

Dispatch Nature Definitions

Abdominal Pain - ALS	<p>Vomiting blood (red/dark red) or coffee ground-like substance. Pain with prior history of Addisons disease or adrenal insufficiency. Black tarry stool. Lower abdominal pain, woman 12-50 years (if associated with dizziness or fainting or heavy vaginal bleeding). Upper abdominal pain with prior history of heart problem. Abdominal pain with fainting or near fainting, patient over 50 yrs. Fainting/near fainting when sitting. (hypotension)</p>
Abdominal Pain - BLS	<p>Pain with vomiting. Flank pain (Kidney stone). Abdominal (non-traumatic). Pain unspecified.</p>
Aircraft Crash	Aircraft Crash
Aircraft Incident	Declared aircraft emergency (no crash) i.e. landing gear problem
Allergic Reaction - ALS	<p>Unconscious/not breathing normally. Decreased level of consciousness. Difficulty breathing. Difficulty swallowing. Cannot talk in full sentences. Swelling in throat or on face. Fainting. History of severe reaction. Itching or hives in multiple areas.</p>

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Allergic Reaction - BLS	<p>Call delayed longer than 30 minutes with history of reaction. Concern about reaction, but no history. Reaction present for long time (hours), no difficulty breathing. Itching or hives in one area.</p>
Animal Bite - ALS	<p>Unconscious/not breathing normally. Decreased level of consciousness. Uncontrolled bleeding, after attempts to control. Serious neck or face bites from animal attacks. Bites from known poisonous animals.</p>
Animal Bite - BLS	<p>Controlled bleeding. Swelling at bite site. Bite below neck, non-poisonous.</p>
Assault - ALS	<p>Unconscious/not breathing normally. Decreased level of consciousness. Crushing injury (except to hands or feet.) Puncture injury (head, neck, torso, thigh.) Multiple extremity fractures. Femur (thigh) fracture. Uncontrolled bleeding.</p>
Assault - BLS	<p>Penetrating/crushing injury to hands or feet. Isolated extremity fracture. Minor injuries. Unknown injuries. Concerned caller without apparent injuries to victim. Police request stand-by/check for injuries.</p>
Back Pain - ALS	<p>Decreased level of consciousness. Non-traumatic back pain with prior history of Addison's disease or adrenal insufficiency. Non-traumatic back pain with prior history of heart problem. Back pain with fainting or near fainting, patient over 50 years.</p>

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Back Pain - BLS	<p>Flank pain/back (Kidney stone). Back pain (non-traumatic). Back pain unspecified. Chronic back pain.</p>
Bariatric Patient Transport - BLS	A routine BLS bariatric scheduled transport
Bariatric Patient Transport - SCTU	A routine SCTU (ALS) bariatric scheduled transport
Bleeding - ALS	<p>Decreased level of consciousness. Any arterial bleeding. Bleeding with history of Hemophilia. Rectal bleeding with significant blood loss. Vomiting blood or coffee ground material. Bleeding from mouth with difficulty breathing. Bleeding from the neck, groin, or armpit with significant blood loss. Vaginal bleeding if over 20 weeks pregnant, associated with lower abdominal pain or fainting.</p>
Bleeding - BLS	Minor bleeding from any other area that can be controlled by direct pressure.
Burns - ALS	<p>Decreased level of consciousness. Burns to airway, nose, mouth. Hoarseness, difficulty talking or swallowing. Burns over 20% of body surface. Electrical Burns/electrocution from 220 volts or greater power lines/panel boxes. 2nd & 3rd degree burns (partial or full thickness) to Palms (hands) Soles (feet) Groin</p>
Burns - BLS	<p>Less than 20% body surface burned. Spilled hot liquids. Chemical burns to eyes. Small burn from match, cigarette. Household electric shock. Battery explosion. Freezer burns.</p>

