

Epistaxis

For any bleeding from the nares

History

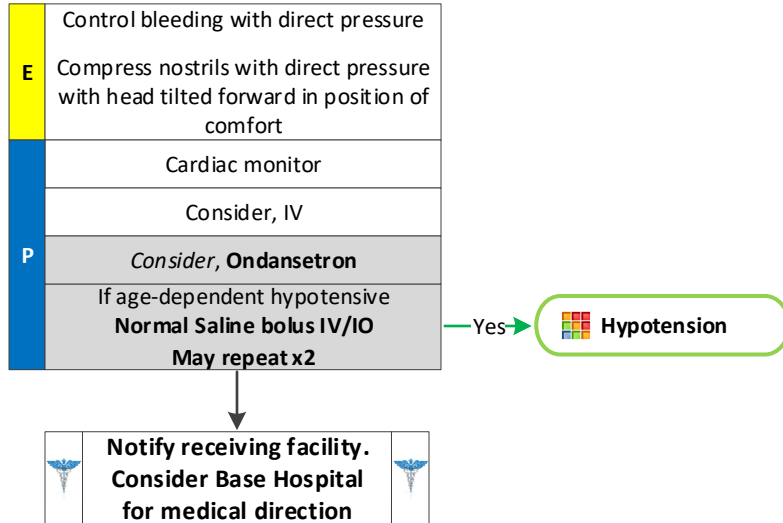
- Age
- Past medical history (e.g., hemophilia, Von Willebrand)
- Winter syndrome (e.g., warm, dry heat)
- Previous episodes of epistaxis
- Trauma
- Duration of bleeding
- Quantity of bleeding (mild or severe)

Signs and Symptoms

- Bleeding from nasal passage
- Pain
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Vomiting

Differential

- Trauma
- Infection (viral URI or Sinusitis)
- Allergic rhinitis
- Lesions
- Epistaxis digitorum
- Aneurysm



Pearls

- It is very difficult to quantify the amount of blood loss with epistaxis.
- Bleeding may also be occurring posteriorly. Evaluate for posterior blood loss by examining the posterior pharynx.
- Direct pressure is defined as constant, firm pressure for 20 minutes with head positioned forward without reexamining the affected nares(s).
- Encourage children not to swallow blood, which may result in vomiting blood.

