

# Syncope

## History

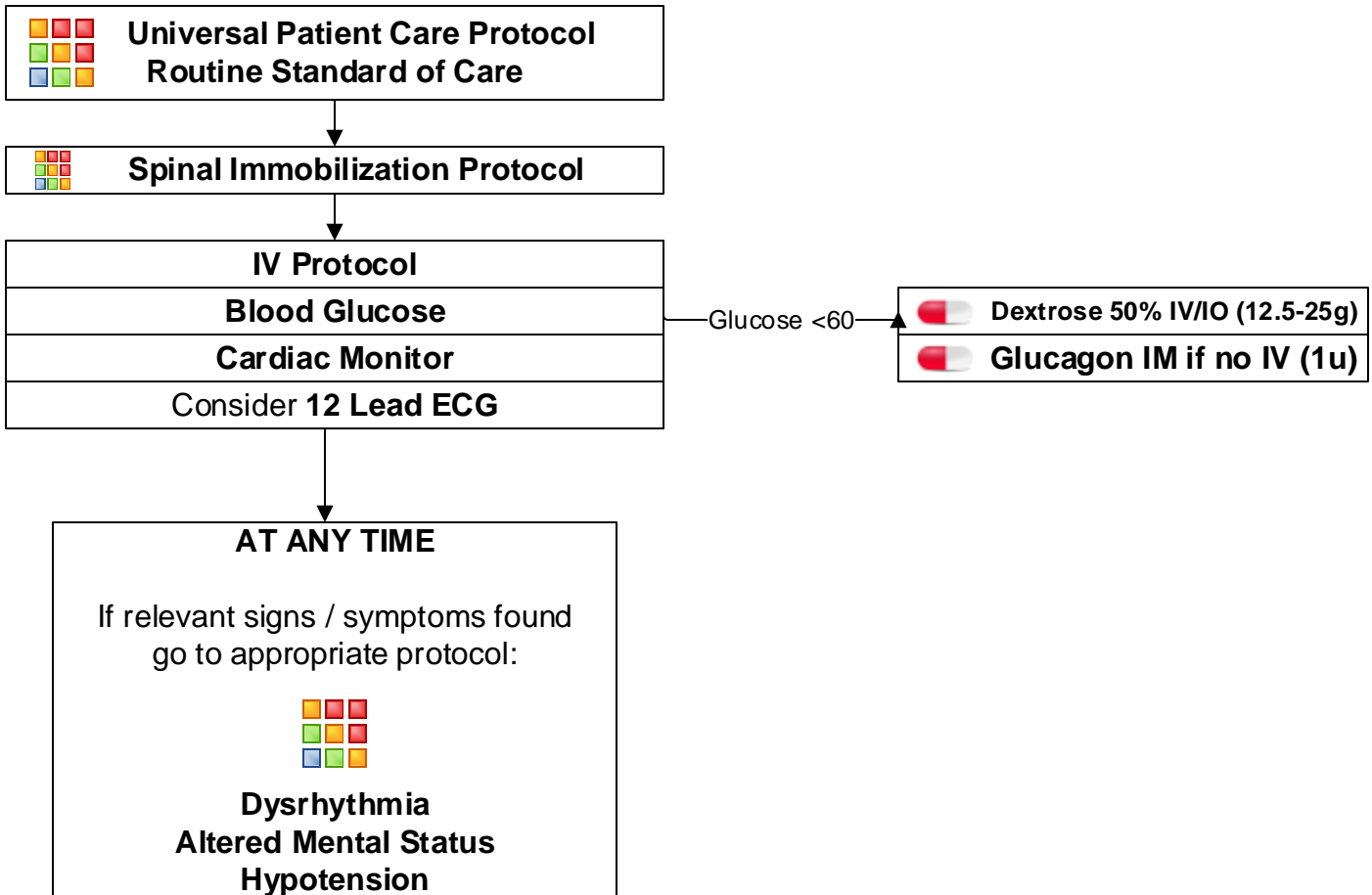
- Cardiac history, stroke, seizure
- Occult blood loss (GI, ectopic)
- Females: LMP, vaginal bleeding
- Fluid loss: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- **SAMPLE**
- Medications

## Signs and Symptoms

- Loss of consciousness with recovery
- Lightheadedness, dizziness
- Palpitations, slow or rapid pulse
- Pulse irregularity
- Decreased blood pressure

## Differential

- Vasovagal
- Orthostatic hypotension
- Cardiac syncope
- Micturation / Defecation syncope
- Psychiatric
- Stroke
- Hypoglycemia
- Seizure
- Shock (see Shock Protocol)
- Toxicologic (Alcohol)
- Medication effect (hypertension)



## Pearls

- **Recommended 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.
- More than 25% of geriatric syncope is cardiac dysrhythmia based.