Emergency medical services often care for patients with acute dyspnea. For prehospital patients with severe respiratory distress, non-invasive positive pressure ventilation (NIPPV) may provide a therapeutic option, potentially averting the need for endotracheal intubation or other advanced airway intervention.

NAEMSP believes that:

- NIPPV is an important prehospital treatment modality for acute dyspnea.

- EMS agencies should select NIPPV systems and develop dyspnea care protocols suited to their patient populations, clinical capabilities and receiving emergency department’s resources.

- EMS agencies must conduct quality assurance and inspection efforts to verify the safety and effectiveness of NIPPV.