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Cardiac Arrest	Unresponsive/Unconscious/not breathing adequately (Agonal) or not at all. Possible DOA of unknown origin
Cardiac Cath Scheduled	Standby's for scheduled cardiac cath procedures
Cardiac Other - ALS	Decreased level of consciousness. Patient complaining of chest pain with any of the critical symptoms: Short of breath, nausea, diaphoretic (sweating profusely), rapid heart rate, syncope (weak, dizzy or faint) or with cocaine/crack (drug) use. Hypotension and Hypertension are included in this dispatch problem.
Cardiac Other - BLS	Patients under 35, without critical symptoms
Choking - ALS	Unresponsive/not breathing normally. Unable to talk or cry. Turning blue.
Choking - BLS	Able to speak or cry. Exchanging air with no breathing difficulty. Airway cleared, patient assist.
CISM - Education/Training	NJ CISM Network Training/Education Event
CISM - Emergency	NJ CISM Network Training/Education Event
CO Alarm	Request for EMS to a CO alarm activation where patients do not have symptoms
CO Inhalation - ALS	CO Detector activation with Critical Symptoms: Unconscious/LOC/not breathing normally. Decreased level of consciousness.
CO Inhalation - BLS	No critical symptoms. Third party report, caller not with patient.
CODE PCI	Standby for emergent Cath Procedure
Diabetic Problem - ALS	Unconscious/not breathing normally. Decreased level of consciousness. Unusual behavior/acting strange. Profuse sweating. Seizure.

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Diabetic Problem - BLS	Awake/alert. Not feeling well.
Domestic Entrapment - ALS	Decreased level of consciousness. Accident with crushing or penetrating injury to: head, neck, torso, thigh. Patient entrapped. PROMPT (Dispatch Rescue Unit) Amputation other than fingers/toes. Patient paralyzed. Uncontrolled bleeding. Multiple extremity fractures. Femur (thigh) fracture.
Domestic Entrapment - BLS	Unconscious, but now conscious without critical symptoms. Amputation/entrapment of fingers/toes. Neck or back pain without critical symptoms. Controlled bleeding. Cuts, bumps, or bruises. Patient assist. Involved in accident, no complaints.
Drowning - ALS	Unconscious, not breathing normally. Difficulty breathing. Scuba diving accident. Diving accident (possibility of C-spine injury). Fractured femur (thigh).
Drowning - BLS	Patient not submerged. Patient coughing. Other injuries without critical symptoms. Minor injury (lacerations/fractures).

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Electrocution - ALS	<p>Decreased level of consciousness. Unable to remove patient from electrical circuit. Multiple Casualty Incident Criteria. Burns to airway, nose, or mouth. Burns over 20% of body surface. Burns from 220 volt or higher source. 2nd & 3rd degree burns (partial or full thickness) to Palms (hands), Soles (feet) or Groin. Reported DOA until evaluation by responsible party.</p>
Electrocution - BLS	Household electrical shock without critical symptoms.
Heat Exposure - ALS	<p>High body temperature without sweating. Confused/disoriented/hallucinations. Fainting (Syncope). Narcotics and Psych Medications may exacerbate and/or mask symptoms</p>
Heat Exposure - BLS	<p>Heat Exhaustion: Nausea, vomiting, fatigue, headaches, muscle cramps, dizziness, with no critical symptoms.</p>
Eye Injury	Any eye injury.
Cold Exposure - ALS	<p>Decreased level of consciousness. Confused/disoriented/hallucinations. Fainting (Syncope). Cold Water Submersion. Narcotics and Psych Medications may exacerbate and/or mask symptoms</p>
Cold Exposure - BLS	<p>Patient with uncontrollable shivering. Nausea, vomiting, fatigue, headaches, muscle cramps, dizziness, with no critical symptoms.</p>
Fall Victim - ALS	<p>Decreased level of consciousness. Signs/symptoms of shock. Falls greater than 10 feet. Falls associated with or preceded by pain, discomfort in chest, dizziness, headache, or diabetes. Patient paralyzed. Uncontrolled bleeding. Multiple extremity fractures. Femur (thigh) fracture.</p>

