

CSHCN – CSF SHUNT

CSF (Cerebrospinal fluid) shunt is a special catheter to drain cerebrospinal fluid from the brain. It runs under the skin from the skull to the chest or abdomen or any tissue with enough epithelial cells to absorb the incoming CSF.

- A. Perform **Initial Treatment / Universal Patient Care Protocol** and follow the proper protocol for medical management based on clinical presentation.
- B. Provide immediate resuscitation, as needed, and make immediate transport decision.
- C. Assess for signs and symptoms of shunt obstruction or shunt infection.
 - 1. Fever.
 - 2. Bulging Fontanel.
 - 3. Altered Glasgow Coma Scale.
- D. If signs of increased intracranial pressure (C above) call for ALS.
- E. Elevate the child's head keeping it in the midline position.
- F. Bring all of the child's medical charts or medical forms that the caregiver may have, the child's "**go bag**" or other similar bag and any supplies that the caregiver may have.
- G. Transport to the nearest appropriate facility as soon as possible.
- H. Reassess the child at least every 3 - 5 minutes, more frequently as necessary and possible.