

STATE OF MAINE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

**152 STATE HOUSE STATION** 

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333



JOHN E. MORRIS COMMISSIONER SHAUN A. ST. GERMAIN DIRECTOR

### MEDICAL DIRECTION AND PRACTICES BOARD

### WHITE PAPER

Brief Resolved Unexplained Events (Formerly Apparent Life Threatening Events)

## 1. Why did we change this protocol from ALTE (Apparent Life Threatening Event) to BRUE (Brief Resolved Unexplained Event)?

The American Academy of Pediatrics made this name change in May, 2016. We are updating our protocols to be in sync with our academic institutions.

## 2. What is the difference between the old ALTE and the new BRUE?

As far as prehospital medicine is concerned, not much. The changes are more important for ED and pediatric providers. The Emergency Medicine guidelines for us in the ED are an improvement and help us-focus the work up once the patient arrives in the ED. Just as before when we called this ALTE, it is important for you in the field to recognize these patients and alert us in the ED. These patients must be transported even if they look well.

## 3. Where can I read more about this condition?

Tieder, JS et al. Brief resolved unexplained events (formerly apparent life-threatening events) and evaluation of lower-risk infants. Pediatrics. 2016 May;137(5). <u>PMID:</u> <u>27244835.</u>

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With offices located at the Central Maine Commerce Center, 45 Commerce Drive, Suite 1, Augusta, ME 04330

PAUL R. LEPAGE GOVERNOR

# 4. <u>Why is it so important to bring these patients to the ED if they look well and whatever</u> <u>happened has resolved?</u>

<u>Occasionally the event was a warning that far more serious future health problems could</u> <u>occur (even death) if the problem is not identified and treatment initiated.</u>

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