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Fall Victim - BLS	<p>Unconscious, but now conscious without critical symptoms. Falls less than 10 feet. Neck or back pain without critical symptoms. Controlled bleeding. Cuts, bumps, or bruises. Isolated extremity fracture.</p>
Fire Incident (Non-EMS)	<p>Fire incident received by Lifecomm the does not require EMS resources, call transferred or information relayed only</p>
Gunshot - ALS	<p>Unconscious/not breathing normally. Decreased level of consciousness. Uncontrolled Bleeding. Leg injury above the knee. Wounds to head neck, torso, or thigh. Multiple Casualty Incident.</p>
Gunshot – BLS	<p>Wounds to the arms below the elbow or on the leg below the knee.</p>
HazMat - ALS	<p>Unconscious/LOC/not breathing normally. Decreased level of consciousness. Inhalation household cleaners, antifreeze, solvents, methanol, cyanide, or insecticides with difficulty swallowing/breathing.</p>
HazMat - BLS	<p>Chemicals on patient’s skin or clothing, no critical symptoms. Third party report, caller not with patient.</p>
Headache - ALS	<p>Headache with these critical symptoms: Decreased level of consciousness. Mental status change. Worst headache ever. Sudden onset. Visual disturbance, with no history of migraines.</p>
Headache - BLS	<p>Headache without critical symptoms.</p>

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Industrial Accident - ALS	<p>Decreased level of consciousness. Accident with crushing or penetrating injury to: head, neck, torso, thigh. Patient entrapped. PROMPT (Dispatch Rescue Unit) Amputation other than fingers/toes. Patient paralyzed. Uncontrolled bleeding. Multiple extremity fractures. Femur (thigh) fracture.</p>
Industrial Accident - BLS	<p>Unconscious, but now conscious without critical symptoms. Amputation/entrapment of fingers/toes. Neck or back pain without critical symptoms. Controlled bleeding. Cuts, bumps, or bruises. Patient assist. Involved in accident, no complaints.</p>
MCI	<p>Reports of multiple victims with similar symptoms, known MCI event.</p>
Medical Alarm	<p>Medical alarm activation without verification of specific complaint.</p>
MVC - ALS	<p>Reported injuries with following mechanisms: Vehicle vs. immovable objects. Vehicles involved in head-on or T-bone collision. Car vs. motorcycle or bicycle. Patient(s) trapped or ejected. Vehicle rollover. Critical criteria – injuries to head, neck, torso, thigh.</p>
MVC - BLS	<p>Accident with injury, no critical criteria. Police request stand-by/check for injuries.</p>

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MVC Rescue Assignment - ALS	Rescue services required (i.e. entrapment, does not include “door pop”) and reported injuries with following mechanisms: Vehicle vs. immovable objects. Vehicles involved in head-on or T-bone collision. Car vs. pedestrian, motorcycle or bicycle. Patient(s) trapped or ejected. Vehicle rollover. Critical criteria – injuries to head, neck, torso, thigh.
Neuro Transfer	Neuro service patient transfer
Overdose/Poisonings - ALS	OD/Poisoning/Ingestions with these critical symptoms: Unconscious/not breathing normally. Any overdose of medication with altered level of consciousness. Cocaine/crack with chest pain. Ingestion of household cleaners, antifreeze, solvents, methanol, cyanide, insecticides. Difficulty swallowing. Alcohol intoxication, patient cannot be aroused. Combined alcohol and drug overdose.
Overdose/Poisonings - BLS	Drugs without critical symptoms. Intentional/accidental ingestion of medications. Third party report, caller not with patient. Reported OD, patient denies taking medications or unknown if medications/substance taken. Known alcohol intoxication without other drugs, can be aroused.
Patient Assist	Caller requires assistance with medical equipment or moving patient. No injury or illness reported.
Pedestrian MVC - ALS	Reported injuries with following mechanisms: Car vs. pedestrian
Pedestrian MVC - BLS	Police request stand-by/check for injuries.
Police Incident (Non-EMS)	Police incident received by Lifecomm the does not require EMS resources, call transferred or information relayed only

