

Patient Restraint

Oshkosh Fire Dept

The purpose of restraining patients is to prevent them from harming themselves or others when violent behavior is the result of a medical condition or in cases where a determination or cause cannot be made in the pre-hospital setting.

- 1) **Assure Scene Safety; do not enter known violent scene unless law enforcement has cleared it.**
- 2) **Involve Law enforcement early on if not already on scene**
- 3) **Use least Restrictive measures possible**
 - Face Down method is prohibited
 - Soft 4 point restraints
- 4) **For extremely violent patients place them on a long board face up.**
 - Use long board straps, Frac Straps and soft restraints to secure them to the longboard
 - If law enforcement uses handcuffs, do not place handcuff to the strap pins on the longboard, go around the whole handle.
 - Chemical restraint, 2 mg Versed IV/IN or 4mg IM up to 8mg IV/IN may be needed for excited delirium.
 - Pediatric dose of Versed 0.1 mg/kg IV/IN or 0.2 mg/kg IM, not to exceed adult dose
- 5) **For spitting patients, apply an oxygen mask with oxygen.**
- 6) **Attempt vitals and glucometer reading**
- 7) **If patient is restrained with handcuffs, law enforcement will accompany the patient in the back of the ambulance to the hospital.**
- 8) **Documentation**
 - Indication for restraints (danger to self or others)
 - Method of restraint
 - Monitoring of vital signs
 - *Any adjunctive measures performed (sedation, O2 sat, and/or glucomter)*

Steve Stroman, MD, FACEP, FAAEM, EMT-P
Medical Director, Oshkosh Fire Dept