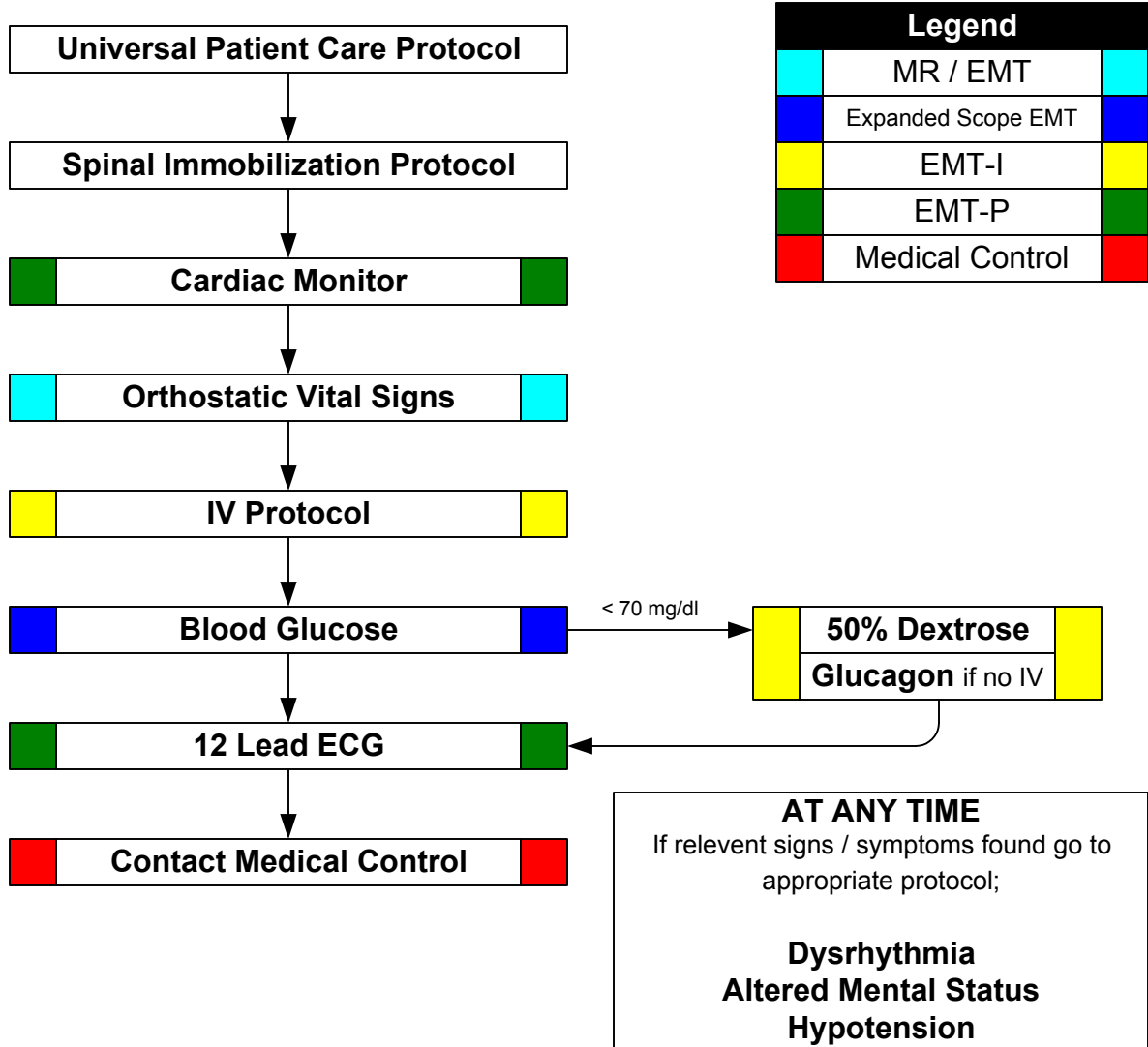


# FORSYTH COUNTY EMS MEDICAL PROTOCOLS

## Syncope

<b>History:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Cardiac history, stroke, seizure</li> <li>* Occult blood loss (GI, ectopic)</li> <li>* Females: LMP, vaginal bleeding</li> <li>* Fluid loss: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea</li> <li>* Past medical history</li> <li>* Medications</li> </ul>	<b>Signs and Symptoms:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Loss of consciousness with recovery</li> <li>* Lightheadedness, dizziness</li> <li>* Palpitations, slow or rapid pulse</li> <li>* Pulse irregularity</li> <li>* Decreased blood pressure</li> </ul>	<b>Differential:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Vasovagal</li> <li>* Orthostatic hypotension</li> <li>* Cardiac syncope</li> <li>* Micturition / Defecation syncope</li> <li>* Psychiatric</li> <li>* Stroke</li> <li>* Hypoglycemia</li> <li>* Seizure</li> <li>* Shock</li> <li>* Toxicologic</li> <li>* Medication effect</li> </ul>
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**Pearls:**

- \* Exam: Mental Status, Skin, HEENT, Heart, Lungs, Abdomen, Back, Extremities, Neuro
- \* Assess for signs and symptoms of trauma if associated or questionable fall with syncope.
- \* Consider dysrhythmias, GI bleed, ectopic pregnancy, and seizure as possible causes of syncope.
- \* These patients should be transported.
- \* More than 25% of geriatric syncope is cardiac dysrhythmia based.