



Katie's current problem is moderate hypothermia; given her current AVPU level, her core temperature is below 90° F. Prepare a solo hypothermia package using two sleeping bags and pads, a mylar space bag, a bivy sack (or plastic ground cloth); prepare heat packs using insulated hot water bottles; when ready place them between the sleeping bags on her trunk. At the same time, carefully unzip Katie's sleeping bag and remove all her wet clothing. If Katie is partially awake and groggy (high voice responsive) you may VERY carefully replace her wet long underwear with a clean dry pair; if she is lower on the AVPU scale, gently cut all her wet underwear off. Use the same care in moving and sealing her into the hypothermia package; avoid any rough handling or extraneous movement. Refresh the hot water in the heat packs every four hours being careful not to spill any on the sleeping bags; slide the packs out and in. With a bit of luck Katie will waken to full alert status over the next 24 hours. At that point you should begin to offer her food (simple carbohydrates) and water; she should recover fully. If she doesn't waken, she will require hospital assistance; there is a possibility that she may die. Once she is safely secure in her hypothermia package, plan an urgent, Level 1 evacuation; follow your Emergency Evacuation Plan.

Your mistakes were (they are all serious):

- Not personally ensuring that Katie removed her wet clothes before getting into a dry sleeping bag. Ideally you should have added hot packs and set up a modified 3-person hypothermia package with Katie in the center position in her own sleeping bag and two other students, one on each side of her, in two zipped together sleeping bags.
- Not personally checking on Katie at dinner time and insuring that she ate a full dinner and was still warm.
- Not giving Katie snack food before she fell asleep and insuring that she was warm.



Had you done all the above, the incident would not have occurred and given the difficulty of travel the previous day altered your route/turned back.