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Pregnancy - ALS	<p>Imminent delivery or Delivery. Vaginal bleeding with fainting. Fainting/near fainting with patient sitting up. Prior history of complicated delivery. Bleeding, greater than 20 weeks pregnant. Premature active labor greater than 4 weeks premature. Abdominal injury, if greater than 20 weeks pregnant. Seizure. Multiple births.</p>
Pregnancy - BLS	<p>Delivery not imminent. Vaginal bleeding without fainting if under 20 weeks pregnant. Abdominal injury, if less than 20 weeks pregnant. Water broke. Pregnant less than 20 weeks or menstrual with any of the following: Cramps Pelvic Pain Spotting</p>
Pronouncement	Request by law enforcement for an ALS unit to pronounce a patient.
Psychiatric Problem	<p>Lacerated wrist(s) with controlled bleeding. Unusual behavior with a psychiatric history. Known alcohol intoxication without other drugs (can be aroused). Threats against self or others. Police request for stand-by. Patient out of psychiatric medications.</p>
Rehab Assignment	Request for EMS (ambulance or specialty unit) to provide rehab services to a fire, police, or hazmat incident.

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Respiratory - ALS	<p>Any patient complaining of breathing or respiratory difficulty, examples of symptoms may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficulty breathing with chest pain. Unable to speak in full sentences. History of Asthma or respiratory problems. Inhaled substance. Recent childbirth/broken leg/hospitalization (within 2-3months). Drooling/difficulty swallowing. Tingling or numbness in extremities/around mouth, 35 or older.
Respiratory - BLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cold symptoms. Stuffy nose / congestion. Oxygen bottle empty. Patient assist. Long term, no change.
Scheduled Transport - BLS	A routine BLS scheduled transport
Scheduled Transport - SCTU	A routine SCTU (ALS) scheduled transport
SED Assist	Capital Health EMS personnel detailed to support SED
Seizures - ALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreased level of consciousness. Not breathing after seizure stops. Extended seizures greater than 5 minutes. Multiple seizures. Febrile seizures. First time seizure or seizure, unknown history. Secondary to drug overdose, diabetic, pregnancy, or recent head injury. Any seizure that is different than normal.
Seizures - BLS	Single seizure with history of seizure disorder.
Sick Person - ALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreased level of consciousness. Prior history of Addisons disease or adrenal insufficiency with dehydration, severe vomiting and diarrhea or low blood pressure. Multiple fainting episodes.

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Sick Person - BLS	Generalized weakness. Medic alert from alarm company. Flu symptoms: (Without critical signs, symptoms or other medical options) High blood pressure without critical symptoms. High temperature. Patient assist.
Special Assignment	Other administrative or PR assignments
Stabbing - ALS	Unconscious/not breathing normally. Decreased level of consciousness. Uncontrolled Bleeding. Leg injury above the knee. Wounds to head neck, torso, or thigh. Multiple Casualty Incident.
Stabbing - BLS	Wounds to the arms below the elbow or on the leg below the knee.
Standby - Fire Incident	Standby for fire incident
Standby - Fire with Entrapment	EMS response to a fire with confirmed or suspected entrapment
Standby - General	General standby cover assignments
Standby - Police Incident	Standby for police incident
Standby - Prescheduled	General standby for prescheduled event
Stroke/CVA - ALS	Unconscious/not breathing normally. Marked change in level of consciousness. New onset of weakness with paralysis, facial droop, slurred speech, confusion, loss of vision, loss of coordination, severe headache.
Stroke/CVA – BLS	Past history of stroke (CVA) with no new changes.
Trauma Alert - ED	Trauma alert in the ED
Trauma Alert - Helipad	Trauma alert at the Helipad

