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

Blood glucose analysis
- Cardiac monitor
- IV/IO procedure
- Consider, 12-Lead ECG
- Blood pressure normal?
- Yes
- No
- Notify receiving facility. Consider Base Hospital for medical direction

Consider hypovolemic (dehydration or GI bleed), cardiogenic (STEMI or CHF), distributive (sepsis or anaphylaxis), and obstructive (PE, cardiac tamponade or tension pneumothorax) shock

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.