VBEMS Post Arrest Cooling Protocol

**Post Resuscitation Protocol**

- Post Resuscitation Protocol
  - Intubate patient with ET tube or King
    - No
    - Successful
  - Use in conjunction with Post Resuscitation and other appropriate protocols.
  - Expose patient.
    - Apply ice packs to axillae, groin, neck.
  - Administer 1000cc of cold saline over 15 minutes
  - Can begin 2nd liter of cold saline over 15 minutes
  - If shivering, Administer Versed 2mg and cover with a blanket or sheet
    - May be repeated every 5 min
  - If shivering is uncontrolled, administer Vecuronium 10mg
    - (Physician order only)
  - Transport to hypothermic care hospital

**Criteria for Induced Hypothermia?**
- GCS<6 with no purposeful movement
- Non-traumatic arrest
- Age greater than 16
- No exclusion criteria

**Do not delay transport to begin hypothermia protocol!**

**Exclusion criteria**
- If one or more of the following are present, **DO NOT** proceed with the protocol.
  - DNR or terminal illness
  - Pregnancy
  - Known bleeding disorder
  - Known infection
  - Recent major surgery
  - Drug intoxication
  - Diminished neuro status prior to cardiac arrest
  - Responds to verbal commands
  - Unable to maintain BP
  - Total down time of more than 1 hour

**If patient loses pulse at any time, stop cooling and go to appropriate protocol.**

**If there is a long transport,** administer a 3rd liter of cold saline at 200cc/hr.