



General Medical Treatment

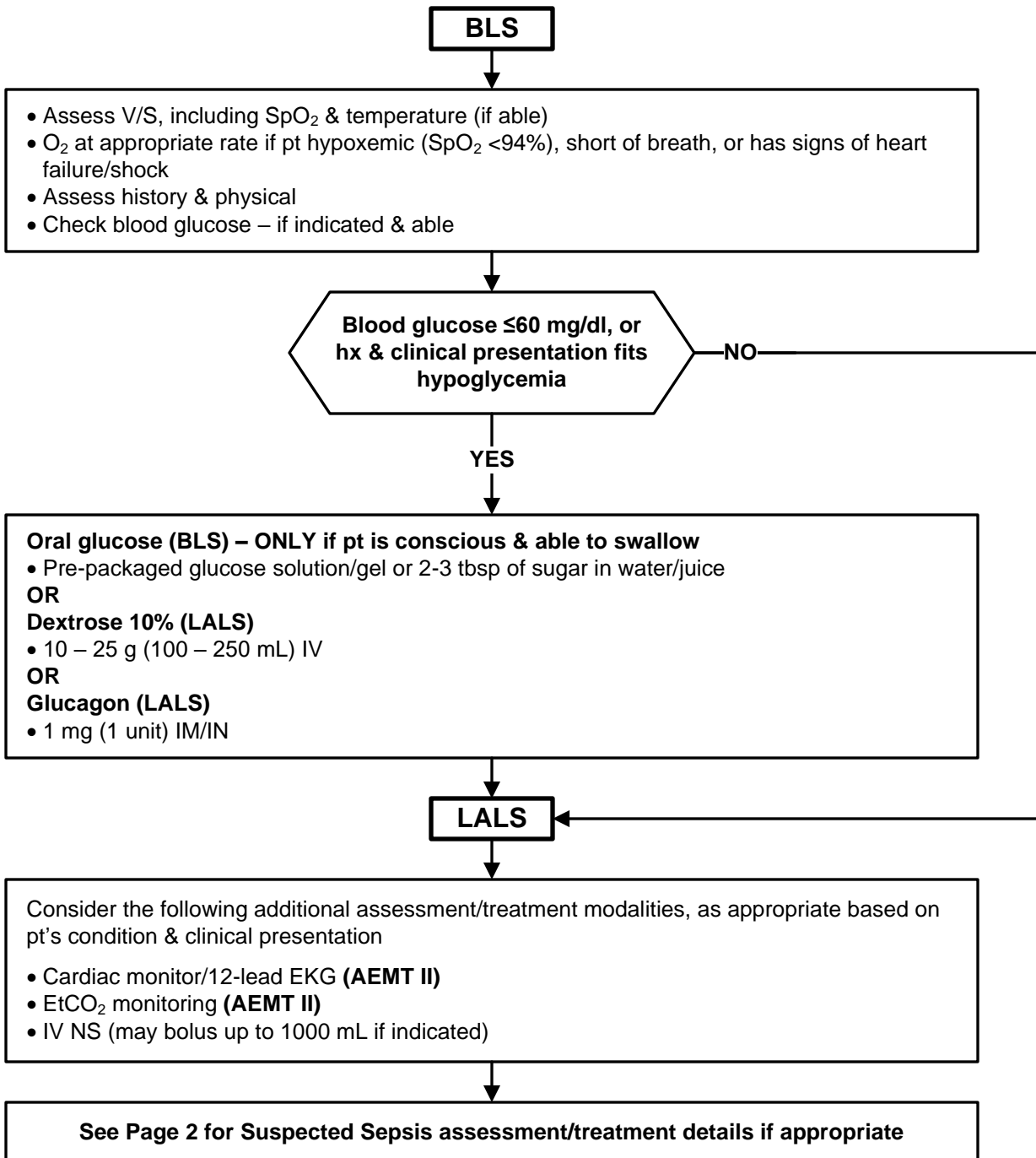
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Effective: 06/01/2024

Approval: John Poland – Executive Director

Next Review: 01/2027

• The purpose of this protocol is to provide standing order assessment and treatment modalities for pt complaints not addressed by other S-SV EMS treatment protocols – including nausea/vomiting and suspected sepsis.





General Medical Treatment

Suspected Sepsis

- Early recognition of sepsis is critical to expedite hospital care and antibiotic administration.
- Aggressive IV fluid therapy is the most important prehospital treatment for sepsis.
- Septic pts are especially susceptible to traumatic lung injury and ARDS. If BVM ventilation is necessary, avoid excessive tidal volumes.
- Attempt to identify the source of infection (skin, respiratory, etc.), previous treatment and related history.
- Consider the possibility of sepsis when a combination of two or more of the following Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (SIRS) criteria are present:
 - Temperature $<96.8^{\circ}\text{F}$ or $>100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$
 - RR $>20\text{bpm}$
 - HR $>90\text{bpm}$
 - $\text{ETCO}_2 \leq 25\text{ mmHg}$

High-Risk Indicators for Sepsis:

- Hx of pneumonia, UTI, MRSA
- Cancer pts
- Nursing home residents
- Pts with indwelling catheters
- Immune-compromised pts

Shock Index (SI):

- SI is used to assess the severity of hypovolemic shock
- $\text{SI} = \text{HR}/\text{SBP}$
 - Normal SI range is 0.5 to 0.7
 - $\text{HR} > \text{SBP}$ ($\text{SI} > 1$) may indicate sepsis

LALS

- Assess Temperature
- EtCO_2 monitoring (**AEMT II**)
- IV NS 500 mL boluses to a maximum of 2 L if SIRS criteria remain present
 - Reassess vital signs between boluses
 - Discontinue boluses and provide supportive care if signs of pulmonary edema develop

- If SBP <90 after 2 L NS:
- Push-Dose Epinephrine**
- Eject 1 mL NS from a 10 mL flush syringe
 - Draw up 1 mL epinephrine 1:10,000 & gently mix
 - Administer 1 mL IV push every 1-5 mins for continued SBP <90

- Monitor & reassess
- Provide early notification to the receiving hospital for suspected sepsis pts