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Trauma - ALS	<p>Unconscious/not breathing normally. Decreased level of consciousness. Penetrating/crushing injury to head, neck, torso, thigh. Multiple extremity fractures. Leg injury above the knee. Uncontrolled bleeding. Indications of shock.</p>
Trauma - BLS	<p>Penetrating/crushing injury to hands or feet. Unknown or internal injuries without indication of shock. Minor injuries. Concerned caller without apparent injuries to victim. Isolated extremity fracture. Police request stand-by/check for injuries.</p>
Unconscious / Fainting - ALS	<p>Unconscious/not breathing normally. Multiple fainting (syncopal) episodes (same day). Confirmed unconscious/unresponsive. Combined drugs and alcohol overdose. Fainting associated with: Headache, Chest pain/discomfort/palpitations, Diabetic, GI/Vaginal Bleeding, Abdominal pain, Sitting/Standing, or continued decreased level of consciousness. Single fainting if over 50 years. Alcohol intoxication can not be aroused.</p>
Unconscious / Fainting - BLS	<p>Unconscious, but now conscious without critical symptoms. Unconfirmed slumped over wheel. Conscious with minor injuries. Known alcohol intoxication without other drugs, can be aroused. Near Syncope (fainting) without critical criteria.</p>
Unknown / Person Down	<p>Unknown (Third Party Call) without indications of unconsciousness. Patient talking, moving, sitting, or standing. Includes welfare checks.</p>
Water Recovery	<p>Victim is missing in water without the anticipation of locating a survivable victim</p>

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Water Rescue	Victim is missing or trapped in water, flooded area or similar circumstance where rescuing a viable victim is reasonable anticipated.
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Change of Dispatch Natures Cheat Sheet

Changes put into effect 9-2012

Removed CAD Nature	Replaced with these Natures
Accidental Ingestion	Overdose / Poisoning – ALS or Overdose / Poisoning – BLS or (based upon symptoms)
Alcohol Intoxication	Sick Person or Unconscious / Fainting – BLS or Unconscious / Fainting – ALS (based upon symptoms)
Altered Mental Status / LOC	Sick Person – ALS
Amputation	Trauma- ALS or Trauma – BLS (based upon anatomical location of injury)
Chest Pain	Cardiac – ALS or Cardiac – BLS (based upon patients age and symptoms)
Childbirth	Pregnancy – ALS or Pregnancy – BLS (based upon symptoms)
CO Exposure	CO Alarm or CO Inhalation – BLS or CO Inhalation – ALS (based upon symptoms)
Cold Symptoms	Respiratory – BLS or Sick Person – BLS (based upon symptoms)
Cover Assignment	Standby, General
DOA	Cardiac Arrest
Drug Overdose	Overdose / Poisoning – ALS or Overdose / Poisoning – BLS or (based upon symptoms)
Extremity Injury	Trauma- ALS or Trauma – BLS (based upon symptoms)
Extremity Fractures	Trauma- ALS or Trauma – BLS (based upon symptoms)
Fire Incident	Standby, Fire Incident or Rehab Assignment
Fire Incident – Entrapment	Standby - Fire with Entrapment
GI Bleed	Abdominal Pain – ALS
Head Injury	Trauma – ALS
Hypertension	Cardiac - ALS or Cardiac – BLS (based upon symptoms)
Hypotension	Cardiac - ALS or Cardiac – BLS (based upon symptoms)
Insect Bites	Allergic Reaction - ALS or Allergic Reaction – BLS (based upon symptoms)
Laceration	Bleeding – ALS or Bleeding – BLS (based upon symptoms)
Medical Emergency	Sick Person or appropriate complaint
MVC – Multiple Injuries	MVC – ALS, or MVC – BLS, or MVC Rescue Assignment
Poisoning	Overdose/Poisonings – ALS or Overdose/Poisonings – BLS (based upon symptoms)
Sports Injury	Truama – ALS or Trauma – BLS (based upon symptoms)
Suicide Attempt	Use specific complaint based upon method of attempt
Syncope – ALS	Unconscious / Fainting - ALS
Syncope – BLS	Unconscious / Fainting – BLS
Unresponsive	Unconscious / Fainting - ALS
Vaginal Bleeding	Bleeding – ALS or Bleeding – BLS (based upon symptoms)
Welfare Check	Unknown / Person Down