

FORSYTH COUNTY EMS MEDICAL PROTOCOLS

Chest Pain / Suspected Cardiac Event

History:

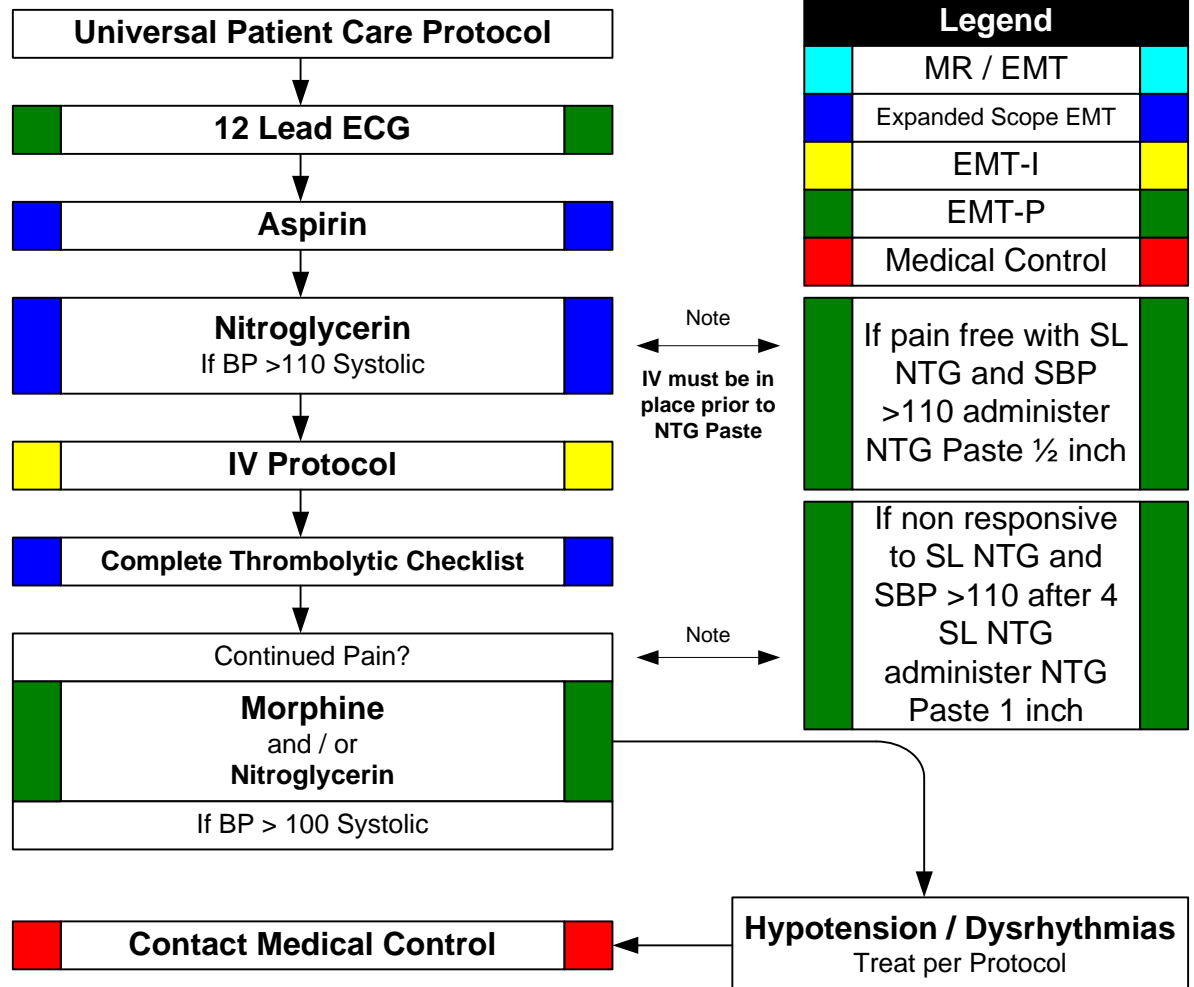
- * Age
- * Medications
- * Viagra
- * Past Medical History
- * Allergies
- * Recent physical exertion
- * OPQRST pain evaluation

Signs and Symptoms:

- * CP (pain, pressure, aching, tightness)
- * Location (substernal, epigastric, arm, jaw, neck)
- * Radiation of pain
- * Pale, diaphoretic
- * Shortness of breath
- * Nausea, vomiting, dizziness

Differential:

- * Trauma vs Medical
- * Angina vs MI
- * Pericarditis
- * Pulmonary embolus
- * Asthma / COPD
- * Pneumothorax
- * GE reflux or Hiatal hernia
- * Pleural Pain
- * Chest wall injury or pain
- * Esophageal spasm



Pearls:

- * **Exam: Mental Status, Skin, Neck, Lung, Heart, Abdomen, Back, Extremities, Neuro**
- * **Avoid Nitroglycerin in patients who have used Viagra, Levitra, (or other meds for Erectile Dysfunction) in the past 24 hrs due to potential severe hypotension.**
- * **Expanded Scope EMT may only assist patient in taking their own prescription Nitroglycerin and/or Aspirin.**
- * **If patient has taken Nitroglycerin without relief, consider potency of medication. Repeat with EMS Meds.**
- * **Monitor for hypotension after administration of Nitroglycerin or Morphine.**
- * **Nitroglycerin and Morphine may be repeated per dosing guidelines in Drug List.**
- * **Diabetics and geriatric patients often have atypical pain, or only generalized complaints.**

Approved by: _____

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