms
 - d. Blood alert added to algorithm
15. 4110 Carbon Monoxide
 - a. Reformatted to clean up algorithm
 - b. Updated to treatment and transport based on symptoms and not on carbon monoxide oximetry
16. 4120 Adrenal Insufficiency
 - a. Reformatted to clean up algorithm flow
17. 5030 High Altitude Illness
 - a. Reformatted to clean up algorithm flow
18. 6000 Psychiatric/Behavioral Patient
 - a. References to involuntary consent removed
 - b. Section on mental health holds (M-1) updated and includes referring to agency specific guidelines on use of transportation holds (M-0.5). Also, at end of this section additional language added when an EMS provider may withdraw or disengage from a person regardless of hold status.
19. 6010 Agitated/Combative Patient
 - a. Addition of PO to option of route with ODT olanzapine administration.
20. 7010 Obstetrical Complications
 - a. Fixed EMT IV and other box color issues
21. 9170 Ipratropium Bromide
 - a. Dosing increased up to three times.
22. 9230 Opioids
 - a. Guidance on administration of opioids and benzodiazepines updated with removal of 1180 Sedation as an Adjunct to Pain Management
23. 9045 Antipsychotics
 - a. Dosing section formatting updated
 - b. Update from ODT to ODT/PO
 - c. Correction where IV/IO/IM list as route under ODT for cooperative patients
24. 9070 Benzodiazepines
 - a. Dosing section formatting updated
 - b. Addition of dosing for alcohol withdrawal
 - c. Guidance on administration of opioids and benzodiazepines updated with removal of 1180 Sedation as an Adjunct to Pain Management
25. Appendix A: Documentation
 - a. Update to reference state reporting requirements.
 - b. This appendix removed – Will be posted to the <https://bocofire.org> website for agencies that need
26. Appendix E: Interfacility Transport – Applies to Licensed IFT Agencies ONLY
 - a. Update to name of appendix section