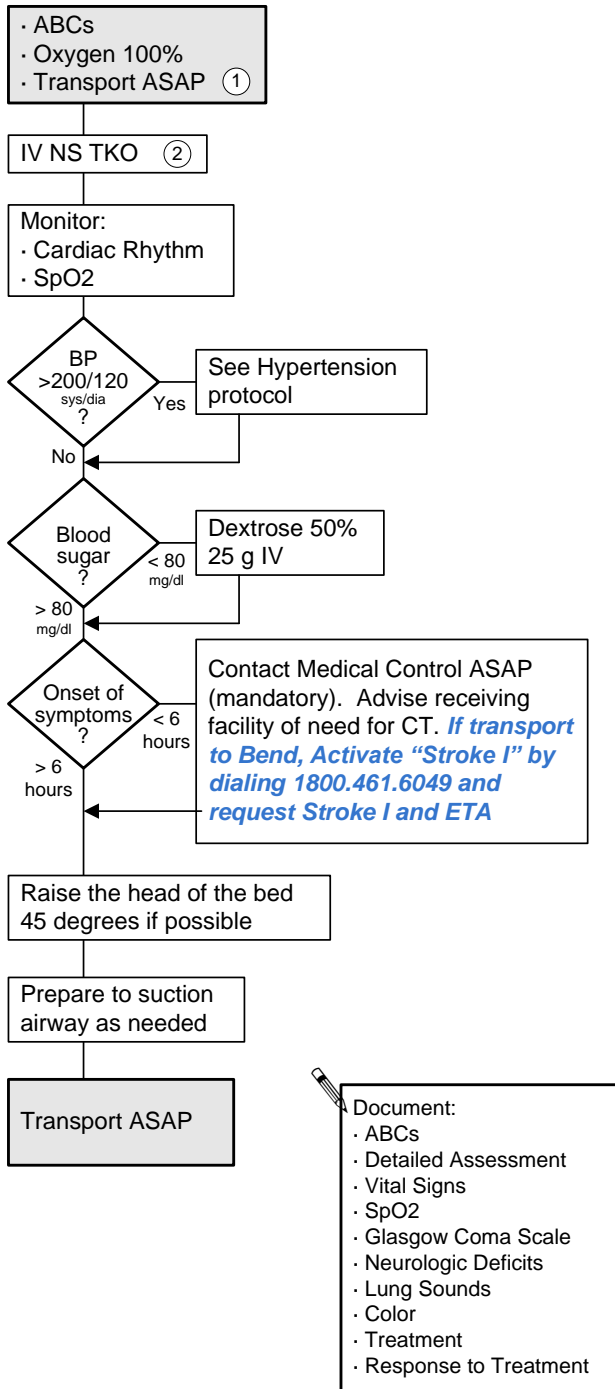


CVA Stroke
Cerebral Vascular Accident



ALS Protocol

EMS/ED Triage Stroke Screening

I. Stroke Symptoms

1. Sudden numbness or weakness of face, arm, or leg, specifically to one side of body
2. Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding speech
3. Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes
4. Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
5. Sudden severe headache with no known cause

II. FAST Stroke Screen (Face-arm-Speech-Time):

- Facial Droop?
 - Have patient smile or show teeth
 - ✓ Normal: both sides of face move equally
 - ✓ Abnormal: One side of face weak/unequal/movement absent
- Arm Drift?
 - Extend arms, close eyes, palms up
 - ✓ Normal: Both arms move equally or not at all
 - ✓ Abnormal: One arm drifts compared to the other
- Speech?
 - Ask patient to repeat, "Bend is snowy in the Winter"
 - ✓ Normal: Patient uses correct words with no slurring
 - ✓ Abnormal: Patient uses inappropriate or slurred words or mute
- Time?
 - Time of onset is < 6 hrs?
 - Patient last seen normal?

III. If patient has:

1. Any of the 5 stroke symptoms, &/or
2. Any abnormal findings on the FAST screen, &
3. Symptoms < 6 hrs in duration

1 Time in the field must be minimized, consider rapid transport depending on patient presentation.

2 Glucose-containing solutions should be avoided unless hypoglycemia is documented by rapid glucose test.