

Hypotension

For systolic BP < 90mmHg in adults with transient low BP or rapidly responds to fluid resuscitation and without signs of shock

History

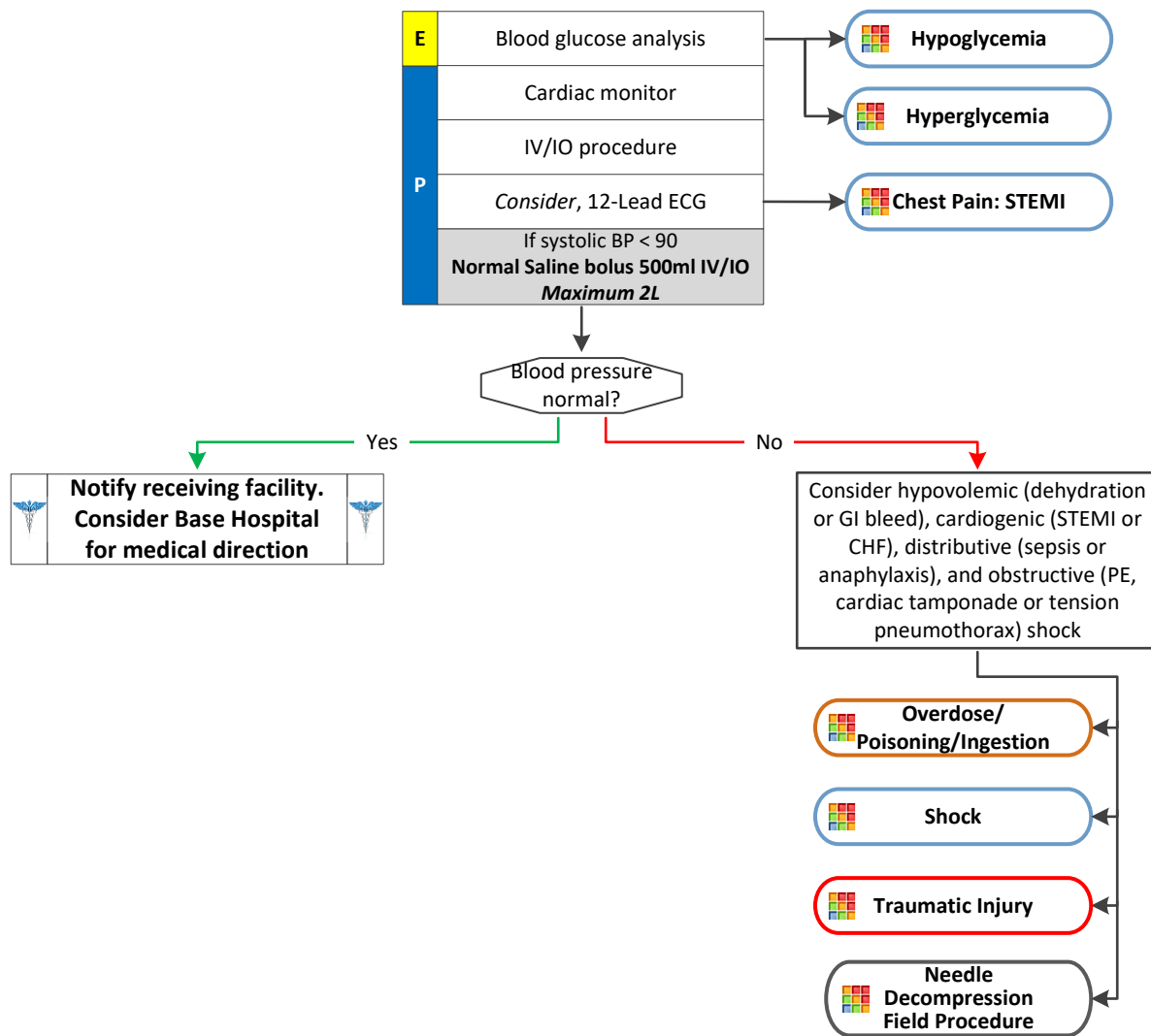
- Volume loss (vomiting, diarrhea or blood)
- Infection (e.g., UTI, pneumonia, etc.)
- Cardiac ischemia (MI or CHF)
- Pregnancy
- Poor oral intake
- Allergic reaction
- Medications (diuretics, beta blockers)
- End stage renal disease/dialysis

Signs and Symptoms

- Pale, cool skin
- Tachycardia
- Weak, rapid pulse
- Delayed capillary refill
- Wounds/bruising/active bleeding/epistaxis
- Shortness of breath

Differential

- Shock (neurogenic vs. hemorrhagic vs. obstructive (tension pneumothorax))
- Ectopic pregnancy
- Sepsis
- Cardiac (cardiogenic shock, arrhythmia, ACS)
- Medication
- Hypovolemia
- Anaphylaxis
- Vasovagal event



Pearls

- Hypotension is defined as a patient with a systolic blood pressure < 90.
- This primary impression is reserved only for patients who respond to a single 500ml fluid bolus or less or who have a transient low blood pressure reading.